UCCS SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

22. EMERGENCY SHOWERS AND EYEWASHES

(For assistance, please contact Environmental Health & Safety)

Note: Emergency showers and eyewash stations are not substitutes for eye and face protection and protective clothing.

Where do I need an emergency eyewash and/or shower?

✓ In areas where open containers of caustic/corrosive and hazardous chemicals are used (eyewash station and shower).

✓ Chemical, biological, and radioactive laboratories (eyewash station and shower).

✓ Shops: at a minimum, eyewash stations are recommended. If hazardous chemicals are used in the shop, a safety shower should also be present.

What kind of eyewash station and emergency shower do I need?

✓ A hands free unit capable of providing 15 minutes continuous flow at 0.4 gallons per minute for eyewash stations and 30 gallons per minute for showers.

✓ Hand-held drench hoses may be used in conjunction with safety showers and eyewash stations, but are not a substitute.

Where should they be located?

✓ Eyewash stations and emergency showers should be located within 10 seconds unobstructed travel (do not block) of the hazard; preferably in the laboratory, shop or work area; and preferably within 10 feet of the hazard.

✓ What are the testing and maintenance requirements?

✓ Test the eyewash station weekly to verify proper operation and to flush the line. Flush the emergency showers annually.

Who must be trained to use emergency showers and eyewash stations?

✓ PRIOR TO USING CHEMICALS IN THE FACILITY ALL EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS WHO MIGHT BE EXPOSED TO A CHEMICAL SPLASH MUST BE INSTRUCTED IN THE PROPER USE OF THE EYEWASH AND SHOWER.