



see.™ safely



Safety Requirements & Precautions for the Workplace

The ACC processes around 17,000 claims for eye injury accidents a year, yet it is estimated that around 90% of accidents could be prevented – many simply by donning safety eyewear.

What causes Eye Injuries?

Over 90% of eye injuries are due to:

- Being struck in the eye by flying particles and objects (nuts, bolts, nails, bearings, springs, fragments and so on). The blow suffered either grazes, bruises, tears or penetrates the eye.
- Striking the eye against moving or stationary objects such as tools, cabinets and other equipment in your work area.
- Eye contact with irritants, dusts, hot liquids, liquid metals and chemicals. Some of the most extensive corneal scars result from chemicals such as lime and concentrated acids.
- Exposure to welding flash, laser beams, infrared radiation and laser reflection.

Eye Hazards & Employer/ Employee Responsibilities (OSH Requirements)

Many work hazards present the risk of serious harm to the eyes. The Health & Safety in Employment Act 1992 requires employers to take all practicable steps to eliminate these hazards, or to isolate the hazard from the employee.

Where this is not possible, employers must take all practicable steps to minimise the likelihood of harm to employees. They must provide suitable eye protection for employees and ensure that it is used.

Employees have a duty to wear the eye protection while they are exposed to the hazard.

OSH provides comprehensive information on preventing and treating eye hazards in the workplace in their 'Danger: Eyes at Work' booklet, which is available from <http://www.whss.govt.nz>

Specialised Industries

For the Aviation industry and the Armed Forces, where perfect vision is critical for job performance. Regular assessments are conducted in these industries, which encompasses full eye examinations, field (peripheral vision) testing, colour vision and night vision testing.

Prescription Safety glasses NEW SAFETY STANDARD ANNOUNCED

A new Australian / New Zealand safety standard, AS/NZs1337.6:2007, was published 17th April, 2007.

This new standard introduces a number of additional requirements, including the indelible marking of both the frame and lenses of prescription safety glasses.

EYEPRO practices can supply all your employees' prescription safety glasses needs. All safety products are supplied with a 'Certificate of Compliance' stating the level of protection and standards complied with by that item, plus all products are covered by a \$20,000,000 Product Liability Insurance policy.

All EYEPRO safety products are manufactured to comply with AS2228, AS/NZs1336:1997, AS/NZs1337, AS/NZs1337.6:2007, ANSIZ87.1. 2003 and EN166f. These represent the latest and best practice in Australian, New Zealand, European and US Standards.

For more information on prescription safety glasses or to discuss your own workplace requirements please contact us on 0508 393776 or visit www.eyepro.co.nz

EYEPRO is a network of independent Optometrists and Opticians located throughout New Zealand, from Kaitia in the North to Invercargill in the South.