

Complying with the law - and common sense

SAHPRA (South African Health Products Regulation Authority) requires us to obtain licences for some of the various laser equipment that we import and sell - and place a requirement on you (the user) to adhere to their requirements for safe use of this equipment.

The document they put out for laser users is titled "REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SAFE USE OF CLASS 3B AND CLASS 4 LASERS OR LASER SYSTEMS" and it may be downloaded from our website, at : <https://www.perfectlaser.co.za/dl/SBLAS.pdf>

The full set of safety sign pdfs in A4 size that are required at the laser installation site are here : <https://www.perfectlaser.co.za/dl/SIGNS.pdf>

Ensuring workplace safety when operating laser equipment is critically important. No-one should be permitted to operate a laser without knowing the safety basics. In general, lasers are very safe machines, but it is often due to negligence or poor initial training that accidents happen.

To protect the safety of the operator and all those in the vicinity of the machine, ensure that the proper safety procedures are in place, and adhered to.

Create a safety checklist that must be completed before each operation of the machine. Ensure that the operator knows not to take shortcuts; no amount of time saved is worth the risk of injury.

Operator training is paramount in keeping your machine profitable, your employees safe, and your overheads low.

Wear laser safety goggles when using your laser.

Laser safety goggles have lenses that absorb, attenuate, or reflect specific wavelengths of light at specific strengths (optical densities). This protects the sensitive photoreceptors of the eyes from being damaged or destroyed by direct or scattered laser radiation.

These lenses are specified to protect from certain wavelengths of (mostly invisible) light. Your laser will operate at a specific wavelength or range of wavelengths of light - depending on whether CO2 or Fiber.

Just because a laser's beam is not visible does not mean that it is incapable of injuring or destroying skin or an eye. Most types of laser safety filters (goggles or shields) protect from invisible laser radiation.

Wear appropriate clothing when using your laser.

Don't wear loose clothing that could get caught in moving parts, or worse, get in the way of the laser beam. It will catch fire and cause damage.



Some of the signage that should be placed around your laser installation.

