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Science Notes - Could Your Computer Be a Safety Hazard?

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Could Your Computer Be a Safety Hazard?

The July 1990 issue of *MacWorld* discussed the issue of display terminal safety. The evidence that display monitors emit significant radiation which may be strong enough to be a health hazard has been mounting since the early 1980's. After conducting their own tests, the publishers of *MacWorld* concluded that extremely low-frequency magnetic field emissions from monitors are worrisome.

The investigation found that the strongest emissions come from the sides and tops of the monitors, while lower levels were found at the front, back and bottom. *MacWorld* investigators found that at 28 inches from the screen, all the monitors tested at less than one milligauss (mG), a level considered safe.

MacWorld suggests users should consider maintaining a safety distance of four feet from the sides and backs of monitors. How far are your students sitting from their monitors?

*reprinted from California Classroom Science
Vol. 2(1), August / September 1990*

NEWMAST and NEWEST Offer Honors Workshops for Teachers

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) are sponsoring honors workshops for teachers in their NEWMAST and NEWEST programs.

NEWMAST (NASA Education Workshop for Math and Science Teachers) gives educators a hands-on experience at a NASA center. Selected individuals will attend a two-week workshop at which they will be exposed to future technology.

Recipients of awards from NEWEST (NASA Education Workshop for Elementary School Teachers) will receive travel, housing and a per diem stipend for the workshops to be held at a NASA center in the summer of 1991. In addition, these honorees will receive national recognition and will have the opportunity to access NASA educational materials, learn how space and aeronautics fit into the elementary curriculum, work with NASA experts and share their ideas and experiences with other outstanding elementary teachers from across the country. Teachers of grades 1-6 are eligible for these awards.

The deadline for application to the programs is February 15, 1991. For further information and applications, contact NEWMAST/NEWEST-NSTA, 5110 Roanoke Place, Suite 101, College Park, MD 20740.

--S.A.A.