

## Eye injury

### HAZARD

Eye injuries can lead to impaired vision and irreversible eye damage. The loss of an eye leads to unfitness for sea service.

### FACTS

Number of cases of the Telemedical Maritime Assistance Service (TMAS Germany) prove:

**Eye injuries occur frequently.**

Common causes are injuries by

- foreign body during cutting, grinding, drilling, derusting or anchoring as well as flying particles and dust in the area of fans, reefer containers and on deck
- chemical burn during handling hazardous substances
- burn by deflagration
- UV rays e.g. from welding or excessive solar radiation which can cause flash burn

An example: A seaman was assisting a colleague who was doing welding work and burned his eyes by flash burn while assisting. He was not wearing a protective shield or proper goggles.



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### PROTECT YOUR EYES AND STAY ON BOARD

An initiative of the Maritime Medical Service and Prevention Division of the BG Verkehr as well as the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport

[www.stay-on-board.de](http://www.stay-on-board.de)  
<https://kompendium.bg-verkehr.de>

### CREW:

It is your health and your safety - therefore

**consistently wear suitable safety goggles or eye protection ...**

- in marked areas
- during activities with a risk of injury
- if required by the owner (operating instruction, risk assessment)

**and consider ...**

- appropriate seating and use of eye protection
- any damages

**and increase wearer acceptance through ...**

- cleanliness, proper care and hygienic storage

### SHIPOWNER / VESSEL'S COMMAND:

It is your responsibility - therefore

**check:**

**Risk assessment:**

- are hazards & control measures described?

**Indications:**

- mandatory signs for certain areas, machineries and systems available?



**Organizational measures:**

- general familiarization
- specific familiarization prior certain job activities
- supervision of the implementation of the protective measures by superiors

**PPE eye protection:**

- appropriate level of protection for different working tasks and risks achieved?

**Measures to increase wearer acceptance:**

- correct choice of appropriate equipment
- demand proper care, hygiene and correct storage

**THINK AND ACT  
SAFE!**

