

## PURPOSE

These guidelines support the *Health and Safety Policy* and *Health and Safety Management Standards* and provide assistance on the application of Australian Standard 4775 - Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment. It relates to assessing the type of equipment required within a particular area and outlines the testing and maintenance requirements of the University, in accordance with the standard.

## DEFINITIONS

<b>Combination Unit</b>	An interconnected assembly of emergency equipment supplied by a single source of flushing fluid.
<b>Drench Hose</b>	A supplemental device consisting of a flexible hose connected to a flushing fluid supply and used to provide fluid to irrigate and flush face and body areas
<b>Emergency Shower</b>	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to cause that fluid to cascade over the entire body.
<b>Eye/Face Wash</b>	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to irrigate and flush both the face and the eyes simultaneously.
<b>Eye Wash</b>	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to irrigate and flush the eyes.
<b>Flushing Fluid</b>	Drinking water, preserved water, preserved buffered saline solution or other medically acceptable solution manufactured and labelled in accordance with applicable government regulations.
<b>Self-closing Valve</b>	A valve that closes automatically when released by the user.
<b>Self-contained Eyewash</b>	An eyewash device that contains its own flushing fluid and needs to be refilled or replaced after use.
<b>Self-contained Shower</b>	A shower that contains its own flushing fluid and needs to be refilled or replaced after use.
<b>Stay Open Valve</b>	A valve that needs to be closed manually by the user.

**Tepid** Moderately warm, lukewarm. (Recommended temperature range for tepid fluids is 15.6 °C to 37.8 °C)

**Valve Actuator** A device connected to the valve to facilitate its operation.

**1. Testing of Eyewash stations and Safety Showers**

Plumbed equipment shall have performance inspections carried out annually to ensure conformance with AS 4775. Self-contained units shall be monitored to determine if flushing fluids need to be changed or supplemented.

Under AS 4775, all plumbed eyewash and shower systems shall be activated weekly however, this may be varied with an approved risk assessment. Any such risk assessment must address the risks arising from microbiological growth and sediment build-up in the eyewash and shower system.

Records must be kept indicating that the Unit has been activated weekly, or in a timeframe as determined by a risk assessment

As well as the weekly activation, the eyewash and safety shower must be inspected during the workplace inspections as per the [Workplace Inspection checklist](#).

**2. Requirements of different types of equipment**

NB: This checklist does not indicate specific manufacturer or installation requirements.

	Emergency Showers (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye/Face Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Combination Units (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Drench Hoses	Other Supplementary Equipment
<b>Water Requirements</b>						
Tepid Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Flow Rate	75.7L/Min for 15 minutes	1.5L/Min for 15 minutes	11.4L/Min for 15 minutes	75.7L/Min for 15 minutes for the safety shower and 1.5L/Min for 15 minutes for the eye wash station	Capacity to provide immediate flushing at a rate low enough to be non-injurious to the user	Capacity to provide immediate flushing at a rate low enough to be non-injurious to the user

	Emergency Showers (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye/Face Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Combination Units (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Drench Hoses	Other Supplementary Equipment
Protected from temperature extremes where required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S
<b>Valve Requirements</b>						
Valve fully closed to fully open in one second or less	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Valve shall remain open once activated without the use of the users' hands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
<b>Actuator Requirements</b>						
Actuators easy to locate and readily accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<b>Access Requirements</b>						
Unobstructed access to the unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unobstructed travel path to the unit within 10 seconds or 15 meters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Located on the same level as the hazard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Where strong acids or corrosives are used, the unit shall be located immediately adjacent to the to the equipment	N/S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Available and accessible to users of laboratory chemical stores, chemical loading bays or docks, and bulk storage locations for cryogenic liquids.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	N/A	N/S
<b>Nozzle Requirements</b>						
Nozzles are protected from airborne contaminants	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/S
Flow of the flushing fluid is provided to both eyes and the face simultaneously	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
The design allows for the eyelids to be held open while the eyes are in the flushing stream	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
<b>Signage &amp; Visibility Requirements</b>						

	Emergency Showers (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Eye/Face Wash Stations (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Combination Units (Plumbed In & Self-Contained)	Drench Hoses	Other Supplementary Equipment
Signage is highly visible complying with ISO 7010	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Where the flushing fluid is time limited, signage indicating this, is required	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Area around the unit is well illuminated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S
<b>Maintenance &amp; Testing Requirements</b>						
The Unit is to be activated weekly for long enough to verify that it is working correctly (may be varied according to a risk assessment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed)	N/A
Fluid needs to be monitored for regular replacement when required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If self-contained)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If self-contained)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If self-contained)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If self-contained)	N/S	N/S
Manufacturer to supply operation, inspection and maintenance instructions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Instructions and expiration dates to be permanently affixed to the unit	N/A	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operation, inspection and maintenance instructions to be available to maintenance & training personnel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Performance testing required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
Annual inspection and tagging required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	As per manufacturer's instructions	As per manufacturer's instructions
<b>Training Requirements</b>						
Any worker exposed to hazardous materials are to be trained in the location & use of the equipment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

N/A = Not applicable  
N/S= Not specified within AS 4775  
 Required for this type of unit as per AS 4775  
\* Required for this type of unit in laboratories as per AS 2243.2

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

- a) Supplementary equipment does not replace the need for plumbed in or self-contained equipment.
- b) Where equipment is intended for use by people with disabilities it should:
  - a) Comply with AS/NZS 1428 for emergency access
  - b) Be located within 10 seconds for the user to be able to access
  - c) Have clear access, including the ability to use the equipment, height of the equipment and clearance for wheelchairs
  - d) Be able to be adjusted to suit all potential users
  - e) Be reviewed to determine whether assistance will be required to operate the equipment
  - f) Be reviewed for other relevant issues such as lighting, floor markings, potential slip hazards etc.
- c) Where areas have had safety showers/eyewash stations installed as part of projects it is a requirement of the University that the location, make/model and testing information is forwarded to Properties, Facilities and Development to ensure that the facilities are:
  - Included on the list for annual testing and maintenance requirements
  - Referenced on the Emergency Management Plan to ensure that the relevant evacuation drawings are updated.

## EXEMPTIONS

Please note: There is no requirement for emergency eye wash or safety shower equipment within areas or departments to be automatically upgraded to comply with AS 4775. Where refurbishments or changes to processes within the area are to occur, a risk assessment of the requirements of the area is to be completed to determine the specific needs, and appropriate equipment installed.

## RELEVANT DOCUMENTS/LINKS

[Health and Safety Policy](#)

[Health and Safety Management Standards](#)

[Workplace Inspection Checklist](#)

Australian Standard 4775 Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment

International Standard 7010 Graphical symbols – safety colours and safety signs – registered safety signs

Australian New Zealand Standard 1428.Parts 1 – 5. Design for access and mobility

CONTACT DETAILS	
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