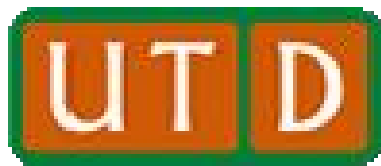


The University of Texas at Dallas Eyewash and Shower Safety Manual



EYEWASH AND SHOWER SAFETY

I. AREAS REQUIRING EYEWASH FOUNTAINS — SAFETY SHOWERS

- A. In areas where chemicals are stored, handled or used, emergency flood showers and eyewash fountains should be available and located within 25 feet of the area where accidental spillages are likely to occur. Body showers and eyewash fountains must be constructed as an integral unit so that both facilities may be operated by an individual user. Typical locations where body showers and eyewash fountains should be located are:
1. Laboratories using chemicals
 2. Battery charging and storage areas
 3. Chemical storage and dispensing areas

II. PROCEDURE

- A. Body showers must provide a massive, sudden flow of water over the entire body and should be equipped with a specially designed deluge head with a quick-opening valve. Its location should be clearly marked and access to the emergency showers must be as direct and free from obstructions as possible. The major factors to consider when installing such a shower are large available quantities of water, constant pressure, constant temperature, proper drainage, and a safe distance from electrical outlets. It is important to note that an ordinary shower head or a spray nozzle on a garden hose does not deliver the volume of water necessary to provide for rapid flushing of the chemical.

Eyewash facilities should provide a continuous flow of potable water and be capable of washing both eyes simultaneously with large quantities of water. The unit should be designed to provide for hands free operation so that the user can hold both eyes open during irrigation. Portable eyewash bottles do not fulfill these criteria. The eyes should be irrigated continuously for at least 15 minutes or until medical help arrives.