Emergency Equipment Testing Policy

Eyewashes

Eyewash units within the lab must be tested monthly by the lab occupants. Testing involves running the eyewash for approximately 15-30 seconds to ensure that water is flowing adequately and feeling the temperature of the water to verify that it is not too hot or cold.

Eyewash units in the hallway must be tested annually by Facilities. Drench hose units or units which are directly plumbed should be tested monthly by the adjacent lab occupants (or department designee). If eyewashes are not plumbed or lab occupants cannot safely capture the water dispensed by the unit, lab occupants should not test the eyewash and report the situation to Facilities and EH&S.

Safety Showers

Safety showers must be tested annually by Facilities. Lab occupants should not test the safety showers.

Fire Extinguishers

All extinguishers must be easily accessible and mounted on the wall or stored in an extinguisher cart. The fire extinguisher must be certified annually by an outside company. The extinguisher should be inspected by lab personnel monthly. Verify that the extinguisher is not damaged and the pressure gauge is in the normal range. Initial and date the card attached to the extinguisher for documentation. ABC type extinguishers are required in almost all situations. Type BC extinguishers may be acceptable if sensitive research equipment would be damaged through use of an ABC type extinguisher. A Class D extinguisher is required if your research involves work with reactive metals, pyrophoric chemicals or organometallic compounds (i.e. magnesium, sodium, potassium, or metal hydrides)