

# SAFETY/RISK/HAZARD ASSESSMENT

## PLANT INFORMATION

NHG Ref/Part No.

PORT SHWR

Plant Name:

Portable Shower

Operator Competency:

Plant Licence Not Required

***THIS RISK ASSESSMENT ONLY APPLIES WHERE SHOWER IS TO BE USED AS AN EMERGENCY SHOWER FACILITY***



Protective  
equipment  
must be worn  
when operating  
this machine



## RISK ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### LOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure all personnel know where the emergency facilities are located.
- Ensure all personnel are trained in how to use the emergency facility.
- Ensure personnel are fully briefed on the potential danger of the hazards within which they are working or working with, including exposure limits and what to do when it comes to decontaminating clothing and the body.
- Emergency eyewash and shower unit facilities must be installed in work areas where there is high potential for accidents involving corrosive, irritant or toxic substance absorption through skin and eyes.
- The surrounding area must be well lit area with clear signage.
- The location of an emergency shower should be no more than a maximum of 10 seconds travel time for an injured person to access. This is approximately 17 meters.
- There should be nothing to obstruct the pathways leading up to an emergency shower or items stored on top of an eyewash sink.
- Where operatives are working with extremely hazardous materials an emergency facility needs to be installed immediately adjacent to where they are working.
- Introduce a tagging process whereby workers themselves can check that an emergency shower has been properly tested and report anything they believe to be unsafe.

### ROUTINE MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Test the proper operation of shower unit on a weekly basis.
- Conduct routine cleaning, inspection and compliance assessment for every emergency unit.
- Keep tanks and mechanical parts clean and lubricated, including internal inspections of items such as immersion heater elements.
- Ensure that each unit is appropriately tagged for documentation of location and testing requirements.
- Check that the water supply pipework is capable of delivering 75 lpm.
- On self contained units, check that the correct temperature is being maintained, this being under 25°C and above 15.5°C. If the temperature is too hot it can increase the harmful effects of chemicals on the skin. Too cold and it can cause hypothermia plus the correct drenching time may be insufficient as the user will not want to stay under cold water for the recommended 15 minutes.
- Check on the disposal of the contaminated water. Not only does it need to be disposed of carefully, any pool of water collected on the floor can be a hazard in itself, creating a slippery or icy surface.
- Check on the size of the employees and check the area that you want to designate for a shower unit and ascertain whether it will provide a suitably sized emergency facility. There needs to be adequate room to accommodate the necessary movement when using the shower. Struggling to quickly strip off contaminated clothing in a restricted area is very difficult, uncomfortable and can exacerbate the problem.
- Check the siting of the pipe work feeding the shower. Ensure it is not exposed to extreme temperatures which may inhibit water flow.

*The safety information contained in this assessment is general information only and should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice or tuition, which the hirer should seek before operating.*