

**Safety Memorandum: Spring 2011**  
**Chemistry Department Safety Committee**

**Safety Alert**

**Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**

**Recent safety incident (with injuries) in our department reminds us on the importance of the "standard operating procedures" documentation.** Safety Committee strongly recommends that documentation and posting of SOPs in safety webpage for certain common and/or repeated lab operations/experiments which may have inherent hazards and pose dangers. For example, SOPs for certain routine lab operations such as safe operation and handling of high temperature furnaces, quartz tube sealing, handling of pyrophoric materials, Laser safety 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/SOPs>

One of the lessons we learned from this incident is the importance of understanding and following Lone-Working Policy of Chemistry Department. **Fortunately, the student injured was not working alone and other students in the lab could seek paramedics help in minutes by calling 911.** Please see below.

**Lone-Working Policy - Reminder**

It is reminded that there is a Chemistry Departmental Lone-Working policy is 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>