

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), each day about 2000 U.S. workers have a job-related eye injury that requires medical treatment. About one third of the injuries are treated in hospital emergency departments and more than 100 of these injuries result in one or more days of lost work.

Workers can get particles of dust, metal, wood, glass, concrete, plastic or other hard substances in their eyes. In addition, chemicals, acids, sparks, hot oil, fire and steam are also eye hazards.



*Glaziers wearing proper safety glasses working to set window panes. (\*1)*



**OSHA Standard 1910.132(d)(1)** *The employer shall assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present, which necessitate the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).*

- **Impact hazards** are those that result from flying or falling objects, or sparks striking the eye. Eye protection for these hazards are safety spectacles with side shields or goggles.



*Worker in scissor lift wearing proper safety glasses. (\*2)*

**OSHA Standard 1910.133(a)(1)** *The employer shall ensure that each affected employee uses appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation.*



*Impact hazards can be created by grinding or cutting tools such as the bench grinder above. (\*3)*

Prevent injuries: wear safety glasses, goggles, or other approved eye/face protection.



Worker properly welding with protective eye/face equipment. (\*4)

- **Heat injuries** may occur to the eye and face when workers are exposed to high temperatures, splashes of molten metal, or hot sparks. Eye protection for these hazards are safety spectacles with special-purpose lenses and side shields or goggles.

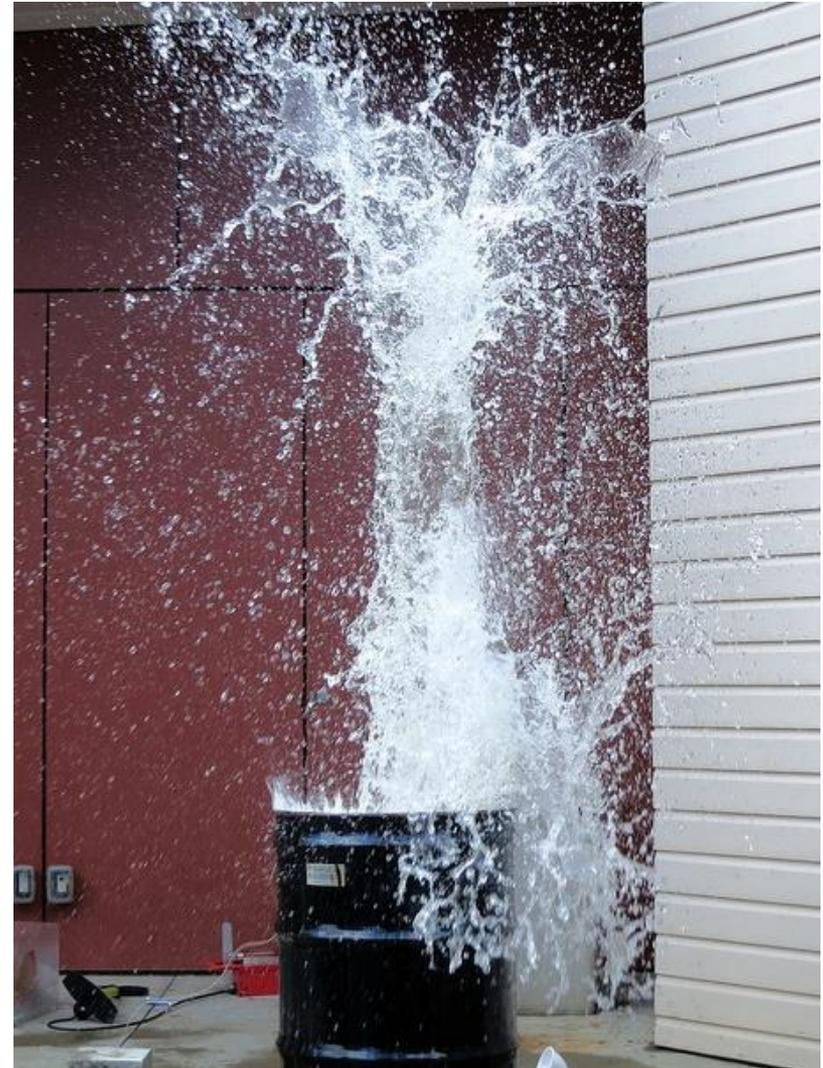


Man welding with no protective eyewear. (\*5)



*Worker using proper eye protection. (\*7)*

- **Chemical injuries** often result from an inappropriate choice of PPE, that allows a chemical substance to enter from around or under protective eye equipment. Eye protection for these hazards are goggles, face shields and eyewash stations.



*Chemical exposure could occur in everyday tasks. (\*6)*



➤ Remember these important tips to avoid eye injuries:

- Always use safety glasses or goggles designed for the task.
- Protect your eyes from debris and particles getting into your eyes by using goggles.
- Use eye protection designed specifically for welding or cutting activities.
- In addition to safety glasses or goggles wear a face shield if there is any potential for chemicals or particles causing injury to your face.
- Safety glasses must be rated ANSI Z87.1.
- Prescription lenses must also be rated ANSI Z87.1 or safety glasses will be required over your prescription glasses.

*Safety glasses must be rated American National Standards Institute, (ANSI) Z87.1.*

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