

Laser Safe Work Practices

Several good work practices must be observed when working around lasers. These include the following:

- **NEVER** intentionally look directly into a laser.
- **DO NOT** stare at the light from any laser. Allow yourself to blink if the light is too bright.
- **DO NOT** view a Class 3a (or any higher power) laser with optical instruments.
- **NEVER** direct the beam toward other people.
- **REMOVE** all unnecessary reflective objects from the area near the beam's path. This may include jewelry and tools.
- **READ** the information manual associated with your laser so that you know the laser equipment and hazards associated with its use.
- **OPERATE** lasers only in the area designed for their use and be certain that the beam is terminated at the end of its use path. **NEVER** allow a laser beam to escape its designated area of use.
- **DO NOT** enter an area that has been posted with a **DANGER** sign without approval from a qualified laser operator. Eye protection is **REQUIRED** in these areas.
- **POSITION** the laser so that it is well above or below eye level both standing and sitting down.
- When not in use, the laser should be **STORED** to prevent unauthorized use by untrained personnel.

Laser Alignment Practices

- **DO NOT** bring your eyes near the axis of any beam to perform an alignment (or any other operation).
- **WEAR** laser skin and eye protection.
- **USE** a low power laser for alignments. If this is not possible, adjust your laser to minimum power levels and/or use a filter to bring down the power to safe levels.
- **USE** viewers or viewing cards to sight where an invisible beam is.
- To sight where a visible beam is, **USE** lower optical density laser protective eyewear or sight beams with a non-specular, dark colored viewing card.