

## **Emergency Eyewash and Safety Shower Function Testing Procedure**

Routine function testing ensures that emergency eyewashes and safety showers in your work areas are operational and ready to use in the event of an emergency situation involving exposure to hazardous substances in the eyes and/or skin. These routine tests also ensure that Provincial Occupational Health and Safety testing requirements are being met.

The following procedure outlines the steps for the weekly function testing of emergency eyewashes and safety showers in your immediate work area. If you have questions about this procedure, please contact Safety Resources at 306-966-4675.

### Function Testing of Emergency Eyewash Stations

1. Look for any obstructions (e.g. boxes, chairs, laboratory equipment) that may impede individuals from accessing or using the safety eyewash. Ensure that any, and all, obstructions are removed.
2. Perform a visual inspection looking for plugged nozzles, broken eyewash caps, cracked bowls, broken levers, etc. Record any deficiencies observed in the log sheet provided.
3. Slowly activate the eyewash until the water streams are at an adequate height to flush both eyes. Observe the streams of water.
4. The water streams from both nozzles should be symmetrical (see Figure 1). If one stream flows stronger or weaker than the other, or the overall pressure appears too low or too high, record this information on the log sheet.
5. Feel the temperature of the water. It should be lukewarm, approximately 25 C. If it appears to run too hot or too cold, record this information on the log sheet.
6. When the water runs clear, shut off the eyewash.
7. Record the date the function test was performed, and sign the log sheet.
8. If deficiencies were observed, call the Facilities Management Division (FMD) Work Control Centre at 306-966-4496 to initiate a work request. A work request can also be initiated online through the FMD website, <http://facilities.usask.ca/>. There is no cost to the client to have the eyewash examined and/or repaired.

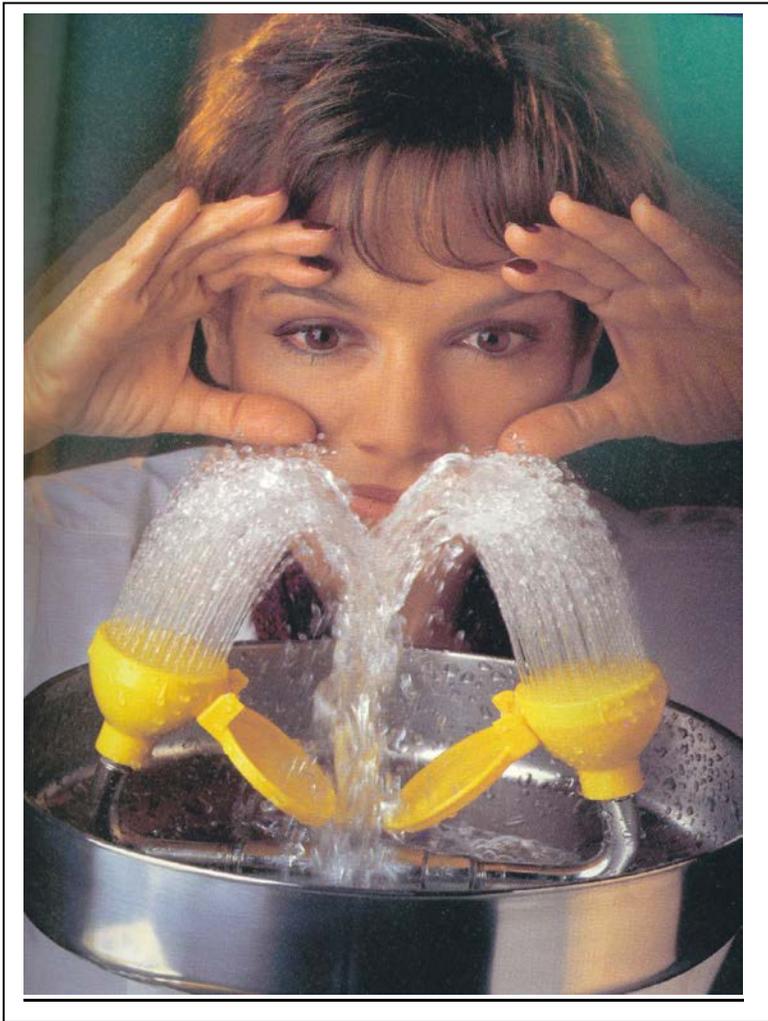


Figure 1.

## Function Testing Emergency Safety Showers

The majority of safety showers located in common areas, such as hallways, are wired so that a local area alarm will sound when activated. Also, a signal will be sent immediately to Central Controls, Facilities Management during regular business hours (after hours, the signal is sent to Protective Services). Before testing a common area shower, wired in this fashion (see figures 2 and 3), contact Facilities Management Central Controls (306-966-8813) and inform them that the shower is to be tested. Provide the building and location of the shower (eg. in the hall across from room 123). After the test, contact Central Controls and indicate that testing is finished.

1. Look for any obstructions (e.g. boxes, chairs, laboratory equipment) that may impede individuals from accessing or using the safety shower. Ensure that any, and all, obstructions are removed.
2. Perform a visual inspection looking for plugged nozzles, broken levers, etc. Record any deficiencies observed in the log sheet provided.
3. Put the shower curtain around the showerhead and let it drape into the pail below.
4. Pull the handle on the shower for 5 seconds. An audible area alarm should be heard. If the alarm is not heard, record this information on the log sheet.
5. Push the handle up to stop the flow of water. Check water for sediment. If sediment is present, run the shower for another 5 seconds to flush out sediment.
6. Feel the temperature of the water. It should be lukewarm, approximately 25 C. If it appears to run too hot or too cold, record this information on the log sheet.
7. Dispose of the water in the pail down the sanitary sewer.
8. Record the date and time, the function test was performed, and sign the log sheet.
9. If deficiencies were observed, call the Facilities Management Division (FMD) Work Control Centre at 306-966-4496 to initiate a work request. A work request can also be initiated online through the FMD website, <http://facilities.usask.ca/>. There is no cost to the client to have the safety shower examined and/or repaired.

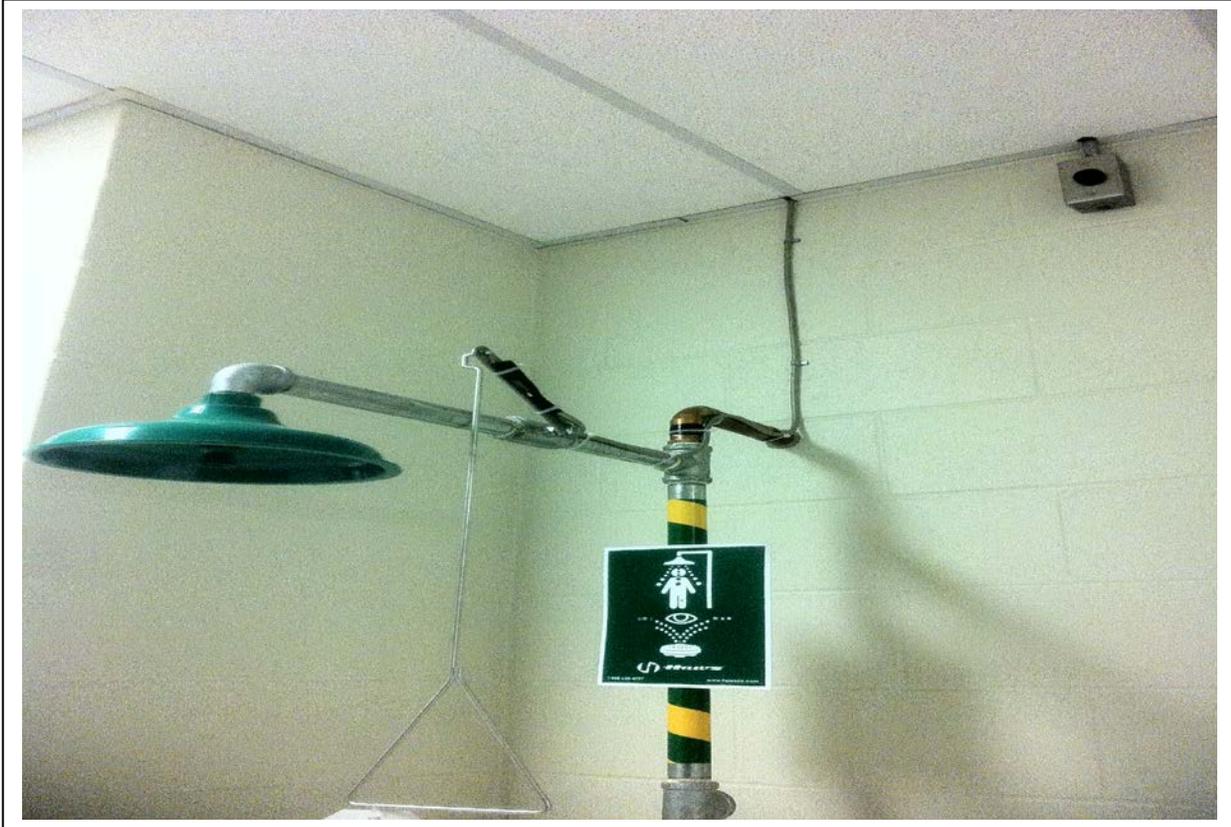


Figure 2



Figure 3