

BOARD INTERPRETATION

EMERGENCY EYEWASH AND EMERGENCY SHOWERS

(Enacted 06-29-2016)

Enacted June 29, 2016

1. Introduction

The Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters ("Board") has voted to interpret the following section of 248 CMR 10.13: Piping and Treatment of Special Hazardous Wastes with regards to emergency Eye Wash Systems:

10.13 (l) 4.

4. The permanently mounted shower shall be capable of discharging a continuous spray at a rate of 30 gallons per minute and;
5. The systems shall be tempered to between 70 degrees F and 90 degrees F and be installed in a manner that prevents the stagnation of water in the piping that supplies permanently mounted showers and face/eye wash stations and;
7. Existing laboratories shall be compliant with the most recent provisions of 527 CMR 10.02(2): *Fire Extinguishers* from the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations.

The Drench/Deluge Showers, Hand Held Body/Face Washers and Deck Mounted Drench Hoses shall be installed in accordance with ANSI Z-358.1 and 248 CMR.

2. Interpretation

The ANSI Standard Z358-1-2009 requires a permanently mounted shower to discharge a minimum of 20 gallons per minute for 15 minutes at a temperature between 60 and 90 degrees.

The Board voted to allow emergency shower products to be accepted with a minimum 20 GPM flow rate for a minimum of 15 minutes.

The Board also voted to reduce the current temperature range requirement (70 to 90 degrees) down to a range of 60 to 70 degrees based on documented data showing an increase in growth of legionella bacteria in water above 70 degrees.