



Date: 10 October 2016
Memo to: Randal Moss
From: Sheldon Zimmerman, SSC-1 Chair
Subject: Z136.1 Key Control for Class 3B and Class 4 lasers

Question

This inquiry was submitted on 22 August 2016 to ASC Z136

"In paragraph 4.4.2.2 (pg. 29) of .1 it states that Classes 3b and 4 lasers shall be operated with a key or coded access and in the chart labeled Control Measures on page 91 it state that 3b and 4 lasers should be operated with key control and refers one to back to paragraph 4.4.2.2. I need clarification on this if possible."

It was determined that the question falls in the category of "explanation" under the guidelines and procedures of ASC Z136. Specifically,

"An 'explanation' relates to a simple clarification of a portion of a standard as it is written, e.g., a clarification of a definition, a simple request for assistance in calculations based on tabular material. An explanation does not address the *implication* or *intent* of a portion of the standard.

"Requests judged to be 'for explanation only' are directed to an appropriate member of the Committee or its subcommittees for the formal response."

ASC Z136 SSC-1 Response

Judged a misunderstanding of the standard; the standard clearly states:

"Class 3B or Class 4 lasers or laser systems should be provided with a master switch."

The standard then goes on to say, effectively, that, IF you have a master switch, it SHALL have these properties/do these things.

Table 10a reflects "should" as indicated in the first sentence of 4.4.2.2 (... should be provided with a master switch).

