



EH&S News

Environmental Health and Safety

University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Editor: Robert DiCarlo

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LAB SAFETY CARDS

Every laboratory on campus is required to have identifying information attached to the entrance. This identifying information must include the Principal Investigator/Professor responsible and the names of all parties working in the lab. In order to assist departments to comply with this requirement, EH&S provides Lab Safety Cards which must be updated as needed.

As part of the recent EPA inspection, inspectors used this information not only to determine who to contact, but also to test training compliance and records. In many instances, individuals listed on the cards were no longer employed by the University or had moved onto other laboratories. The results of this test were not favorable.

Subsequent to the EPA inspection, EH&S conducted a survey of lab card compliance. Our results showed that of those individuals randomly chosen from the lab cards, only 65% were in compliance for lab safety and hazardous waste training.

Each department should move to take corrective ac-

tion immediately. Please take a few moments to review the information on your cards and update them when necessary. If you need new cards, please do not hesitate to contact Al Sorenson, Industrial Hygiene Manager, at 545-5112.

LABORATORY SAFETY INFORMATION																																																																						
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Responsible Party: _____		Office Phone: _____																																																																				
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Campus Emergency Number 911 Environmental Health & Safety Physical Plant University Health Services																																																																						
Ambulance / Fire / Police 545 - 2682 545 - 0600 577 - 5000																																																																						

RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE EH&S WEB SITE

The EH&S Web Site provides many opportunities for the campus community to utilize the power of the internet for faster communication and service. The EH&S homepage is located at:

www.umass.edu/safety/

On these pages are forms, links and policies designed to assist employees and researchers in carrying out their health and safety responsibilities. Using these pages, you can register for trainings, re-

quest hazardous waste pickup, order radioactive materials, and review EH&S laboratory and health standards. In addition, the site provides links to other resources available on the net including, Material Safety Data Sheets, OSHA standards, Public Health information and Federal Health resources.

We encourage both your use of these pages and your feedback at safety@admin.umass.edu.

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Resources: Health and Safety URLs

Environmental Health and Safety, University of Massachusetts at Amherst:

<http://ehstrain.admin.umass.edu>

This link has a variety of resources including program services, policies, resources, news and a list of the staff.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS): <http://www.vwrsp.com/search/index.cgi?tmpl=msds>

This link will take you to the VWR site. This site contains a search engine for Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs.) University of Massachusetts/Amherst students and staff who need additional information and or training regarding MSDSs and chemical safety can contact Environmental Health & Safety at 545-2682.

Safety Council of Western Massachusetts : <http://www.scwm.org/>

The Mission of the Safety Council of Western Massachusetts is to educate and train people in business and the community in the prevention of accidents and related losses, and to influence the formulation and application of safety and health policies and procedures in the region.

Chemical Finder : <http://chemfinder.camsoft.com/>

Comprehensive access to chemical information from a variety of sources - MSDS collections, toxicological profiles, etc. The site is provided by Cambridge Soft Corporation.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/>

Information on a wide range of environmental topics

OSHA: <http://www.osha.gov/>

The official web page of the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration. A variety of information on OSHA, health and safety issues.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Information on disease prevention and control.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): <http://www.epa.gov/>

A wide range of environmental and regulatory information. National Institutes of Health (NIH) Information on research conducted by the National Institutes of Health and related agencies.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) : <http://www.nrc.gov/>

Information and news related to the safe use of nuclear materials.

ON-LINE TRAINING AVAILABLE

EH&S now has available an on-line training program utilizing a program designed by the Center for Computer Based Instructional Technology (CCBIT)/. This program is called OWL and is already in use in various departments on campus. The programs developed by EH&S are designed to deliver mandatory employee training and refresher training directly to the employee's desktop or training facility. The training programs can be reached at:

<http://ehstrain.admin.umass.edu>

This program will serve to supplement the existing classroom training provided by EH&S in such topics as: Mass. Right to Know, Ergonomics, Lab Safety, Hazardous Waste (initial), Hazardous Waste (refresher), Bloodborne Pathogens, Lockout/Tagout, and Confined Space.

The following are general guidelines for employees who require the training:

RIGHT TO KNOW: Any employee working with materials on the *Massachusetts Substance List* maintained by the Department of Public Health is required to have this training on an annual basis.

LAB SAFETY: All researchers and staff must take the lab safety training prior to working in a UMass laboratory. This is a one-time training and is best received through out classroom offering.

HAZARDOUS WASTE: Any employees working with

or supervising an employee working with, hazardous materials must be trained annually on Hazardous waste maintenance in the lab.

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS: All employees who may have contact with blood related products in the course of their job duties.

LOCKOUT/TAGOUT: All employees who may perform service and maintenance on machines and equipment capable of "unexpected" start up or release of stored energy.

CONFINED SPACE: All employees who need to enter, exit or work in confined spaces.

ERGONOMICS: Any interested employee.

If you need further assistance determining your training needs, contact Bob DiCarlo, Training Officer, 545-5113.

EH&S News © is a publication of Environmental Health and Safety at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts 01003

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<http://www.umass.edu/safety/>

Dr. Donald A. Robinson, *Director*

Mary McEneaney, *Associate Director*

LAB SAFETY CLASSROOM TRAINING

Laboratory Safety Training is required for faculty, staff, students and visiting scholars before initial assignment to a laboratory. All employees currently working in a UMass lab were required to take this training by October 30, 2000. If you have not yet complied with this requirement, please do so immediately by signing up for one of the trainings listed below.

The training will include Lab Safety, Hazardous Waste, Right to Know and Fire Safety. Training taken in the classroom meets the annual requirement for Hazardous Waste and Right to Know and the one-time requirement for Lab Safety. You may use the on-line training system to renew your certifications in Hazardous Waste and Right to Know. EH&S is also available to conduct training sessions

in our department for your personnel at your convenience (minimum 10 persons). Department Heads are encouraged to monitor compliance with the Federal and State training requirements.

Training Schedule For Spring Semester

Location: N-406 Morrill Science Center

Tuesday, January 9, 2001 3-5 p.m.

Wednesday, February, 7 9-11 a.m.

Thursday, February 8, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

(undergrads only)

Wednesday, March 7, 3-5 p.m.

Wednesday, April 4 9-11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 9, 3-5 p.m.

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**Environmental Health and Safety
N-414 Morrill Science Center
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003**

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Hazardous Waste Training Reminder

All employees who work with hazardous chemicals and generate hazardous waste must take training annually. Supervisors of these employees are also required to document training in compliance with federal and commonwealth regulations. This can be done through the intranet:

<http://ehstrain.admin.umass.edu/>

or through classroom training offered by EH&S. The intranet offerings include an initial training (Hazardous Waste Management) and an annual refresher (Hazardous Waste Re-

resher). Training was a major topic of review by the U.S. EPA during its campus inspection in May 2000.

EPA inspectors used Laboratory Safety Card information from lab entrances as well as interviews to query the University on their training records. Many personnel had not completed training. Your cooperation with this important requirement is necessary to avoid possible fines and other legal actions. If you are unsure about who needs to be trained or how to arrange for training, please call us at 545-2682 for assistance.
