

EHS Laboratory Safety Unit Newsletter

June 2019



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Laboratory Dress:

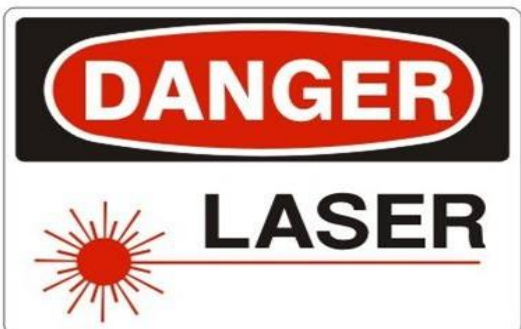
With the weather warming up, it's a good opportunity to remind all laboratory personnel about laboratory dress standards. The University's Chemical Hygiene Plan's dress code sets clear policy for clothing. Laboratory staff must:



- Must wear closed-toed shoes (no sandals, crocs, or open backed shoes)
- Have legs and top of feet covered (pants/long skirts, no ballet flats, sandals)
- Secure loose clothing, including tying back long hair

Chematix Reconciliation:

Chemical Inventories in Chematix must be reconciled annually. Instructions on how to properly reconcile your chemical inventory can be found [here](#). We have a few barcode scanners available for loan to make the reconciliation process easier. Laboratories who have not completed their reconciliation by the time of their annual laboratory inspection will receive a high hazard deficiency and an unannounced follow up inspection will occur. If the issue isn't corrected, the Departmental Chair or Supervisor will be notified and further escalation will ensue until the issue is resolved. If there are any questions regarding reconciliation, please contact your departmental Lab Safety Specialist or Abby Davis within EH&S.



Attention Research Laser Users:

All research lasers will now be inspected during annual safety inspections. All Class 3B and 4 lasers must be registered with EH&S, and must meet all University requirements. These requirements can be found [here](#). Any questions should be directed to your departmental Laboratory Safety Specialist or Colleen Baker, University Research Laser Safety Officer.

Laboratory Safety Unit

Carolyn Place (LSU Manager) 402-4676 Sonia Rosenberger (BSO) x5-3014 Donna Douglass (AA) x5-2402
Gidion Beyene (LSU Safety Specialist) 448-9400 Abby Davis (LSU Safety Specialist) 448-9856 Julie Conyer (LSU Safety Specialist) 233-4013

WEBSITE: WWW.SAFETY.ROCHESTER.EDU MAIN PHONE: 275-3241

FAX: 274-0001

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Policy Updates:

The latest University updates for your laboratory.

New Gas Sensor Policy:

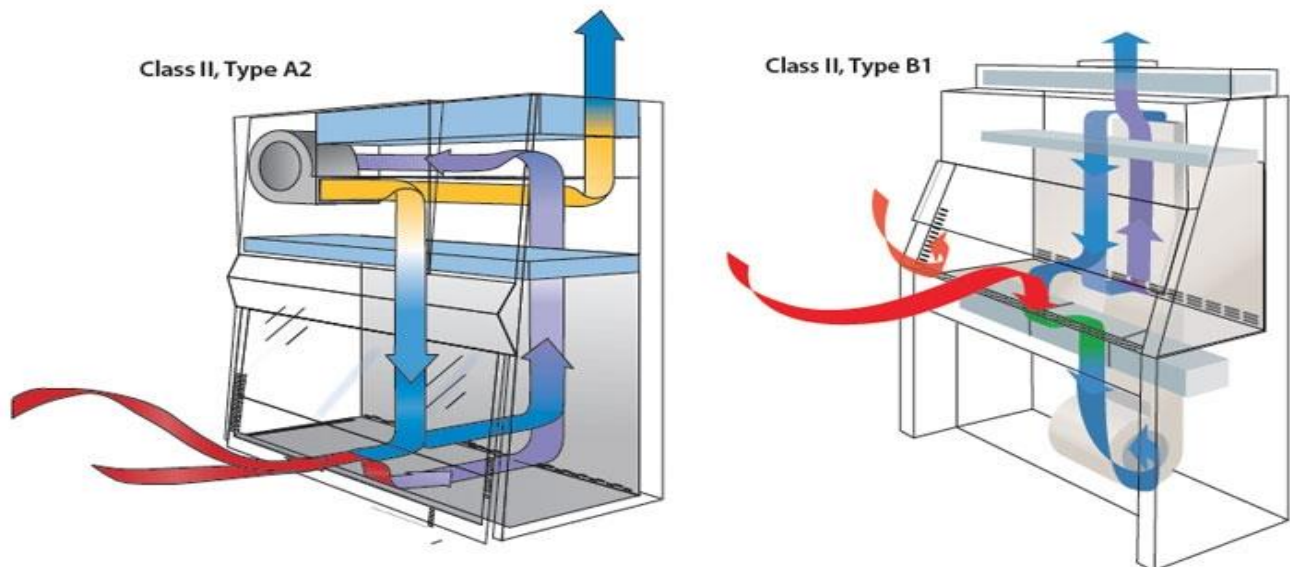
EH&S has implemented a new policy regarding life safety sensors & alarms for compressed gasses. Employees who use compressed gases must understand the health and safety hazards, as the contents can present physical and/or health hazards to users. Gases may be classified as flammable, toxic, corrosive, pyrophoric, oxidative, an asphyxiant, and/or may present a combination of these problems. Because gas cylinder contents are under high pressure, any uncontrolled release can create a hazardous situation in a very short period of time. Therefore, EH&S shall perform an assessment of gas cylinder locations and use to determine whether an oxygen and/or other gas sensor(s) are required. If you are planning on adding additional compressed gas cylinders to your laboratory space, please contact your Laboratory Safety Specialist to have them assess your space and see if a sensor is necessary. A copy of the new policy can be found [here](#).

Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination Form:

Individuals who work with, or may be exposed to, human blood or other potentially infectious materials must be offered the Hepatitis B vaccine, free of charge. The Hepatitis B vaccine is given in a series of 3-4 doses over a 6 month period, which will provide a greater than 90% protection to individuals exposed to the virus. Vaccines must be offered within the first 10 working days of initial assignment, or upon completing the proper training. If you decide to decline vaccination, either due to already receiving the series or not wanting the vaccine at all, you must submit a declination form, located [here](#). Any additional questions or concerns can be answered by your Laboratory Safety Specialist, or University Health Service (UHS).

Biological Safety Cabinet Servicing:

Do you need your Biological Safety Cabinet recertified or decontaminated? You can find the contact information for the University approved vendors [here](#).



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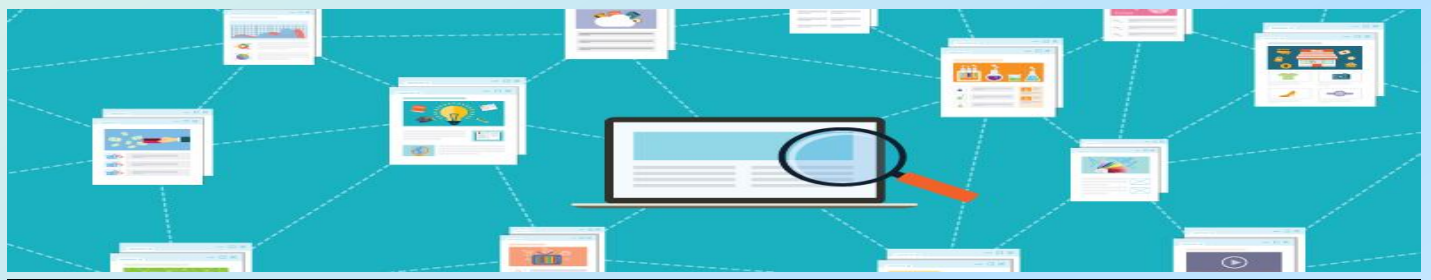
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New Webpages Update

With the many changes that have taken place to laboratory safety in the past few years, the Laboratory Safety Unit is in the process of reconfiguring our website to better serve our laboratories. Our new, streamlined webpages will provide easier navigation to policy and program documents. Some of the biggest changes will include, new sections for new Principal Investigators, a material request form, and a streamlined Chematix section. Other changes will include a clear listing of the EH&S Departmental Safety Specialists informing PI's and lab members of who to contact for inspections and general safety questions. We anticipate our webpages to go live by the end of July. Any feedback will be appreciated. It is important to read and verify all specifications of equipment, ensuring replacement equipment is compatible with existing equipment. Ensure proper safety tools/devices are available. If there are pressurized components in your lab that do not have a clearly indicated pressure rating they need to be replaced. If you have any questions regarding equipment compatibility or the setup of your experiment, please call EH&S.



Spread the news about our Newsletter to the Research Community! Join through this listserv e-mail <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/labsafety/newsletterindex.html>, and message "Subscribe to URLaboratorySafety" and listing your first/last name.

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