



Laser Safety and Other Hazardous Optical Sources on the Exhibit Floor

Exhibitors at the ASCRS•ASOA exhibits assume sole responsibility for operating all lasers or other hazardous optical sources in their exhibit in full compliance with applicable health and safety codes so that no safety hazard is presented to meeting attendees, to other exhibitors or to themselves. The following guidelines are provided as an aid for specifying these responsibilities.

Exhibit Management

- A. Each exhibit operating lasers or other hazardous optical sources shall have one knowledgeable individual who is designated safety manager and who is responsible for providing reasonable safety training and surveillance within the exhibit.
- B. No laser equipment shall be left unattended in operable condition.
- C. All laser maintenance must be performed in accordance with procedures given in American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Standard Z136.1-2000, "Safe Use of Lasers," (available from the Laser Institute of America, Orlando, FL).
- D. No patient care shall be rendered within an exhibit.
- E. All operating laser products must have been certified as meeting the requirement of Federal Laser Product Performance Standards, (21CFR1040).

Exposure Guidelines

- A. Laser intrabeam viewing: Access to all laser apparatus should be restricted so as to prevent direct (intrabeam) viewing of the laser beam, or its specular reflection, if exposure levels are above the Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) limits provided in ANSI Standard Z136.1-2000 (these limits are identical to limits published in IEC Standard 60825-1.2-2001 and those of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection at <http://www.icnirp.org>). All beams must be confined to the limits of each exhibit.
- B. Laser diffuse viewing: Diffusely reflected beams may also be hazardous to view. The standards for viewing diffuse reflections are based on a laser beam incident on a diffuse Lambertian target (assuming 100% reflection). The incident beam intensities are acceptable if they are at or below the guidance provided in ANSI Standard Z136.1-2000.
- C. Arc and Flash Lamps: The standards for viewing extended non-laser sources such as xenon arcs are given in Threshold Limit Value for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents for 2002 provided by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (Cincinnati, OH).

Safety Inspection (Friday, May 6, 2016 between 5:00pm-7:00pm)

- A. Each exhibit operating lasers or other hazardous optical sources will furnish the contact information of the exhibit's safety manager by returning the Laser Safety Checklist.
- B. Each exhibit will be inspected by an outside technical expert on laser safety and a staff member of ASCRS to ensure compliance with the preceding guidelines. Exhibits not in compliance will not be permitted to operate laser systems. Inspection does not obviate the exhibitor's sole responsibility and liability for the safe operation of their exhibit.
- C. Each laser is required to have proper signage listing the Class of Laser, if the equipment is NOT FDA Approved, or is inoperable. The signage must be posted in the booth at all times during the exhibition.

We are confident your exhibit and instrumentation will satisfy the foregoing precautionary measures. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Based on guidance in ANSI Z136.1-2000 and predecessor documents and Sliney, D.H., and Mainster, M.A., Laser Safety at Medical and Scientific Exhibitions, *Ophthalmology*, 91(Suppl. 1):58-61, (September 1984).