

Worksite: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

Topic C006: Eye & Face Protection

Introduction: Every year thousands of workers injure their eyes or lose their sight, not because proper protection wasn't available, but because they chose not to use it. Employees must use adequate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially harmful light radiation.

Exposure is defined as a person being within a distance of a hazard where injury could predictably occur. In the case of hazards created by flying particles, anyone within 15 feet of the source of the hazard is considered to be at risk, although this distance may increase depending on the hazard. These stipulations also apply to management personnel, supervisors, and visitors while they are in a hazardous area. Employers must provide eye and face personal protective equipment suitable for the work performed and employees must use the protective equipment.

Protection must meet the following requirements:

- *Adequately protect* against the particular hazard for which they were designed.
- *Reasonably comfortable* when worn under working conditions.
- *Fit snugly* without unduly interfering with the movements or vision of the wearer.
- *Be of durable design* and kept in good repair.
- *Easy to clean* and disinfect.
- *Be distinctly marked* with manufacturer's identification and ratings for limits and precautions.

Normal prescription glasses and sunglasses meant for everyday use do not meet the requirements for industrial strength safety glasses and are not adequate protection.

Eye and face protection is needed when performing these types of tasks:

Metal-working operations such as grinding, cutting, and machining during fabrication processes.

All hot-work including gas torch-welding, torch-cutting, brazing, electric stick welding, and wire-feed welding.

Air-gun or other air-tool operations involving compressed air.

Woodworking operations using power saws, routers, planers, sanders, lathes, or chippers.

Operating any power tool, powder actuated tool, or machinery which discharges debris.

During any power or pressure spray operations.

Any other general or specialized chemical handling processes where the risk of splash of harmful material is present.

Varieties of eye and face protection available include spectacles, goggles, welding goggles, welding helmets and full-face shields.

Note: The National Society for Blindness Prevention recommends that emergency eyewash stations be placed in all potentially hazardous locations. First aid instructions for eye injuries should also be posted in the immediate vicinity. It is also prudent to keep a bottle of quality eyewash in the first aid kit. Any delay or mistake in dealing with an eye injury could result in permanent damage or loss of sight.

Conclusion: Good vision is an asset we all take for granted. Don't take any chances; always protect your eyesight.

Employee Attendance: (Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.

It is important to familiarize yourself with the location of required emergency eyewash stations and their usage instructions. Any delay or mistake in dealing with an eye injury could result in permanent damage or loss of sight.