

Operating Guideline # 210

Eye Protection

September 27, 2019



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines intended to protect firefighters from eye injuries while performing their duties.

GUIDELINE:

1. Where helmet face shields and breathing apparatus face pieces used in conjunction with one another are not used to provide primary eye protection and there is a hazard of eye injury, safety goggles or safety glasses shall be worn. This OG applies to all personnel involved in operational or training activities such as:

- a. Vehicle extrication
- b. Structural and Wildland fire responses
- c. Vehicle fire responses
- d. Haz-Mat incidents
- e. Specialized rescue situations
- f. Medical incidents or where patient care is being administered and there is a risk that blood or other bodily fluids may be projected towards the eye
- g. Overhaul activities
- h. Vehicle or station maintenance duties or where there is a risk of injury due to:
- i. Flying debris or particles
- j. Metal cutting or grinding
- k. Pressurized containers discharging (i.e. Aerosol cans, fire extinguishers)
- l. The splashing of chemicals, cleaning solutions, fluids or any other activity where an eye injury is possible.

2. Where staff are exposed to prolonged or acute exposure to sunlight (i.e. public education events) consideration should be given to allowing the use of eyewear with sun protection.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of all Emergency Operations Division staff to comply with the provisions of this Operating Guideline.

REFERENCES:

- Section 21 Committee Guidance Note, GN 4-02, Eye Protection