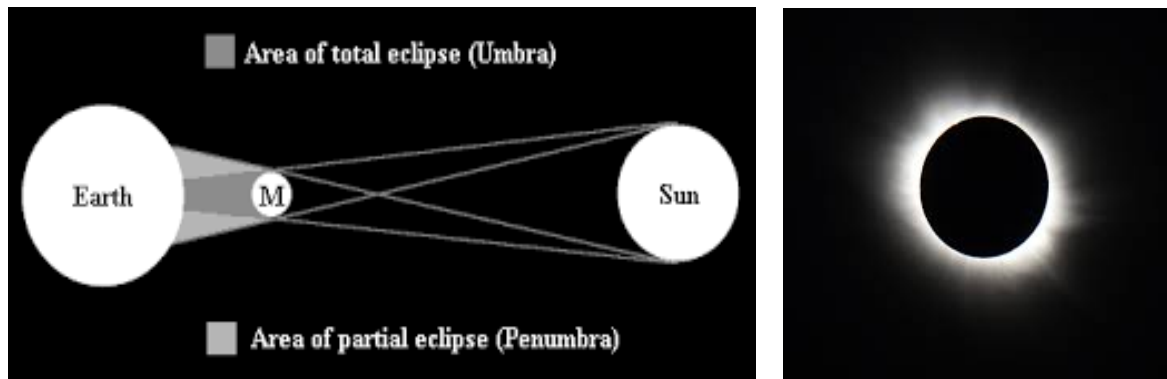




ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH ALERT 2017-08 [18 August 2017]

Eclipse Of The Sun



Mid-afternoon on 21 August (around 2:30 PM Eastern Time), the Moon will eclipse the Sun throughout most of North America. Over the past few days, the ILA-USMX Joint Safety Committee has received a number of questions from several ports relating to the potential dangers associated with this coming Monday's eclipse. We'd like to set out our understanding.

A solar eclipse occurs when the transit of the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, and when the Moon fully or partially blocks the Sun.

During that process, staring into the Sun during the period of time immediately before and after the short (approx. 90 second) interval when the Moon is directly and fully between the Earth and the Sun can have a serious, long term effect on a person's eyesight.

So, in sum, we want to emphasize to all ILA and Management interests how important it is for all industry colleagues to be aware of the associated hazard and to ensure that during the approximately two hour period *immediately before* and the approximately two hour period *immediately after* the interval of time when the Moon is directly and fully between the Sun and the Earth, that none of us (no matter where we may be) stares directly at the Sun.

The ILA-USMX Joint Safety Committee would greatly appreciate your passing on this information at Local Union halls, hiring centers, workplace bulletin boards, relevant websites and at pre-shift safety briefings.

Here's a very informative link: <https://www.space.com/33797-total-solar-eclipse-2017-guide.html>

Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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