

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, PACIFIC  
N.S.C., OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94625 MSTSPAC 5100.8A  
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MSTSPAC INSTRUCTION 5100.8A

From: Commander Military Sea Transportation Service, Pacific  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Sight Conservation Program for Marine Personnel

Ref: (a) CMPI 5100.3-5, Subj: Safety \*  
(b) COMSTSPACINST 5100.17, Subj: MSTS Safety Manual, Chapter 1, \*  
Article 1-1-6  
(c) NAVEXOS P-422, Subj: Safety Equipment Manual

Encl: (1) Eye Hazard Classification Chart

1. Purpose. The purpose of this Instruction is to outline policy and establish procedures for the marine personnel Sight Conservation Program required by references (a) and (b). \*

2. Cancellation. MSTSPACINST 5100.8 is superseded. \*

3. Policy. The policy of the Navy Department is to provide eye protection and correction, when necessary, for civilian employees and industrially employed military personnel.

4. COMSTSPAC Staff Responsibility

a. The Industrial Relations Officer is responsible for coordinating the Sight Conservation Program. The Safety Division will refer to the Staff Medical Office, marine personnel considered eligible for refractive service. \*

b. The Staff Medical Officer is responsible for the medical phase of the program and will arrange for the service of a contract refractionist for the program as necessary. \*

5. Designation of Eye Hazards. In accordance with reference (a), the following determinations and designations are made:

a. Eye Hazardous Areas

- (1) Carpenter Shop
- (2) Electrical Shop
- (3) Machine Shop

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(4) Any other area where eye hazardous operations are conducted.

b. Eye Hazardous Work

(1) Grinding, drilling, buffing, chipping, sanding, scaling, scraping, polishing, caulking, riveting or wire brushing.

(2) Operating brake on anchor windlass when letting go an anchor.

(3) Gas or electric welding, burning, cutting, brazing or soldering.

(4) Operations involving the use of hand or power tools where the use of them may cause eye injury.

(5) Handling and pouring of acids and caustics of any type and servicing of electric storage batteries.

(6) Handling of Freon 12 or other eye hazardous refrigerants.

(7) Handling of molten metal, pouring wire rope sockets.

(8) Machining of metallic materials.

(9) Dumping of rubbish or garbage.

(10) Woodworking, using power tools and other operations where chips and dust are present.

(11) Handling of fibreglass or other fibrous materials.

(12) Work inside boiler fireboxes, flues, ducts or operations where the repairing of concrete or brickwork by cutting or chipping will endanger the eye.

(13) Spraying paints, bitumastic or other protective or coal tar products.

(14) Degreasing, cleaning or dipping operations which involve the use of degreasing compounds, solvents or preservatives.

(15) Overhead work where there is danger of dust or other material falling into the eye.

(16) Handling of high vacuum electronic tubes.

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(17) Splicing or braiding of wire.

(18) Any other operation where there is danger of injury to the eye from particles, liquids, gases or radiations.

c. Eye Hazardous Positions

(1) Deck Department: All licensed deck officers, boatswain, carpenter, carpenter's mate, able seamen and ordinary seamen.

(2) Engine Department: All licensed engineers, electricians, refrigeration engineers, machinists, plumbers, firemen, watertenders and wipers.

(3) Steward Department: Utilitymen.

(4) Any person exposed to eye hazardous operations such as those listed under 4.b.

d. Monocular Vision. Personnel with one eye or who have vision in one eye only, determined by the Staff Medical Officer to be in the monocular vision category, will be considered as engaged in eye hazardous operations regardless of occupation. Eye protection shall be provided as authorized by reference (a) and worn at all times aboard ship and while ashore on government property or in the service of the ship.

6. Eye Conservation Program

a. Normally, eye protection equipment will be limited to the types authorized by reference (c) and shown in enclosure (1).

b. Personnel exposed to eye hazardous operations who normally wear or, who as a result of an examination, require corrective eyewear, shall be urged to purchase protective-corrective eyewear.

c. Refractive service is provided by a refractionist at the Naval \* Supply Center Dispensary. Eye examinations and prescriptions for protective-corrective eyewear are provided at no cost to the employee. Arrangements to purchase this type of eyewear may be made with the refractionist at a cost advantage to the employee. In such instances, the only materials the refractionist can provide are those complying with appropriate federal specifications for safety eyewear. Such agreements, however, shall in no way obligate MSTs.

d. The services of the refractionist are not limited to personnel \* involved in the operations shown in paragraph 5.b. When, in the opinion of the master, a member of the crew, wearing corrective eyewear is subjected to eye injury from sources other than those stated above, the services of

the refractionist may be utilized for the purpose of procuring protective-corrective eyewear.

7. Directive. To ensure sight conservation and protection for shipboard personnel, masters shall:

(a) Require the wearing of approved protective eyewear in all areas and operations designated eye hazardous in paragraph 5 above. Require full allowance use of eye protective apparel listed in reference (c), particularly Item G, all Plastic Eye Shield. (Figure 2-5).

(b) Establish procedures and assign responsibility to patrol, screen or fence off eye hazardous operations, as appropriate, to protect fellow workers or others. Warning signs, as follows, will be placed at the entrance of eye hazardous areas.

EYE HAZARDOUS AREA  
PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR REQUIRED

(c) Require that Safety Goggles be thoroughly cleansed and sterilized periodically to prevent possible skin infections. (Wash with warm water and mild soap, followed by rinsing in fresh water.)

(d) Submit a letter request for eye examinations, listing names and positions, via air mail or speed letter from last port of call to COMSTSPAC, (P-25).

(e) Conduct a comprehensive educational program covering the need, use and care of protective eyewear.

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