

eye facts about . . .

Eye Safety in the Workplace

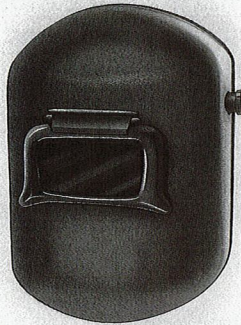
Every day 1,000 American workers injure their eyes in work-related accidents according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) statistics. Six hundred of those thousand injured were not wearing eye protection devices. Of those who were, most were not wearing a device approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) code.

These injuries cost more than \$133 million a year in lost production, medical expenses and workers' compensation, not to mention personal suffering and potential vision loss.

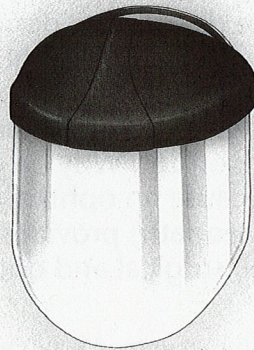
Prevention

Nine out of every 10 of these injuries can be prevented by establishing or improving existing eye safety programs in the workplace. The OSHA Act of 1970 states:

- No unprotected worker will knowingly be subjected to a hazardous environmental condition.
- Protective eye and face equipment is required whenever a reasonable probability exists that injuries could be prevented by such equipment.
- Employers are required to make conveniently available the type of protection best suited for the work to be performed. Employees are required to use the provided eye protectors.
- Suitable eye protectors are to be provided where machines or operations present the hazard of flying objects, glare, liquids, injurious radiation or a combination of these hazards.
- The design, construction, testing and use of devices provided for eye and face protection must be in accordance with ANSI code Z87.1 of 1979.



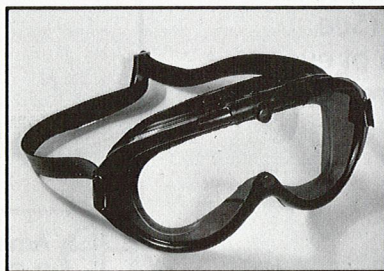
Welding helmet with lift front



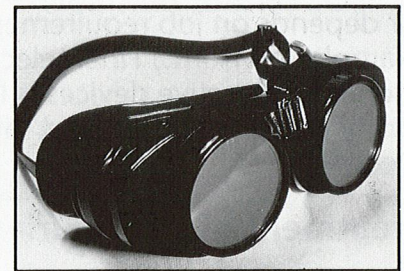
Faceshield used to protect against grinding, splashes and molten metal



Type of basic safety spectacles with side shield



Eye cup or rigid cover-type goggle used for protection against chipping, dust, or splashes



Welding or cutting goggles

(OVER)

Eye Safety in the Workplace

Eye Facts About... Eyes Safety in the Workplace

Components of an Eye Safety Program

A successful eye safety program can only be achieved with the cooperation of management, union and workers. All parties must agree that an eye safety program is desirable and that enforcement and compliance are necessary for continuing employment. Every eye safety program should include:

- Vision screening for workers;
- Determination of visual requirements for each job;
- Assessment of potential eye hazards in the job environment;
- Rules requiring that basic eye protection be worn;
- A supply of *corrective* safety glasses for workers. These should include eyeglass frames that meet or exceed ANSI requirements, safety lenses that are made from either industrial grade plastic or polycarbonate, frames with side mounts for certain jobs; goggles for others, and special filters for those who need protection from ultraviolet or infrared radiation.

Eye and Face Protectors

The appropriate type of eye or face protector depends on job requirements. (See examples on front.) Final selection of eye and face protective devices is the responsibility of management and safety specialists.

Treatment of Eye Injuries

Though most eye injuries can be avoided by wearing the proper protective

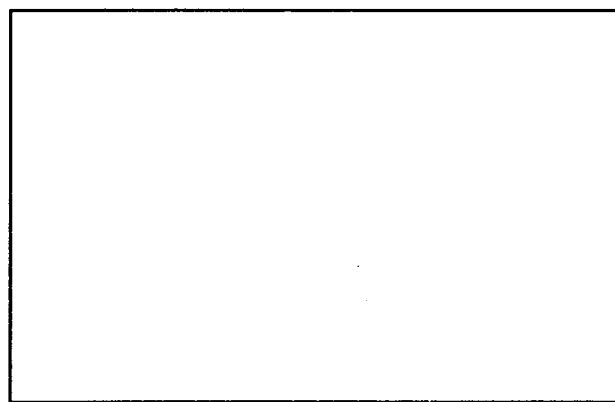
eyewear, eye injuries that do occur should be handled by trained personnel.

As a general rule, avoid rubbing the injured eye, apply a *loose* patch, and go to an ophthalmologist or an emergency room physician as soon as possible. In the case of chemical injuries, flush the eye *immediately* with generous amounts of water, and contact an ophthalmologist promptly.

Why are Regular Medical Eye Examinations Important for Everyone?

Eye disease can occur at any age. Many eye diseases do not cause symptoms until the disease has done damage. Since most blindness is preventable if diagnosed and treated early, regular medical examinations by an ophthalmologist are very important. Why an ophthalmologist? Because an ophthalmologist (MD or osteopath) provides **total** eye care: medical, surgical and optical.

Compliments of Your Ophthalmologist



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