

A Laboratory Safety Newsletter

A publication by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety and the Laboratory Safety Committee

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www.bu.edu/orc • (617) 638-8830

Lab Safe is a quarterly newsletter written and distributed by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety and the Laboratory Safety Committee at BUMC. The goal of the newsletter is to share timely, relevant safety information and resources on the Medical Campus.

Weekly Eyewash Flushing

To ensure a properly-functioning eyewash station with clean water in the event of an emergency, laboratories must flush their eyewash station weekly. When performing a weekly eyewash flush, check the following:

ACCESS AND SIGNAGE: Ensure that the eyewash station is easily identifiable and unobstructed. Carts, chairs, glassware and equipment can all obstruct an eyewash station, which may slow the response in the event of an emergency. If you have to use an eyewash station in an emergency you won't be able to see very well!

OPERATION: Ensure that the eyewash station activates easily with one-handed control, the flow removes eyepiece covers, and water flows evenly and in a steady stream.

WATER: Allow the eyewash station to run for 1-3 minutes to flush stagnant water from the line. If this is your first time flushing the station, you may have to run it longer to ensure that the water is clean. Report malfunctioning eyewash stations to Facilities Management. On the Charles River Campus, call 353-2105. On the Medical Campus, call 414-6666.

Helpful hints:

- **Make sure you know where the water drains!**
Often a bucket or a tray has to be positioned under the unit's drain to collect the water.
- **Have a roll of paper towels on hand**
in case of water leakage.
- **A large tray may be needed to collect the water**
under units that pull down from the wall to activate.



If you have questions or if you are unable to flush your eyewash station, contact your laboratory's assigned Research Safety Specialist or Environmental Health & Safety.

Updating Your Chemical Inventory in RIMS

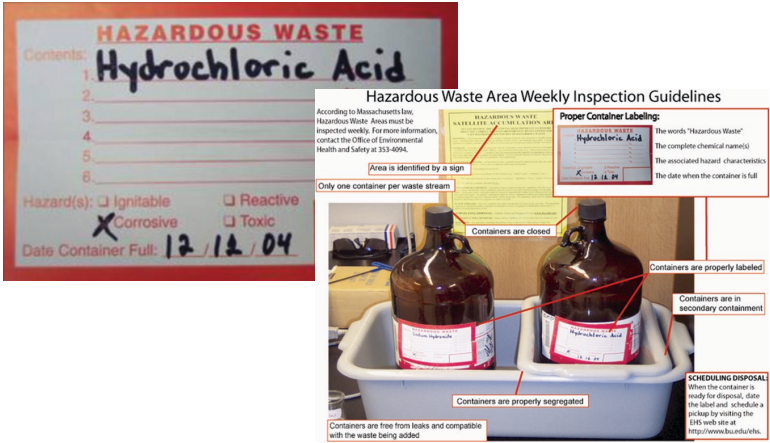
Chemical	CAS	Containers	Amount	Building	Room	Common Name	Owner	Status
BORIC ACID	10043-35-3	1.0	1.0	L	SL HOUSMAN MED	1002C	Test PI	
HYDROGEN PEROXIDE	7722-84-1	1.0	15.0	oz	SL HOUSMAN MED	1002C	hydrogen peroxide	Test PI
SODIUM NITROGENSULFONATE	1330-20-7	1.0	1.0	gal	SL HOUSMAN MED	1002C	Julene	Test PI

- As a PI you are responsible for updating your chemical inventory: Here's how to transfer your chemicals to a new location in RIMS.
- Log into RIMS-www.bu.edu/rims
- Add the new location.
- Search for the list of chemicals in the old location.
- Check the box on the very RIGHT hand side column, (not labeled with a column header) for each chemical that you wish to move. If you need to move all the chemicals in the room, change the displayed results per page so that all the chemicals show up on one screen. Click the top "checkbox" to highlight them all.
- Select the "Change Location" button.
- At this point you should then see a list of all locations from the "Identify your locations" list.
- Choose the room to transfer the chemicals to, using the right-arrow select button - this will now move all the selected chemicals to the new location.

Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA)

- Hazardous waste must be removed from the Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA) within 3 days of being dated as ‘Full’. If the waste is not removed please contact your Research Safety Specialist.
- When processing the waste pick-up request indicate the room number, number of containers, container size and unit, and the name of each waste stream collected. If sensitive experiments or security present an access issue, provide your availability in the ‘comment’ section..
- **ALL Hazardous Waste Containers MUST be:**
 - **COMPATIBLE** with the waste being accumulated
 - **CLOSED** at all times during storage
 - **Stored on Impermeable Surfaces**
 - **Secondary Containment** used
 - Spaced so that the **labels** can be inspected
 - Not handled in a manner which may cause it to rupture or leak (i.e., **stored upright**)
- Only **1 container per waste stream** may be in use at any one time

- The **maximum capacity of containers** is **55 gallons** of Hazardous Waste or **1 quart** of Acutely Hazardous Waste
- **Incompatible waste streams must be segregated**
- **If you have questions contact your Research Safety Specialist.**
<http://www.bu.edu/ehs/programs/environmental/>



Chemical Segregation and Storage

Always Consult the Manufacturer’s Material Safety Data Sheet Prior to Storage and Handling

Class of Chemicals	Recommended Storage Method and Additional Concerns	Common Chemical Examples	Common Incompatibles. (Always Consult MSDS)
Flammable Liquids	An approved flammable storage cabinet *Remember: peroxide-forming chemicals must be dated upon delivery and opening (consult Peroxide Forming-Chemical Handout)	Ethanol, Methanol, Acetone, Xylene, Toluene, *Diethyl Ether, *Tetrahydrofuran	Oxidizers, reactives, acids, bases
Toxics	In a ventilated, dry, cool area in a chemically resistant secondary container	Chloroform, Cyanides, Heavy Metal Compounds (e.g. Cadmium, Mercury)	Flammable liquids, acids, bases, reactive, oxidizers please consult EHS for assistance
Corrosive Acids-Inorganic	Store in corrosives cabinet (marked ACID), or on protected shelving and in secondary containment. *Do NOT store acids on metal shelving	Hydrochloric Acid, Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid, Chromic Acid, Nitric Acid	Flammable liquids, flammable solids, bases and oxidizers, organic acids, cyanides, sulfides
Corrosive Acids-Organic	Store in corrosives cabinet, on protected shelving, secondary containment away from inorganic acids *Do NOT store acids on metal shelving	Acetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Formic Acid	Flammable liquids, flammable solids, bases and oxidizers, inorganic acids, cyanides, sulfides
Corrosive-Bases-Inorganic	Store in corrosives cabinet, or on protected shelving away from acids	Ammonium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide, Sodium Hydroxide	Flammable liquids, acids, oxidizers, organic bases
Corrosive Bases-Organic	Store in corrosive cabinet, and separated from acids and inorganic bases	Hydroxylamine, Tetramethyl-ethylamine Diamine, Triethylamine	Acids, oxidizers, hypochlorites, inorganic bases
Flammable Solids	Cool dry area away from oxidizers and corrosives	Carbon, Charcoal, Paraformaldehyde	Acids, bases, oxidizers
Oxidizers	Store in secondary containment with non-combustibles or inorganic material	Perchlorates, Permanganates, Nitrates	Flammables, combustibles and organic materials
Water Reactive	Store in a cool dry location. Protect from fire sprinkler system and sources of water. Label area for water-reactive storage	Sodium, Lithium, and Potassium Metals, Sodium Borohydride	Aqueous solutions, oxidizers, water sources. Please consult EHS, and MSDS for specific information
Explosives	Store in a secure location away from other chemicals, store in areas away from shock or friction	Trinitrophenol, Picric Acid, Diazoisobutyl nitrate	Please consult the MSDS and EHS.
General Stock Chemicals	Storage on laboratory benches, or shelves with like chemicals	Sodium bicarbonate, Agar, Salt buffer	See chemical-specific MSDS

Chemicals with special concern may fall under the High Hazard Chemical Program. Please contact Environmental Health and Safety for more information.
Charles River Campus: (617) 353-4094 • Medical Campus: (617) 638-8830 • Web: www.bu.edu/ehs

Training Corner (Spring 2011)

Lab Safety Training:

Fri 2/11/2011. 2:30-2:00 pm, CRC, PHO 901
Tue 2/15/2011. 1:00-2:30 pm, BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Tue 2/22/2011 12:30-2:00 pm, CRC, PHO 901
Thur 3/3/2011 9:00-10:30 am, BUMC, Bakst Aud.
Wed 3/9/2011 9:00-11:30 am, CRC, PHO 901
Wed 3/16/2011 1:30-3:00 pm, BUMC, L112
Fri 3/25/2011 1:30-2:30 pm, CRC, PHO 901
Wed 3/30/2011 9:00-10:30 am, BUMC, L110
Tue 4/5/2011. 2:00-3:30 pm, CRC, PHO 901
Tue 4/12/2011. 1:00-2:30 pm, BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Fri 4/22/2011 12:00-1:30 pm, CRC, PHO 901
Wed 4/27/2011 9:00-10:30 am, BUMC, Keefer Aud.

Questions, call EHS, tel: 638-8830

Biological Shipping Training:

To register online through the RIMS system please follow the instructions listed on the RIMS Training Registration Page. If you already have a RIMS training profile or are a PI, please access your training profile by logging into RIMS using the login button **All occur on the BUMC at the Houseman (R-Bldg)**
Tue 2/8/2011 9:30am-12:00pm, Rm R-108
Wed 3/2/2011 9:30am-12:00pm, Rm R-123
Thu 4/7/2011 9:30am-12:00pm, Rm R-123
Tue 5/3/2011. 9:30am-12:00pm, Rm R-108

