NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY MONTEREY INSTRUCTION 5100.7

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity Monterey

Subj: SIGHT CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5100.23G, Navy's Occupational Safety & Health Manual, Chapter 19
(b) General Industry Standards, 29 CFR 1910 Subpart I
(c) ANSI Z87, American National Standard Occupational and Educational Personal Eye
   and Face Protection Devices
(d) ANSI Z358, American National Standard Institute - Eyewash

Encl: (1) NSAM Sight Hazardous Areas and Operations

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes the criteria and requirements for developing,
   implementing and managing the Naval Support Activity Monterey (NSAM) Sight Conservation
   Program applicable to NSAM personnel.

2. Cancellation. This is a new instruction and should be read in its entirety.

3. Background. Each year, thousands of people throughout the U.S.A. sustain work-related eye
   injuries that could have been prevented per the proper selection and use of eye and face
   protection. Eye injuries alone cost more than $300 million per year in lost production time,
   medical expenses, and worker compensation. Eye and face protection must be provided as
   necessary when engineering controls fail to eliminate or control the hazard to protect against
   chemical, environmental or mechanical irritants and hazards.

4. Policy. Ensuring the health and safety of our personnel is a primary command responsibility.
   NSAM fully supports the Navy's Sight Conservation Program by ensuring full adherence to
   references (a) thru (d) and participation of all personnel.

5. General Sight Conservation Requirements

   a. Management of the NSAM Sight Conservation Program includes the following elements:
      identification and evaluation of eye hazardous areas, processes, and occupations; the prescription
      protection eyewear program; the provision and maintenance of appropriate personal protective
      equipment (PPE) at government expense; employee training, promotion and emphasis of sight
      conservation; and effective program enforcement.

   b. Emergency eyewash facilities:
(1) The owner of the process requiring the availability of emergency eyewash stations is responsible for managing the eyewash station and ensuring regulatory compliance.

(2) Eyewash units shall be located in areas where corrosive materials are utilized.

(3) Eyewash stations shall be easily accessible and reachable within 10 seconds by those in need of emergency flushing of the eyes.

(4) Plumbed eyewash units must be activated weekly for a period long enough to verify operation and to flush the line.

(5) Inspection and maintenance tags shall be placed on plumbed eyewash units to document the most current weekly inspection, maintenance, or fluid change.

(6) Work centers desiring to utilize pressurized and non-pressurized self-contained eyewash units shall do so only on a temporary basis until permanent (plumbed) facilities are installed OR at remote locations where water is not readily available. The following requirements are applicable to self-contained emergency eyewash stations and personal eyewash units:

   (a) Approval by N35 is required prior to utilizing self-contained units.

   (b) Departments shall change flushing fluid and antibacterial additives quarterly, or as directed by the manufacturer of the additive or solution, whichever is most frequent.

   (c) Departments shall perform periodic maintenance of self-contained emergency eyewash stations to include cleaning the unit, changing the fluid, and checking for proper operation.

   (d) Inspection and maintenance tags should be placed on self-contained eyewash units to document the most current inspection, maintenance, or fluid change.

   (e) Documentation of maintenance will be maintained for a period of one year.

   (f) Personal eyewash units shall not be utilized for work with corrosives. For other work not involving corrosives, personal eyewash units may only be used on a case-by-case basis with approval from N35.

   c. Occupational eye care services and equipment:

   (1) Civilian employees requiring prescription safety glasses are responsible for obtaining eye refraction exams and securing a medical prescription for safety glasses.

   (2) Departments are responsible for their own prescriptive safety eyewear procurement processes.

   (3) Prescription safety glasses shall meet the requirements of reference (c).
d. Temporary protective eyewear:

(1) Non-prescriptive safety eyewear (Planos) or goggles shall be provided to personnel who must enter or pass through eye hazardous areas. Such eyewear shall meet the requirements of reference (c).

(2) Employees awaiting delivery of corrective-protective eyewear shall utilize goggles.

(3) Contact lenses are not eye protective devices, and wearing them does not reduce the requirement for eye and face protection.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Eye hazardous areas, operations and occupations shall be assessed on an annual basis by N35 and documented in departmental Workplace Hazard Assessments. Enclosure (1) provides a listing of those areas, operations and occupations requiring protective eyewear.

b. Mr. Martin Catanese, mcatanese@nps.edu, NSAM N35 NAVOSH Specialist is designated as the NSAM Sight Conservation manager. The manager is responsible for implementation of the program; training and promotion; and program enforcement.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Work Center</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>PPE Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>N3AT</td>
<td>Police Officer &amp; Repair Specialists</td>
<td>Firearms</td>
<td>Weapons qualification</td>
<td>Bldg. 436</td>
<td>Safety Glasses with side shields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWR (QOL)</td>
<td>Flying Club</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td>Variety of equipment</td>
<td>Plane Maintenance</td>
<td>MTY. City airport</td>
<td>Vented Chemical Safety Goggles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWR (QOL)</td>
<td>Field &amp; Maint.</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker</td>
<td>Variety of Equipment</td>
<td>Operation of lawn maintenance equipment</td>
<td>NSAM, La Mesa</td>
<td>Goggles / face shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWR (QOL)</td>
<td>Golf Course maintenance, Grounds Keepers &amp; Maint. Mechanic</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker</td>
<td>Variety of Equipment</td>
<td>Operation of lawn maintenance equipment</td>
<td>Golf Course</td>
<td>Goggles / face shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWR (QOL)</td>
<td>NGIS</td>
<td>Housekeeping Assistants</td>
<td>Cleaning chemicals</td>
<td>Hotel Operations</td>
<td>Bldgs. 220, 221, 222</td>
<td>Goggles / face shield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>