



Lavatory Safety Update

Spring 2016

Are You Shipping Research Materials?

If you ship research materials, it may require special packaging and training. UWM was fined \$70K when a researcher transported a flammable chemical in his luggage. Contact EHS for assistance with shipping.



Old Chloroform = Phosgene

Do you have an old bottle of chloroform in your lab? There have been several cases of chloroform reacting over time with air to form phosgene gas. Phosgene is highly toxic. Be sure to date your bottles and contact EHS for disposal of old chloroform.



Lessons Learned

An incident occurred this semester involving a researcher mistakenly putting acetone into a waste bottle containing nitric acid. This can result in an explosion. Several students at Texas Tech were hospitalized in 2015 following a similar incident.



Make sure incompatible waste containers are separated and clearly labeled.

NEW TRAINING!

Does your lab work with cryogenics, compressed gases or pyrophorics? If so, EHS has online safety training modules for these materials. Be sure to get the training done before your lab's next evaluation!



Have a suggestion for future topics?
Email: EHS-labstaff@austin.utexas.edu

You could win \$25 to spend at the Co-op.
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