

## Meeting 11/01/07 SRC Subcommittee on Laser Safety

Present: Bob Schoenlein (MSD), Ken Barat (EH&S), Neil Landau (BSO)

Agenda:

- (1) report on ANSI Controls committee - Ken
- (2) discussion of policy for alignment eyewear - Ken, Bob

### Minutes

Bob will contact Don Lucas about getting more consistent representation on the Laser Safety Subcommittee from the research divisions that use lasers.

(1) Ken Barat reported on the recent meeting of the ANSI Technical Committee on the Controls Chapter of the ANSI Standard. At the ANSI meeting, Ken made the following recommendations:

- (a) that ANSI use “warning” signs and other international signs and symbols in place of the “danger” signs and other non-standard signs
- (b) that requirements for engineering controls (e.g. key switches) be dropped from ANSI
  - commercial lasers already are required to have such controls since they are regulated by the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)
  - home-made and OEM lasers are not controlled by CDRH
  - ANSI is a user standard and not a manufacturing standard

Neil reminded us that LBNL is bound to the ANSO 2000 Standard by the present contract and that we must petition to DOE for any rule change (per CF 851)

(2) The proposed policy on alignment eyewear was discussed. The following motivation for developing this policy was presented by Ken Barat:

- (a) EN208 (European Std.) is based on cw aversion response and a requirement for 20% visible light transmission for laser eyewear. It is not based on a quantitative evaluation of the potential hazards – particularly for pulsed lasers
- (b) ANSI is just in the process of considering recommendations for barrier and eyewear testing, but is not likely to make any recommendations on alignment eyewear
- (c) advice was solicited from several knowledgeable experts in laser safety
  - Brooks AFB, Will Arthur (Lase R Shield, President), Glendale/UCEX representatives
- (d) inquiries to other national labs (LANL, ANL) indicated no clear policy beyond LSO discretion

This proposed policy will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Comments on the Alignment Eyewear Authorization Memo:

- a time limit or renewal date needs to be included
- there should be a mechanism to insure that the memo is uploaded to the AHD
- memo needs to be tailored to specific lab