

**University Of Minnesota**  
**Minnesota Nano Center**  
**Laboratory Safety Plan**

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## **Chapter 1 – Introduction**

### **1.1 Purpose**

In 1990, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) released a regulation entitled, Occupational Exposures to Hazardous Chemicals in the Laboratory (29 CFR 1910.1450), commonly referred to as the "Laboratory Safety Standard".

This Laboratory Safety Plan (LSP) is intended to meet the requirements of the federal Laboratory Safety Standard. It describes policies, procedures, equipment, personal protective equipment and

work practices that are capable of protecting employees from the health hazards in laboratories. All laboratory workers must be made aware of this plan. New employees must review the plan and receive safety training before beginning work in the laboratory. The plan must be available to all laboratory workers at all times.

This LSP also addresses the concerns of the federal Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA). TSCA requires that prudent laboratory practices be developed and documented for research involving new chemicals that have not had their health and environmental hazards fully characterized. Laboratories engaged in research must consider the applicability of TSCA on their operation. TSCA, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the New Chemicals Program, is intended to ensure that the human health and environmental effects of chemical substances are identified and adequately addressed prior to commercial use or transport of those substances. A new chemical is a chemical substance that is produced or imported and not yet listed on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory. Each laboratory or research group that synthesizes or imports new chemicals must determine if and how TSCA applies to their laboratory activities – see Appendix A.

## **1.2 Scope and Application**

The Laboratory Safety Standard applies where 'laboratory use' of hazardous chemicals occurs. Laboratory use of hazardous chemicals means handling or use of such chemicals in which all of the following conditions are met:

- i. the handling or use of chemicals occurs on a 'laboratory scale', that is, the work involves containers which can easily and safely be manipulated by one person,
- ii. multiple chemical procedures or chemical substances are used, and
- iii. protective laboratory practices and equipment are available and in common use to minimize the potential for employee exposures to hazardous chemicals.

At a minimum, this definition covers employees (including student employees, technicians, supervisors, lead researchers and physicians) who use chemicals in teaching, research and clinical laboratories at the University of Minnesota. Certain non-traditional laboratory settings may be included under this standard at the option of individual departments within the University. Also, it is the policy of the University that laboratory students, while not legally covered under this standard, will be given training commensurate with the level of hazard associated with their laboratory work.

This standard does not apply to laboratories whose function is to produce commercial quantities of material. Also, where the use of hazardous chemicals provides no potential for employee exposure, such as in procedures using chemically impregnated test media and commercially prepared test kits, this standard will not apply. The researchers listed in the following table are

covered by this Laboratory Safety Plan. This standard applies to all Minnesota Nano Center employees (students, civil service and bargaining unit, academic and professional, and faculty) as well as all users with a valid access card to MNC facilities in rooms 1-146, 1-148, 1-132, and 1-138 of Keller Hall and room 190 in the Physics/Nanotechnology building.

### **1.3 Coordination with Other Standards and Guidelines**

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The Laboratory Safety Standard addresses occupational safety issues for employees who work with hazardous chemicals in laboratories. Other federal, state and local standards that address use of hazardous chemicals and other materials are listed in Appendix B.

### **1.4 Roles and Responsibilities**

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Employees, supervisors, Departmental Safety Officers, department heads, deans, upper administrative staff, and DEHS staff all have roles to play. These roles are outlined below.

#### **A. President, Vice Presidents, Provosts and Chancellors (Central Administration)**

Upper level administrators are responsible for:

- Actively promote the importance of safety in the research community;
- Ensure deans, directors and department heads provide adequate time and recognition for employees who are given laboratory safety responsibilities.
- Objectively evaluate direct reports on their safety involvement and continuous improvement efforts.

#### **B. Deans, Associate Deans, Directors and Department Heads**

- Actively promote the importance of safety in the research community;
- Support and participate in safety improvement efforts;
- Establish collegiate, departmental or institute based safety committees or other effective means to facilitate continuous safety improvement;
- Monitor the effectiveness of safety improvement efforts;
- Ensure PIs and Lab Directors provide adequate time and recognition for employees who are given laboratory safety responsibilities;

- Identify an appropriate number of technically-qualified Departmental Safety Officers (DSO) for the unit. Colleges or institutes made up of a number of large laboratory-based departments are urged to assign Departmental Safety Officers within each department or division;
- Ensure that the designated DSO and safety committees have dedicated time and resources to carry out their assigned responsibilities;
- Establish and maintain processes to ensure the DSOs are informed of new and changing faculty space assignments, including faculty leaving the University
- Objectively evaluate direct reports on their safety involvement and continuous improvement efforts.

### **C. Supervisors/Principal Investigators**

The supervisor of MNC process staff is Greg Cibuzar.

Immediate supervisors of laboratory employees are responsible for:

- Assure potential hazards of specific projects have been identified and addressed before work is started;
- Ensure effective safe operating procedures are completed for lab activities involving high hazard materials and activities;
- Identify and provide necessary safety supplies and personal protective equipment;
- Discuss and reinforce safe work practices and PPE use, provide coaching and disciplinary action as necessary;
- Conduct continuous inspection of the research space under the supervisors control, ensure that unsafe conditions are identified and corrected;
- Ensure that all accidents, injuries, and spills are reported to DEHS;
- Investigate laboratory incidents, identify root causes, and implement appropriate solutions;
- Actively participate in safety improvement efforts;
- Provide initial and annual update training for lab workers regarding hazards in their area and associated with their work;
- Maintain documentation of initial and annual training to laboratory personnel
- Objectively evaluate direct reports on their safety involvement and continuous improvement efforts.

### **D. Employees**

Employees who have significant responsibility for directing their own laboratory work are responsible for assuring that potential hazards of specific projects have been identified and addressed before work is started. All laboratory employees however, are responsible to:

- Complete required safety training;
- Read and understand lab standard operating procedures;
- Follow safe work practices applicable to the procedures being carried out;
- Actively identify, report, implement, and make suggestions for safety improvements;
- Assure required safety precautions are in place before work is started;
- Follow University lab dress code and wear PPE required for procedures;
- Notify DEHS of accidents, spills or conditions that may warrant further investigation and/or monitoring.

#### **E. Departmental Safety Officer**

The DSO for MNC is Greg Cibuzar. The DSO:

- Serves as liaison and facilitates communication between employing department and DEHS;
- Coordinates training to ensure researchers understand their responsibilities and the policies applicable to their research;
- Schedules and participates in inspections of laboratories (in conjunction with departmental safety committees and DEHS);
- Assists in facilitating follow-up on improvement recommendations
- Notifies DEHS of new or existing operations that may warrant further investigation and/or monitoring;
- Participates on or facilitates departmental safety committees.

#### **E. Department of Environmental Health and Safety (DEHS)**

- Develop centralized processes and safety management systems to assist Colleges and Departments to fulfill their safety responsibilities.
- Provide technical resources and expertise to Colleges and Departments to help facilitate continuous safety improvement.
- Conduct periodic inspections and audits to verify implementation of safety management systems and safe work practices.
- Maintain written safety performance expectations and guidance in the form of a Research Safety Manual or other written materials.
- Provide educational information and training assistance to departments and colleges relative to hazard identification and safe work practice.
- Participate on and provide guidance to safety committees or other safety improvement mechanisms.
- Identify and share best practices across departments and colleges.

**F. Safety Committees (or other Departmental or Collegiate safety improvement mechanisms).**

- Maintain a working knowledge of their work areas, are interested in safety improvement, and visible advocates for safety.
- Evaluate and improve departmental and collegiate safety cultures.
- Identify high-risk job tasks and promote the development of safe work practices.
- Identify and share best practices across the Department or College
- Identify the need for written programs and recommend implementation to department or college leadership.
- Committees have access to, and regular communications with, departmental and collegiate leadership through clearly defined reporting mechanisms.
- Promote and facilitate safety training
- Participate in periodic safety audits and inspections.
- Solicit reports of unsafe conditions and suggest corrective actions.
- Review incidents, near misses, accident investigation reports.
- Review potential serious injuries and incidents. Not for fault finding, but for fact finding to prevent a re-occurrence of the same or similar incident.
- Review injury and incident data for trends.
- Establish departmental and collegiate goals for safety improvement.



## Chapter 2 – Laboratory Safety Procedures

This chapter gives general guidance for working safely in laboratories. Using this section in conjunction with other safety references will help researchers maintain a safe laboratory. This chapter also has information which will help researchers prepare laboratory-specific Safe Operating Procedures (SOPs).

### **2.1 Chemical Procedures**

#### **A. Prudent Practices in the Laboratory**

Laboratory standard operating procedures found in Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Disposal of Chemicals (National Research Council, 2011) are adopted for general use at the University of Minnesota.

#### **B. Labeling Chemicals in the Laboratory**

All chemicals in the laboratory are required to have a label that indicates chemical contents and hazard warnings. Chemicals purchased from a manufacturer will have labels from that manufacturer that meet the chemical labeling requirements. Chemicals that are transferred from manufacturer containers into a secondary container or chemicals that are synthesized in the lab

Exemptions: Chemicals that will be used within one work shift. This means that they will not be unattended during the work period of their intended use.

#### **C. Controlled Substances and Alcohol**

In conducting research with controlled substances, University authorized employees must comply with federal and state laws and regulations regarding their uses, including registration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), storage requirements, inventory maintenance and substance disposal. A condensed guide to federal regulations as well as policies and forms pertaining to controlled substances are available on the [Controlled Substances](#) webpage.

Alcohol used for education, scientific research, or medicinal purposes can be purchased tax-free through [University Market](#), which holds the University of Minnesota site license for alcohol purchases with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Further information and links to the ordering form are available at the following link: Tax Free Alcohol Ordering Procedures.

#### **D. The American Chemical Society's "Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories"**

ACS's "Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories" is another useful text. This manual presents information similar to that found in Prudent Practices, but in a considerably condensed format.

#### **E. Hazardous Waste Management**

Extensive and detailed policies regarding hazardous waste management are specified in the University's guidebook "Hazardous Chemical Waste Management, 5th edition". Please refer to this text for approved waste handling procedures.

#### **F. Emergency Procedures for Chemical Spills**

Complete spill response procedures are described in the Hazardous Chemical Waste Management Guidebook. However, the quick reference guide is included for convenience in this Laboratory Safety Plan.

##### **Chemical Spill Quick Reference Guide**

###### ***Evacuate***

- Leave the spill area; alert others in the area and direct/assist them in leaving.
- Without endangering yourself: remove any victims to fresh air, remove contaminated clothing and flush contaminated skin and eyes with water for 15 minutes. If anyone has been injured or exposed to toxic chemicals or chemical vapors, call 911 and seek medical attention immediately.

###### ***Confine***

- Close doors and isolate the area. Prevent people from entering spill area.

###### ***Determine if the spill is within your capability to clean up safely***

- If yes, follow your lab's procedures for spill clean-up.
- If not, continue on with the remainder of this guide.

###### ***Report***

- From a safe place, call 911 and report the spill (Twin Cities Campus 911 operators will contact on-call DEHS personnel).
- Be prepared to give your name, phone and location; location of the spill; the name and amount of material spilled; extent of injuries; safest route to the spill.
- Stay by that phone, DEHS will advise you as soon as possible.
- DEHS or the Fire Department will clean up or stabilize spills, which are considered high hazard (fire, health or reactivity hazard). In the case of a small spill and low hazard situation, DEHS will advise you on what precautions and protective equipment to use.

###### ***Secure***

- Until emergency response personnel arrive: block off the areas leading to the spill, lock doors, post signs and warning tape, and alert others of the spill.
- Post staff by commonly used entrances to the area to direct people to use other routes.

## **2.2 Biohazard Procedures**

All researchers working with human blood or body fluids, or other pathogens must follow the university's Bloodborne and Other Pathogens Exposure Control Plan, and complete [Bloodborne Pathogens Training](#), available on the web. All researchers working with infectious material including attenuated lab & vaccine strains (bacteria, viruses, parasites, fungi, prions), biologically-derived toxins, rDNA, and artificial gene transfer must follow requirements of the University's Biosafety Program detailed in the Biosafety Manual and on the Institutional Biosafety Committee's website.

### **A. University of Minnesota Biosafety Program**

The University's Biosafety Program is made up of three components; researchers must implement all three components in their SOPs.

- **Biosafety principles and practices as outlined in the UMN Biosafety Manual;**
- **CDC/NIH's text Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL).**
- **Individual lab-specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that:**
  - specify the biohazards being used
  - identify the material handling steps that may pose a risk of exposure (sharps, injecting animals, centrifugation, aerosol production, transport, etc.)
  - describe equipment and techniques used to reduce the above risk of exposure
  - give instructions for what to do in case of an accidental exposure/spill
  - list wastes that will be generated and how to properly dispose of wastes

### **B. Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**

The IBC is charged under Federal Regulations (NIH) and University of Minnesota Regents' Policy with the oversight of all teaching and research activities involving:

- Recombinant DNA
- Artificial gene transfer
- Infectious agents including attenuated lab & vaccine strains
- Biologically derived toxins

See the [IBC](#) web site for procedures to apply for approval for the above work.

### **C. Select Agents**

Labs in possession of organisms or toxins that are federally designated as select agents are required to be registered with the Centers for Disease Control if quantities exceed the exemption amounts. See the Biosafety Section of the DEHS web site for a list of select agents, exemption quantities, and procedures for their use.

### **D. Additional Biosafety References**

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World Health Organization (WHO) *Laboratory Safety Manual*, available on the web at, [http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/biosafety/WHO\\_CDS\\_CSR\\_LYO\\_2004\\_11/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/biosafety/WHO_CDS_CSR_LYO_2004_11/en/)

National Research Council's text *Biosafety in the Laboratory: Prudent Practices for Handling and Disposal of Infectious Materials* (1989), available on the web at <http://books.nap.edu/books/0309039754/html/R1.html#pagetop>.

[National Institutes of Health's](#) Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules (Sept. 2009).

Biological Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) available at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/lab-bio/res/psds-ftss/index-eng.php>.

## **2.3 Radioactive Procedures**

All researchers using radioactive materials at the University of Minnesota must:

- obtain a permit for the possession and use of radioactive materials (contact the University of Minnesota Radiation Protection Division at 612-626-6002);
- complete required training modules; and
- comply with the radiation policies and procedures of the university (contained in the Radiation Protection Manual).

The Radiation Protection Manual contains information on a number of topics including license committees, the permitting process, purchasing procedures, transfer procedures, general safety, personnel dosimetry, waste management, emergency management (spill control), record keeping, and regulatory guides on occupational exposure and prenatal exposure.

Training is required for all personnel who require access to areas where radioactive materials are used or stored. This training can be completed on line at:  
[http://www.dehs.umn.edu/rad\\_radmat\\_training.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/rad_radmat_training.htm).

## **2.4 Other Lab Safety Procedures**

Other lab and general safety information is available on the University of Minnesota website as indicated below:

- Emergency Eyewash and Safety Shower Installation  
([https://cppm.umn.edu/sites/cppm.umn.edu/files/division13\\_10.pdf](https://cppm.umn.edu/sites/cppm.umn.edu/files/division13_10.pdf))
- Personal Protective Equipment for Animal Care and Use

(<https://ohs.umn.edu/personal-protective-equipment-animal-care-and-use>)

- Respiratory Protection for Lab Animal Allergens (<https://ohs.umn.edu/respiratory-protection-program>)
- Research Occupational Health Program (ROHP) (<https://ohs.umn.edu/rsrchocchlthprgrm>)
- Lock Out/Tag Out ([http://www.dehs.umn.edu/train\\_factsheet\\_lkouttagout.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/train_factsheet_lkouttagout.htm))
- Respiratory Protection Program (<https://ohs.umn.edu/respiratory-protection-program>)
- Hearing Conservation Program (<https://ohs.umn.edu/hrngcnsvtnprgrm>)
- Laboratory Close-out Procedure (<http://www.dehs.umn.edu/Docs/LaboratoryCloseout.doc>)

## **2.5 Laboratory-Specific Standard Operating Procedures**

The Minnesota Nano Center Safety Manual, available on the MNC www site ([www.mnc.umn.edu](http://www.mnc.umn.edu)), contains additional operating procedures, safety information, and lab etiquette. These procedures were written specifically for the hazards associated with working in a cleanroom facility with micro- and nano-scale fabrication equipment, and must be strictly adhered to. Please consult MNC staff or the MNC www site for complete details regarding the SOPs for MNC equipment.

Each PI must have written Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the research protocols conducted in his or her laboratory. Like the LSP, the SOPs must be accessible to all researchers. Keeping hard copies in the lab or having them on a computer in the laboratory fulfills the accessibility requirement. SOPs developed through DEHS will be posted periodically in Appendix E.

Laboratory-specific SOPs are valuable research tools that supplement the departmental LSP. The process of writing SOPs requires an individual to think through all steps of a procedure and perform a risk assessment before beginning work. The SOP provides a written means to inform and advise researchers about hazards in their work place, allows for standardization of materials and methods, and improves the quality of the research.

SOPs should include exposure controls and safety precautions that address both routine and accidental chemical, physical or biological hazards associated with the procedure. A template for writing new SOPs is available in Appendix F and guidance for writing biologically-related SOPs is available on the Biosafety section of the DEHS website.

## **2.6 Emergency Procedures**

- Campus Emergency Procedures (<http://safe-u.umn.edu/>)
  - bomb threats
  - medical emergencies
  - fire
  - severe weather
  - utility outages
  - warning systems/sirens
  - workplace violence
- Chemical Spills ([http://www.dehs.umn.edu/hazwaste\\_chemwaste\\_umn\\_cwmgbk\\_sec3.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/hazwaste_chemwaste_umn_cwmgbk_sec3.htm))
- First Aid for Laboratory and Research Staff  
([http://www.dehs.umn.edu/Docs/Lab\\_First\\_Aid.doc](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/Docs/Lab_First_Aid.doc))
- Needle Sticks ([http://www.dehs.umn.edu/bio\\_pracprin\\_blood\\_needle.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/bio_pracprin_blood_needle.htm))
- Radioactive Material Incidents ([http://www.dehs.umn.edu/rad\\_radmat\\_incidents.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/rad_radmat_incidents.htm))

## **2.7 Planning for Shutdowns**

Researchers should develop written procedures to deal with events such as loss of electrical power (affecting fume hoods, coolers etc.) or other utilities (water), or temporary loss of personnel due to illnesses such as pandemic flu. Guidance on factors to consider when developing shut-down plans is included in the Lab Hibernation Checklist in Appendix G.

## **2.8 Closing out a laboratory**

Any researcher leaving the University needs to properly close down his/her lab. If the principal investigator does not take proper care to clean-up the laboratory, then the department for which they worked under becomes responsible. We strongly encourage departments to develop administrative controls to prevent this from happening. A good tool to use is the laboratory closeout checklist available on the DEHS website. Otherwise, DEHS does offer laboratory clean-up services for an hourly fee.

## Chapter 3 – How to Reduce Exposures to Hazardous Chemicals

Engineering controls, personal protective equipment, hygiene practices, and administrative controls each play a role in a comprehensive laboratory safety program. Implementation of specific measures must be carried out on a case-by-case basis, using the following criteria for guidance in making decisions. Assistance is available from DEHS.

### **3.1 Engineering controls**

#### **A. Fume Hoods**

The laboratory fume hood is the major protective device available to laboratory workers. It is designed to capture chemicals that escape from their containers or apparatus and to remove them from the laboratory environment before they can be inhaled. Characteristics to be considered in requiring fume hood use are physical state, volatility, toxicity, flammability, eye and skin irritation, odor, and the potential for producing aerosols. A fume hood should be used if a proposed chemical procedure exhibits any one of the following characteristics:

- airborne concentrations might approach the action level (or permissible exposure limit)
- flammable vapors might approach one tenth of the lower explosion limit
- materials of unknown toxicity are used or generated
- the odor produced is annoying to laboratory occupants or adjacent units

Procedures that can generally be carried out safely outside the fume hood include those involving the following:

- water-based solutions of salts, dilute acids, bases, or other reagents
- very low volatility liquids or solids
- closed systems that do not allow significant escape to the laboratory environment
- extremely small quantities of otherwise problematic chemicals. The procedure itself must be evaluated for its potential to increase volatility or produce aerosols.

In specialized cases, fume hoods will contain exhaust treatment devices, such as water wash-down for perchloric acid use, or charcoal or HEPA filters for removal of particularly toxic or radioactive materials. Fume hoods must not be used for work with infectious agents.

#### **B. Safety Shields**

Safety shields, such as the sliding sash of a fume hood, are appropriate when working with highly concentrated acids, bases, oxidizers or reducing agents, all of which have the potential for causing sudden spattering or even explosive release of material. Reactions carried out at non-ambient pressures (vacuum or high pressure) also require safety shields, as do reactions that are carried out for the first time or are significantly scaled up from normal operating conditions.

### **C. Biological Safety Cabinets**

Biological Safety Cabinets (BSCs), are the primary means of containment for working safely with infectious microorganisms. Cabinets are available that either exhaust to the outside or recirculates HEPA filtered air to the laboratory. They are not to be used for working with volatile or hazardous chemicals unless they are specifically designed for that purpose and are properly vented. Generally, the only chemical work that should be done in a BSC is that which could be done safely on a bench top involving chemicals that will not damage the BSC or the HEPA filter. For proper cabinet selection and use see, the CDC publication Primary Containment for Biohazards and the DEHS website.

### **D. Other Containment Devices**

Other containment devices, such as glove boxes or vented gas cabinets, may be required when it is necessary to provide an inert atmosphere for the chemical procedure taking place, when capture of any chemical emission is desirable, or when the standard laboratory fume hood does not provide adequate assurance that overexposure to a hazardous chemical will not occur. The presence of biological or radioactive materials may also mandate certain special containment devices. High strength barriers coupled with remote handling devices may be necessary for safe use of extremely shock sensitive or reactive chemicals.

Highly localized exhaust ventilation, such as is usually installed over atomic absorption units, may be required for instrumentation that exhausts toxic or irritating materials to the laboratory environment.

Ventilated chemical storage cabinets or rooms should be used when the chemicals in storage may generate toxic, flammable or irritating levels of airborne contamination.

## **3.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

### **A. Skin Protection**

As skin must be protected from hazardous liquids, gases and vapors, proper basic attire is essential in the laboratory. Long hair should be pulled back and secured and loose clothing (sleeves, bulky pants or skirts) avoided to prevent accidental contact with chemicals or open flames. Shoes with closed-toed and heel covering must be worn by all individuals occupying laboratory area. Full-length pants or skirts are required to cover all skin that could be exposed during a spill.

Lab coats are routine equipment for all laboratory workers. Remember that lab coats should be worn to protect employees against both chemical and biological hazards. Working in a biosafety level 1 laboratory does not excuse an employee from wearing a lab coat. Lab coats are required when working with radioactive materials, hazardous chemicals and biologicals. The laboratory coats must be appropriately sized for the individual and be buttoned to their full length. Laboratory coat sleeves must be of a sufficient length to prevent skin exposure while wearing gloves.



Flame resistant laboratory coats are recommended when working with pyrophoric materials or large amounts (greater than four (4) liters) of flammable liquids. It is recommended that cotton (or other non-synthetic material) clothing be worn during these procedures to minimize injury in the case of a fire emergency.

It is the responsibility of the employer to purchase lab coats and provide laundry service for employees. Lab coats cannot be taken home for laundering.

Gloves made of appropriate material are required to protect the hands and arms from thermal burns, cuts, or chemical exposure that may result in absorption through the skin or reaction on the surface of the skin. Gloves are also required when working with particularly hazardous substances where possible transfer from hand to mouth must be avoided. Thus gloves are required for work involving pure or concentrated solutions of select carcinogens, reproductive toxins, substances which have a high degree of acute toxicity, strong acids and bases, and any substance on the OSHA PEL list carrying a "skin" notation.

Since no single glove material is impermeable to all chemicals, gloves should be carefully selected using guides from the manufacturers. General selection criteria are outlined in Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Disposal of Chemicals (National Research Council, 2011), and glove selection guides are available on the DEHS website. However, glove-resistance to various chemical materials will vary with the manufacturer, model and thickness. Therefore, review a glove-resistance chart from the manufacturer you intend to buy from before purchasing gloves. When guidance on glove selection for a particular chemical is lacking, double glove using two different materials, or purchase a multilayered laminated glove such as a Silvershield or a 4H.

## **B. Eye Protection**

Eye protection is required for all personnel and any visitors whose eyes may be exposed to chemical or physical hazards. Side shields on safety spectacles provide some protection against flying particles, but goggles or face shields are necessary when there is a greater than average danger of eye contact with liquids. A higher than average risk exists when working with highly reactive chemicals, concentrated corrosives, or with vacuum or pressurized glassware systems. Contact lenses may be worn under safety glasses, goggles or other eye and face protection. Experts currently believe the benefits of consistent use of eye protection outweigh potential risks of contact lenses interfering with eye flushing in case of emergency.

## **C. Respiratory Protection**

Respiratory protection is generally not necessary in the laboratory setting and must not be used as a substitute for adequate engineering controls. Circumstances which may require the use of a respirator include the following:

- Working with chemicals that are highly toxic and highly volatile or gaseous
- Experimental protocols that require exposure above the action level (or PEL) that cannot be reduced by engineering or administrative controls
- A rare experimental situation that potentially involves Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) concentrations of chemicals

Prior to use of respiratory protection, researchers must contact DEHS to conduct a hazard assessment, and enroll in the University of Minnesota [Respiratory Protection Program](#) through the Office of Occupational Health and Safety.

### **3.3 Hygiene Practices**

Eating, drinking and chewing gum are all strictly prohibited in any laboratory with chemical, biological or radioactive materials. Researchers must also be careful to restrict other actions (such as applying lip balm, rubbing eyes or using iPods or cell phones) which could inadvertently cause exposure to research materials. Consuming alcohol or taking illegal drugs in a research laboratory are strictly prohibited, as such actions potentially endanger the health and safety of not only the user, but everyone in the building. Infractions will be met with serious disciplinary action.

#### **Important Notes Regarding PPE**

Before leaving the laboratory, remove personal protective equipment/clothing (lab coat and gloves) and wash hands thoroughly. Do **NOT** wear laboratory gloves, lab coats or scrubs in public spaces such as hallways, elevators or cafeterias.

### **3.4 Administrative Controls**

Supervisors shall consider the hazards involved in their research, and in written research protocols, detail areas, activities, and tasks that require specific types of PPE as described above. Researchers are strongly encouraged to prioritize research so that work with hazardous chemical, biological or physical agents occurs only during working hours (8 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday). Researchers should limit work after hours (on nights and weekends) to non-hazardous activities such as data analysis and report writing. If hazardous materials or equipment must be used during non-working hours or when the user is alone, training must be provided by their PI as part of their lab-specific training. Any work alone or after-hours requires the PI's approval. Persons under 18 years of age are not allowed to work alone at any time.

Persons under 18 years of age are not allowed in university laboratories or other areas where hazardous materials are present or hazardous activities take place except under the following circumstances:

The minor:

1. is employed by the University or has been formally accepted as a volunteer worker; and
  - has been trained in safe laboratory procedures; and
  - has adult supervision; and
  - has received a MN Department of Labor Child Labor Exemption, permit applications can be found at: [Permit for Minors <16 years old](#) , [Permit for 16/17 year olds](#) ; and
  - the permit is on file with the host department; - or -

2. is enrolled in a University class with a laboratory component; - **or** -
3. is participating in a University-sponsored program; and
  - has been trained in safe laboratory procedures; and
  - has adult supervision; and
  - has a [Lab Use Agreement Form](#) on file with the host department.;-**or**-
4. is visiting for academic purposes; and
  - receives written approval from the PI/Lab Director and Department Head; and
  - has been trained in safe laboratory procedures; and
  - has adult supervision; and
  - has a [Lab Use Agreement Form](#) on file with the host department

## **Chapter 4 - Management of Chemical Fume Hoods and Other Protective Equipment**

### **Hoods**

#### **A. Monitoring**

Fume hoods must be monitored daily by the user to ensure that air is moving into the hood. Any malfunctions must be reported immediately to Facilities Management (612-624-2900). The hood should have a continuous reading device, such as a pressure gauge, to indicate that air is moving correctly. Users of older hoods without continuous reading devices should attach a strip of tissue or yarn to the bottom of the vertical sliding sash. The user must ensure the hood and baffles are not blocked by equipment and bottles, as air velocity through the face may be decreased. DEHS staff will measure the average face velocity of each fume hood annually with a velometer or a thermoanemometer. A record of monitoring results will be made.

#### **B. Acceptable Operating Range**

The acceptable operating range for fume hoods is 80 to 150 linear feet per minute, at the designated sash opening – usually 18 inches for a vertically-sliding sash and 30 inches for a horizontally-sliding sash. If, during the annual check, a hood is operating outside of this range, DEHS staff may request that you check to ensure the baffles are adjusted properly, and that the exhaust slots are not blocked by bottles and equipment. If a fume hood is not working properly, please contact Facilities Management at 612-624-2900 to schedule a repair.

#### **C. Maintenance**

During maintenance of fume hoods, laboratories must clean out and if necessary, decontaminate the fume hood and restrict use of chemicals to ensure the safety of maintenance personnel.

### **4.2 Biological Safety Cabinet**

When biological safety cabinets are used for Biosafety Level 2 work, including handling human cells, they must be certified annually by an outside contractor. A list of contractors is available on the Biosafety section of the DEHS web site. It is the responsibility of the department to schedule and pay for the contractor to perform annual certification.

### **4.3 Eyewash and Shower**

Eyewashes must be flushed weekly by the user. This will ensure that the eyewash is working, and that the water is clean, should emergency use become necessary. The user must post a log near the eyewash to document that it is being flushed every week. These logs are considered equipment

maintenance records and therefore should be kept for 1 year. An [eyewash record template](http://z.umn.edu/dehsew) is available at: <http://z.umn.edu/dehsew>. The user should also coordinate with Facilities Management to ensure that emergency showers and eyewashes are tested annually. Facilities Management will document their testing on separate tags.

#### **4.4 Fire Extinguishers**

Fire extinguishers will be checked annually by a University contractor. Please contact Facilities Management at 612-624-2900 if the fire extinguisher is out of date.

#### **4.5 New Systems**

When new ventilation systems, such as variable air volume exhaust, are installed in University facilities, specific policies for their use will be developed by DEHS and employees will be promptly trained on use of the new equipment.

#### **4.6 Routine Inspections**

Protective equipment and general laboratory conditions must be monitored periodically by the users. A laboratory [self-inspection form](#) is included in, and may be tailored for use by individual laboratories. The DSO or the Research Safety Professional may also use this form for spot-checks of the laboratories.

## Chapter 5 - Employee Information and Training

### 5.1 Training Requirements

All laboratory researchers and their supervisors (Principal Investigators included) must be trained according to the requirements of the Laboratory Safety Standard. Colleges and non-academic departments that engage in the laboratory use of hazardous chemical, physical or biological agents are responsible for identifying such employees. The employees must be informed about their roles and responsibilities as outlined in this standard, as well as hazards associated with their work and how to work safely and mitigate those hazards.

DEHS provides [web-based training modules](#) on a number of training topics. At a minimum, new laboratory employees should complete the modules “Introduction to Laboratory Safety” and “Chemical Waste Management”. Employees that will be working with recombinant DNA or infectious agents must also take online “Bloodborne Pathogen Training”, “Biosafety in the Laboratory” and “Implementation of NIH Guidelines” training. Employees that are working with radioactive materials must take “Radiation Safety Training”.

In addition, each laboratory supervisor is responsible for ensuring that laboratory employees are provided with training about the specific hazards present in their laboratory work area, and methods to control such hazards. Such training must be provided at the time of an employee's initial assignment to a work area and prior to assignments involving new potential exposures, and must be documented. Refresher training must be provided at least annually. A [lab-specific training document](#) can be found in. This document highlights items that must be covered during lab-specific training. The document should be completed and kept on file as training documentation.

#### **Volunteers and Visitors in the Laboratory**

- Volunteers and visitors in University of Minnesota Laboratories must complete all of the same training requirements as regular lab employees. To access training content click [here](#) and complete the ULearn account registration form.  
If you have problems registering or logging in, please contact the ULearn Support Team at [612-626-0057](tel:612-626-0057) or [ulearn@umn.edu](mailto:ulearn@umn.edu).
- Volunteers and visitor's conducting research in University laboratories must complete the [Volunteers and Visitor's Laboratory Use Agreement](#). If the volunteer is a minor, a parent or guardian must also sign the agreement.
- Because laboratories may contain hazardous chemicals, a minor who is paid to work in a research laboratory must obtain an exemption from the Minnesota Child Labor Act. An overview of this law is available on the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry website (<http://www.dli.mn.gov/LS/Pdf/childlbr.pdf>)
- Child Labor Exemption Applications for working minors should be completed by a parent, guardian or school official and filed with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Forms are available from the Department of Labor and Industry website (<http://www.doli.state.mn.us/ls/Exemptions.asp>)

## 5.2 Training Content

Employee training programs will include, at a minimum, the following subjects:

- Methods of detecting the presence of hazardous chemicals including visual observation, odor, real-time air monitoring, time-weighted air sampling, etc.
- Basic toxicological principles including toxicity, exposure, routes of entry, acute and chronic effects, dose-response relationship, LD50, Threshold Limit Values (TLVs) and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs), exposure time, and health hazards related to classes of chemicals
- Prudent laboratory practices designed to reduce personal exposure and to control physical hazards (See Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Disposal of Chemicals [National Research Council, 2011])
- Description of available chemical information including container labels and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs)
- Emergency response information such as emergency phone numbers, fire extinguisher locations, and eyewash/shower locations
- Applicable details of the departmental Laboratory Safety Plan including both general and laboratory-specific SOPs
- Requirements for working in the lab alone or at night
- An introduction to the University of Minnesota Hazardous Chemical Waste Management Guidebook
- **No MNC lab user is permitted to handle chemicals at wet benches in the Minnesota Nano Center without first obtaining safety training on chemical handling and disposal by taking the short course entitled "Wet Benches", which is offered periodically by MNC staff. Within MNC facilities, no one is allowed to use potentially hazardous equipment without first receiving adequate training on safe use and operation. This training will be done by MNC staff members through the short courses which are offered periodically. A written record of completed training is maintained in the MNC office (140 PAN building).**
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## 5.3 Training Updates

Update training is required for all laboratory researchers and supervisors / principal investigators (PI's) at least annually. Departmental Safety Officers are responsible for coordinating and tracking update training. Often, DSOs may arrange for departmental-wide update-training sessions, focusing on results of laboratory audits, and highlighting issues that may need improvement. Videos from DEHS's library may be borrowed to supplement these training sessions. Individual PI's may conduct research-group-specific safety reviews to supplement or even stand in place of

departmental update sessions. Documentation (paper or electronic) of all safety training must be maintained according to the requirements outlined in Chapter 10 of this Lab Safety Plan.

#### **5.4 Access to Pertinent Safety Information**

It is essential that laboratory employees have access to information on the hazards of chemicals and procedures for working safely. Supervisors must ensure that laboratory employees are informed about and have access to the following information sources:

- The contents and requirements of the OSHA Laboratory Safety Standard
- The content, location and availability of the departmental Laboratory Safety Plan (available within individual units or departments)
- The Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs), action levels and other recommended exposure limits for hazardous chemicals used in the laboratory (See [OSHA Annotated Table Z-1](#))
- Signs and symptoms associated with exposures to hazardous chemicals used in the laboratory
- Location and availability of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs)
- Information on chemical waste disposal and spill response (University of Minnesota Hazardous Chemical Waste Management Guidebook)



## Chapter 6 - Required Approvals

‘High hazard’ research is that which due to the nature of the hazard, or the quantity of the material, or the potential for exposure poses higher than usual risk to the worker. Such research may require formal review and approval by a researcher’s departmental safety committee, perhaps with involvement of DEHS personnel. High hazard research could include gases or chemicals listed in Tables 1-5 of this Laboratory Safety Plan, or certain biological or physical agents. DSOs should conduct laboratory audits and consult with Principal Investigators to identify research programs which may fall into this ‘high hazard’ category.

PI’s whose research is identified as ‘high hazard’ should provide copies of their SOPs to the DSO and their department’s safety committee for review and approval. The committee should respond with any comments or requests for changes in a timely manner, and keep a written record of approvals within the department.

### **MNC Required Approvals for new Chemicals or Equipment Changes**

**The Minnesota Nano Center requires pre-approval for the use of chemicals not already in current use within MNC facilities. Check the list of chemicals already approved for use as shown on the MNC [www](#) site. All new chemicals must be pre-approved by the MNC Safety Officer and MNC Laboratory Manager.**

**Any non-MNC owned equipment must be approved by the MNC safety officer and the MNC director prior to installation in MNC space.**

### **Procedure for Approval**

- a. Discuss the situation with the laboratory manager and laboratory safety officer, and provide appropriate safety data sheets, equipment schematics and drawings (showing safety interlocks), and standard operating procedures for equipment.**
- b. After receiving permission from the laboratory manager and MNC safety officer, proceed with proposed chemical usage.**
- c. For equipment requests, proceed after receiving permission from the MNC safety officer, the laboratory manager, and the director.**

## **Chapter 7 - Medical Consultation and Examination**

### **7.1. Employees Working With Hazardous Substances**

All employees who work with hazardous substances will have an opportunity to receive medical attention, including any follow-up visits that the examining physician determines to be necessary, under the following circumstances:

- **Signs or symptoms of exposure**

Whenever an employee develops signs or symptoms associated with a hazardous substance or organism to which the employee may have been exposed in the laboratory, the employee will be provided an opportunity to receive an appropriate medical examination.

- **Exposure monitoring**

Where exposure monitoring reveals an exposure level routinely above the action level (or in the absence of an action level, the PEL) for an OSHA regulated substance for which there are exposure monitoring and medical surveillance requirements, medical surveillance will be established for the affected employee as prescribed by the particular standard.

- **Exposure incident**

Whenever an event takes place in the work area such as a spill, leak, explosion or other occurrence resulting in the likelihood of a hazardous exposure, the affected employee will be provided an opportunity for a medical consultation. Such consultation will be for the purpose of determining the need for a medical examination.

- **Physical Injury**

Whenever an employee is physically hurt or injured on the job, the affected employee will be provided an opportunity for a medical consultation and/or examination. Physical injuries include but are not limited to cuts, burns, punctures and sprains.

Contact the Office of Occupational Health and Safety at 612-626-5008 whenever the need for medical consultation or examination occurs, or when there is uncertainty as to whether any of the above criteria have been met.

### **7.2. Medical Examinations and Consultations**

In the event of a life-threatening illness or injury, dial 911 and request an ambulance. Employees with urgent, but non-life-threatening, illnesses or injuries should go to the nearest medical clinic.

#### **Occupational Health Clinic Information**

HealthPartners Occupational and Environmental Medicine is the provider for occupational health services for University employees in the twin cities. Health Partners has 3 clinic locations around the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses.

The HealthPartners 24 hour CareLine phone service is available any time. The CareLine is staffed with registered nurses who can counsel employees on where to seek care in the event of an exposure. Call 612-339-3663 or 800-551-0859 (TTY 952-883-5474).

All medical examinations and consultations will be performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed physician and will be provided at no cost to the employee, without loss of pay and at a reasonable time and place.

### **7.3. Workers' Compensation Procedures and Forms**

It is very important that even minor job-related injuries or illness are reported. These statistics help the Department of Environmental Health and Safety track trends that may indicate occupational hazards that need evaluation. To report an illness or injury, go to the [Workers' Compensation](#) website. University of Minnesota's [Policy for Reporting Workers' Compensation Related Injuries](#) is also available on the web. Both sites provide links to the forms listed below.

This policy explains the procedures and provides the necessary reporting forms. Please note that there are additional reporting requirements for any injuries or illnesses that occur while working on an IBC-approved protocol. The IBC injury report form can be found on the [IBC website](#).

#### **Employee Responsibilities:**

- Immediately -
  - Notify your Supervisor. Your Supervisor will assess the situation, assist with arranging proper medical care and begin the injury reporting process.
- Promptly cooperate with your Supervisor and the Claims Administrator in the completion of all relevant documents.

#### **Supervisor Responsibilities:**

- Immediately -
  - Assess the incident and assist the Employee in seeking appropriate medical care or necessary treatment for any work-related injury. If an injury is a potential life-threatening emergency, call 911.
  - Provide the Employee with
    - Minnesota Workers Compensation Information Sheet
    - list of Designated Medical Providers, and
    - Temporary Prescription Drug ID card.
- Within 8 business hours -
  - Complete the online First Report of Injury form, or
  - Complete the paper [First Report of Injury](#) form and fax it to the Claims Administrator.
- Within 24 business hours -

- Complete a [Supervisor Incident Investigation Report](#) and email or fax to the Claims Administrator at Sedgwick Claims Management Services. Fax number: 952 826 3785 or email 211@sedgwickcms.com
- If an Employee reports an on-the-job injury which may not be compensable, the First Report of Injury form must still be submitted. Contact the Claims Administrator with any questions regarding claim compensability.

#### **7.4. Information Provided to Physician**

The employee's supervisor or department will collect and transmit the following information to the examining physician:

- Identification of the hazardous substance(s) to which the employee may have been exposed;
- A description of the conditions under which the exposure occurred including quantitative exposure data, if available; and
- A description of the signs and symptoms of exposure that the employee is experiencing, if any.

#### **7.5. Information Provided to the University of Minnesota**

Supervisors should request that the examining physician provide them with a written report including the following:

- Any recommendation for further medical follow-up;
- The results of the medical examination and any associated tests;
- Any medical condition which may be revealed in the course of the examination which may place the employee at increased risk as a result of exposure to a hazardous chemical found in the workplace; and
- A statement that the employee has been informed by the physician of the results of the consultation or medical examination and any medical condition that may require further examination or treatment.

The written opinion will not reveal specific findings of diagnoses unrelated to occupational exposure.

## Chapter 8 - Personnel

The following individuals and groups have responsibilities for implementation of various aspects of the University of Minnesota's Laboratory Safety Plan.

### A. Research Safety Professionals

The University of Minnesota's Research Safety Professionals are:

Anna Sitek, 612-624-8855, [engl0131@umn.edu](mailto:engl0131@umn.edu)

Sabine Fritz, 612-625-7227, [fritz017@umn.edu](mailto:fritz017@umn.edu)

Greg Hansen, 612-301-1158, [hanse245@umn.edu](mailto:hanse245@umn.edu)

Jodi Ogilvie, 612-301-1214, [jogilvie@umn.edu](mailto:jogilvie@umn.edu)

Kate Greenberg, 612-626-2707, [kgreen15@umn.edu](mailto:kgreen15@umn.edu)

### B. College or Departmental Safety Officer

The Departmental Safety Officer for Minnesota Nano Center is Greg Cibuzar. The specific duties of each safety officer will be determined at the college or departmental level. The duties of this DSO are included in Appendix L.

### C. College or Departmental Safety Committee

The designation of a safety committee to assist the safety officer in his/her required duties is strongly encouraged. The safety committee members are: (If there is one established)

### D. Department of Environmental Health and Safety

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety offers assistance in a wide range of health and safety issues. Staff phone numbers are included in Appendix M. Address: Thompson Center, 501 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE. Phone: 612-626-6002.

### E. Occupational Medicine Program

All Occupational health services for university employees in the twin cities are provided by HealthPartners. There are 3 clinic locations, Riverside clinic, St. Paul clinic and Como avenue clinic. Regular appointments can be made by calling 952-883-6999. For urgent care or after hours call 952-853-8800. A 24 hour care line is also available anytime for counseling employees on where to seek care in the event of an exposure. Call 612-339-3663 or 800-551-0859.

## **Chapter 9 - Additional Employee Protection for Work with Particularly Hazardous Substances**

Additional employee protection will be considered for work with particularly hazardous substances. These include select carcinogens, reproductive toxins and substances that have a high degree of acute toxicity (see [Appendix H - Particularly Hazardous Substances](#)). Common chemicals designated as Particularly Hazardous Substances are listed in Tables 1-5 as the back of this document. Pp. 90-93 of the 1995 edition of Prudent Practices provides detailed recommendations for work with particularly hazardous substances. These pages may be accessed from [DEHS's website](#). Laboratory supervisors and principal investigators are responsible for assuring that laboratory procedures involving particularly hazardous chemicals have been evaluated for the level of employee protection required. Specific consideration will be given to the need for inclusion of the following provisions:

1. Planning;
2. Establishment of a designated area;
3. Access control
4. Special precautions such as:
  - use of containment devices such as fume hoods or glove boxes;
  - use of personal protective equipment;
  - isolation of contaminated equipment;
  - practicing good laboratory hygiene; and
  - prudent transportation of very toxic chemicals.
5. Planning for accidents and spills; and
6. Special storage and waste disposal practices.

MNC technical staff working with hazardous gases are required to follow rules and procedures of the RPP (MNC Respiratory Protection Plan) available on the MNC www site.

# **Chapter 10 - Record Keeping, Review and Update of Laboratory Safety Plan**

## **10.1 Record Keeping**

### **A. Exposure evaluation**

Any records of exposure evaluation carried out by individual departments (including continuous monitoring systems) will be kept within the department and also sent to DEHS. Results of exposure evaluations carried out by DEHS will be kept by DEHS and sent to the affected department. Raw data will be kept for one year and summary data for the term of employment plus 30 years.

### **B. Medical consultation and examination**

Results of medical consultations and examinations will be kept by the University's Occupational Health provider for a length of time specified by the appropriate medical records standard. This time will be at least the term of employment plus 30 years as required by OSHA.

### **C. Training**

Web-based training and many in-person training sessions for employees are tracked electronically in the university's learning management system. Paper records are still acceptable, and must include the name and title of the trainer, the trainee(s), the date, and the content of the training. Training records must be kept in an individual's department or college for five years. Training records for laboratory volunteers must also be maintained for at least five years. Hard copy and/or electronic forms must be available in the event of an audit by the University Audit Department or state or county regulators. A lab-specific training document is available in [Appendix K](#).

### **D. Fume hood monitoring**

Data on annual fume hood monitoring will be kept in the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Fume hood monitoring data are considered maintenance records and as such the raw data will be kept for one year and summary data for 5 years.

### **E. Eyewash Records**

Eyewash user logs should be kept on file for 1 year, because they are considered maintenance records. An eyewash fact sheet, including a sample log, can be found here: <http://z.umn.edu/dehsew>.

### **F. Laboratory audits and reports**

Departmental Safety Officers must coordinate and/or conduct formal audits of laboratories in their sphere of responsibility, annually or bi-annually depending on level of risk. Risk levels are made in collaboration with your DEHS Research Safety Professional. A checklist is available in

[Appendix J](#), and a template report form is available in Appendix N. Checklists and reports should be kept for at least 5 years.

#### **G. Accident investigation reports**

Departmental Safety Officers work with PIs and researchers to complete the Accident Investigation Form in Appendix C. Reports should be kept for at least 5 years.

### **10.2 Review and Update of Laboratory Safety Plan**

On an annual basis, this Laboratory Safety Plan will be reviewed and evaluated for effectiveness by DEHS and updated as necessary. Any changes in the Laboratory Safety Plan will be transmitted to college and Departmental Safety Officers, who are responsible for carrying out a similar review and modification of their plans, and may submit a revised copy to DEHS.



### **Table 1 - Poisonous Gases**

The gases on this list are either on the Department of Transportation's Category 1 list, or the Linde Specialty Gases Company's Group 6 – Very Poisonous list. These chemicals are highly toxic gases at ambient temperature and pressure. They have an extremely high potential for causing significant harm if not adequately controlled.

Arsine	Boron trichloride	Chlorine pentafluoride
Chlorine trifluoride	Cyanogen	Cyanogen chloride
Diborane	Dinitrogen tetroxide	Fluorine
Germane	Hydrogen selenide	Nitric oxide
Nitrogen dioxide	Nitrogen trioxide	Nitrosyl chloride
Oxygen difluoride	Phosgene	Phosphine
Phosphorus pentafluoride	Selenium hexafluoride	Stibine
Sulfur tetrafluoride	Tellurium Hexafluoride	Tetraethyldithiopyrophosphate
Tetraethylpyrophosphate		

**Guidance:** Departments may choose to add other chemicals to the above list. For example, sulfur-containing compounds such as mercaptans can cause significant odor problems when used in the laboratory. Pre-approval of the conditions under which they can be used may prevent odor complaints.

## **Table 2 - Shock Sensitive Chemicals**

The classes of chemicals listed below may explode when subjected to shock or friction. Therefore users must have appropriate laboratory equipment, information, knowledge and training to use these compounds safely.

- Acetylenic compounds, especially polyacetylenes, haloacetylenes, and heavy metal salts of acetylenes (copper, silver, and mercury salts are particularly sensitive)
- Acyl nitrates
- Alkyl nitrates, particularly polyol nitrates such as nitrocellulose and nitroglycerine
- Alkyl and acyl nitrites
- Amminemetal oxosalts: metal compounds with coordinated ammonia, hydrazine, or similar nitrogenous donors and ionic perchlorate, nitrate, permanganate, or other oxidizing group
- Azides, including metal, nonmetal, and organic azides
- Chlorite salts of metals, such as  $\text{AgClO}_2$  and  $\text{Hg}(\text{ClO}_2)_2$
- Diazo compounds such as  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$
- Diazonium salts, when dry
- Fulminates such as mercury fulminate ( $\text{Hg}(\text{CNO})_2$ )
- Hydrogen peroxide (which becomes increasingly treacherous as the concentration rises above 30%, forming explosive mixtures with organic materials and decomposing violently in the presence of traces of transition metals)
- N-Halogen compounds such as difluoroamino compounds and halogen azides
- N-Nitro compounds such as N-nitromethylamine, nitrourea, nitroguanidine, and nitric amide
- Oxo salts of nitrogenous bases: perchlorates, dichromates, nitrates, iodates, chlorites, chlorates, and permanganates of ammonia, amines, hydroxylamine, guanidine, etc.
- Perchlorate salts (which can form when perchloric acid mists dry in fume hoods or associated duct work. Most metal, nonmetal, and amine perchlorates can be detonated and may undergo violent reaction in contact with combustible materials)
- Peroxides and hydroperoxides, organic
- Peroxides (solid) that crystallize from or are left from evaporation of peroxidizable solvents (see the following Section 3)
- Peroxides, transition-metal salts
- Picrates, especially salts of transition and heavy metals, such as Ni, Pb, Hg, Cu, and Zn
- Polynitroalkyl compounds such as tetranitromethane and dinitroacetonitrile
- Polynitroaromatic compounds especially polynitrohydrocarbons, phenols, and amines (e.g., dinitrotoluene, trinitrotoluene, and picric acid)

Note: Perchloric acid must be used only in specially-designed perchloric acid fume hoods that have built-in wash down systems to remove shock-sensitive deposits. Before purchasing this acid, laboratory supervisors must arrange for use of an approved perchloric acid hood.

### **Table 3 - Pyrophoric Chemicals**

The classes of chemicals listed below will readily oxidize and ignite spontaneously in air. Therefore, users must demonstrate to the department that they have the appropriate laboratory equipment, information, knowledge and training to use these compounds safely. Please see the Pyrophoric Chemicals Fact Sheet for further information.

- Grignard reagents, RMgX
- Metal alkyls and aryls, such as RLi, RNa, R<sub>3</sub>Al, R<sub>2</sub>Zn
- Metal carbonyls such as Ni(CO)<sub>4</sub>, Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub>, Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub>
- Alkali metals such as Na, K
- Metal powders, such as Al, Co, Fe, Mg, Mn, Pd, Pt, Ti, Sn, Zn, Zr
- Metal hydrides such as NaH, LiAlH<sub>4</sub>
- Nonmetal hydrides, such as B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and other boranes, PH<sub>3</sub>, AsH<sub>3</sub>
- Nonmetal alkyls, such as R<sub>3</sub>B, R<sub>3</sub>P, R<sub>3</sub>As
- Phosphorus (white)

#### **Table 4 - Peroxide-Forming Chemicals**

The chemicals listed below can form explosive peroxide crystals on exposure to air, and therefore require special handling procedures after the container is opened. Some of the chemicals form peroxides that are violently explosive in concentrated solution or as solids, and therefore should never be evaporated to dryness. Others are polymerizable unsaturated compounds and can initiate a runaway, explosive polymerization reaction. All peroxidizable compounds should be stored away from heat and light. They should be protected from physical damage and ignition sources. A warning label should be affixed to all peroxidizable materials to indicate the date of receipt and the date the container was first opened. Due to these special handling requirements, users must have the appropriate laboratory equipment, information, knowledge and training to use these compounds safely.

##### **A. Severe Peroxide Hazard with Exposure to Air (discard within 3 months from opening)**

- diisopropyl ether (isopropyl ether)
- divinylacetylene (DVA)
- vinylidene chloride (1,1-dichloroethylene)
- potassium metal
- sodium amide (sodamide)
- potassium amide

##### **B. Peroxide Hazard on Concentration**

Do not distill or evaporate without first testing for the presence of peroxides (discard or test for peroxides after 6 months):

- acetaldehyde diethyl acetal (acetal)
- cumene (isopropylbenzene)
- cyclohexene
- cyclopentene
- decalin (decahydronaphthalene)
- diacetylene (butadiene)
- dicyclopentadiene
- diethyl ether (ether)
- diethylene glycol dimethyl ether (diglyme)
- dioxane
- ethylene glycol dimethyl ether (glyme)
- ethylene glycol ether acetates
- ethylene glycol monoethers (cellosolves)
- furan
- methylacetylene
- methylcyclopentane
- methyl isobutyl ketone
- tetrahydrofuran (THF)

- tetralin (tetrahydronaphthalene)
- vinyl ethers

### **C. Hazard of Rapid Polymerization Initiated by Internally-Formed Peroxides**

Liquids (discard or test for peroxides after 6 months):

- Chloroprene (2-chloro-1, 3-butadiene)
- vinyl acetate
- styrene
- vinylpyridine

Gases (discard after 12 months):

- butadiene
- vinylacetylene (MVA)
- tetrafluoroethylene (TFE)
- vinyl chloride

### **Table 5 - Carcinogens, Reproductive Toxins or Highly Toxic Chemicals**

The chemicals listed below are extremely hazardous. Workers must have knowledge of the dangers of these chemicals prior to use, and documentation of training in safe working procedures.

#### **Biologically active compounds:**

- protease inhibitors (e.g. PMSF, Aprotin, Pepstatin A, Leupeptin);
- protein synthesis inhibitors (e.g. cycloheximide, Puromycin);
- transcriptional inhibitors (e.g.  $\alpha$ -amanitin and actinomycin D);
- DNA synthesis inhibitors (e.g. hydroxyurea, nucleotide analogs (i.e. dideoxy nucleotides), actinomycin D, acidicolin);
- phosphatase inhibitors (e.g. okadaic acid);
- respiratory chain inhibitors (e.g. sodium azide);
- kinase inhibitors (e.g. NaF);
- mitogenic inhibitors (e.g. colcemid); and
- mitogenic compounds (e.g. concanavalin A).

**Castor bean (*Ricinus communis*) lectin:** Ricin A, Ricin B, RCA toxins

**Diisopropyl fluorophosphate:** highly toxic cholinesterase inhibitor; the antidote, atropine sulfate and 2-PAM (2-pyridinedoxime methiodide) must be readily available

**Jaquiritia bean lectin (*Abrus precatorius*)**

**N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine:** carcinogen (this chemical forms explosive compounds upon degradation)

**Phalloidin from *Amanita Phalloides*:** used for staining actin filaments

**Retinoids:** potential human teratogens

**Streptozotocin:** potential human carcinogen (See SOP Template example)

**Urethane (ethyl carbamate):** an anesthetic agent, potent carcinogen and strong teratogen, volatile at room temperature

**\*See the DEHS Web site at [http://www.dehs.umn.edu/ressafety\\_rsp.htm](http://www.dehs.umn.edu/ressafety_rsp.htm) for appendices.**