

Fall Term 10: Safety Memorandum

CFD - Gilbert inspection report

Based on Corvallis Fire Department recent inspection on September 3, 2010, there are some reoccurring infractions in Gilbert Hall labs; fume hood sashes too high, use of non-approved electrical extension multi-sockets (without fuse), chemicals stored on the floor, unlabeled chemicals, gas cylinders not being properly restrained, doors are propped open, storage of items in hallways (i.e. catalogs, chairs, desks, etc.) Committee recommends faculty, students and other lab occupants pay special attention to these areas to avoid reoccurrence such infractions.

Fire and extinguisher use: reminder

If you use fire extinguisher to put out a minor fire in the laboratory, please do not hang the extinguisher back in the wall even it is not empty. It needs to be replaced with a new one. Please call Dan Keppinger (Gilbert building manger) or Lance Jones (EH&S) for the replacement. In addition, any such incidents should be reported Dan Keppinger so that the situation can be assessed by the safety committee and necessary precautions can be taken to avoid reoccurrence.

Departmental laboratory attire policy: reminder

Please remember that the departmental laboratory attire policy calls for shoulder to ankle clothing coverage and closed toe/heel shoes for ALL lab workers within the Department of Chemistry. Instructors and graduate TA's should be particularly mindful to wear appropriate attire and personal protective equipment (PPE) when working in the instructional labs such that a good example is set for undergraduate students. Users of chemistry stores are also required to comply with this chemical safety policy or their issue requests may be declined.

The Chemistry Department Safety Committee would like to remind everyone to remove laboratory gloves whenever you are not inside of a lab space. We do not want to spread contaminants that may be on gloves throughout the building. Also please remove lab coats when entering the main office. The wonderful staff down there do not want any chemical residues to contaminate their work space. According to Dan Keppinger, lab coats are fine to wear inside of the Chemistry Store, however lab gloves are not to be worn when shopping in there. Thank you for your help in keeping our department clean and safe.

Lone-Working Policy - Reminder

It is reminded that there is a Chemistry Departmental Lone-Working policy in effect and can be accessed in departmental safety webpage. It is highly recommended that both faculty and students familiarize with this policy and avoid working alone in the laboratory in certain circumstances.

<http://www.chemistry.oregonstate.edu/blakemore/safety/downloads/loneworking.pdf>

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

Committee recommends that documentation and posting of SOPs in safety webpage for certain common and/or repeated lab operations/experiments which may have some inherent hazards and pose dangers. For example, SOPs for certain routine Materials Chemistry Laboratory related operations such as safe operation and handling of high

temperature furnaces, quartz tube sealing etc. are posted in the safety webpage. Please contact, Paul Blakemore for more information and if you would like to add SOPs from your laboratory.

<http://www.chemistry.oregonstate.edu/blakemore/safety/safetyguidelines.html>