

Minutes of the ESDR Lab Area Safety Lead Committee Quarterly Meeting

Date: Friday, June 21, 2019

Time: 10:30am – 11:30am

Present: Judith Alvarado - Helen Bergstrom – Chen Fang – Yanbao Fu - Xin He - Kenneth Higa - Giselle Jiles – Imran Khan - Douglas Kushner – Grace Lau – Ning Li - Xianglei Mao - Ronald Scholtz - Gurmukh Sethi – Chinmayee Subban – Eongyu Yi – Jian Zhu – Julie Zhu

Location: Building 70A, Conference Room 3377

Fix small things before they build up into something bigger to prevent something worse from happening...little wins!!

Share a Safety Story from your Area:

Doug Kushner - Overview of Novascan shock incident - during training a graduate student, I felt a static shock, and then got a 2nd shock. I told the graduate student not to use the unit. I emailed Omar Sowel to say something might be wrong with the unit, and that it might be a bad ground. Turns out every few seconds 200 volts were spiking & would trail off when I would run my hand across. It was one of those moments when there was a 200-volt spike that gave me the sensation of the static shock. Lesson learned with electric equipment **call 911**, tell your PI & call/go to Health Services. 4-year old equipment is being sent back to the vendor.

Post **In Case of Emergency** reminder posters everywhere that includes reporting electrical shocks (*see attached draft*).

Another issue identified were the gas valves located on the back of the bench top. The natural gas valve was bumped open during the investigation and caused a gas release. Need to change the gas valves such that they are not too easy to bump open. Put threaded caps or change the valves.

Ron Scholtz - Smoke coming out of DVD drive from a faulty 12-volt SATA connector can catch on fire. 1st thing to do call **911**. No emergency guide flip charts posted in room. Due to constructing a computer tower cabinet internally at LBNL. We need to get away from building our own equipment even though this work was <50 volts. (*see attached*).

Helen Bergstrom - Postdoc did a lot of chemistry that none of us knew what was in all his sample containers so we made sure on his last day to pull out every chemical and identify what items that were not clearly labeled (formulas only). Every sample was labelled and we had him separate them into waste streams so that we could dispose of them.

Chinmayee Subban – We always run into issues with waste disposal and people do not label containers correctly. Can we **post simplified hazardous waste labeling requirements near each SAA?** Other building related issues, floor tile chipped and there was asbestos under there so we had to get those tiles replaced. Get Joey to put in a work order. Hood sash would not hold open. This might hurt someone and need to be reported on time.

Yanbao Fu- Glove boxes - Mineral oil in the wipe containers. Anything that has lithium containing put mineral oil in it even if it is paper.

Chen Fang/Eongyu Yi- Always place green nonhazardous waste labels on broken glass boxes. There are situations where glassware contaminated with residues of mineral oil/ lithium are being placed into the broken glass boxes.

Judith Alvarado - Glove box oxygen sensor needs to be replaced every year. Oxygen reader should be replaced every two years. Extra H₂ & O₂ sensors switch it out and send back to vendor for recalibration. Our Lab has a log of what we do to Glove box, i.e., change the pump oil when things are going wrong so if you come across an issue you go back to previous users & say this is what happened and this is how to fix it, track record. Another idea is a sticker with a date. We have a reminder, a calendar appointment on our lab calendar for service change pump oil on this box, service the sensor. Waste handling in the Glove box use different containers. It is all hazardous.

Kenneth Higa - Cleaning out some labs and leaving boxes in the hallways, break them down and put them behind stations out of the way so people do not trip over them.

Kenneth Higa/Ron Scholtz – We just learned how to fill liquid nitrogen at the auto fill station. There is a new LN₂ fill station “on the job training” checklist available. Go to the ETA safety website or let Ron know if you are interested in using the form.

Grace Lau - Biking downhill couple of people from my lab has fallen off their bikes. Ron noted that there are also non-authorized vehicles such as skateboards, push scooters, motorized unicycles (*unicyclist juggles too*) at LBNL. Very strict rules for non-authorized vehicles because we have hills. Make sure you wear a helmet at all times.

Ron Scholtz/Julie Zhu – We need to put together a schedule as to when we last scanned/barcodes for the CMS chemical inventory. Perhaps scan the larger labs annually and the smaller ones every 2-3 years. Schedule time with Julie Zhu from EHS/CMS to scan your Lab equipment. They are available to provide this service.

Judith Alvarado - Someone stole or took an oxygen regulator. Have an oxygen furnace and one day the regulator was gone. Now the oxygen regulator cannot be used, they left tank open without the cap. They took regulator off the cylinder and did not put the cap on. Labs are always left open. Now there is a list on the door that says who are authorized users, who can come in, who are full usage and who need to be under supervision. Would like to have lab keys for everyone who is authorized in my Lab or key card access for the building or combination key pad. We have to be authorized to have to have an oxygen 2 furnace because it is an oxidizer. The other issue is that regulator has a flow meter and that flow meter was specific for that regulator. Security is an issue and we need to work on it. **Look into Card Key options.** Be careful because fire department & facilities need to get in.

Grace Lau – You can hear hood exhaust monitor beep and then press random buttons and then shut it off. There isn't a very good procedure on how to teach us what happens if you hear the beep, we don't know where the beep is coming from. Ron suggested you should press the mute button and then call facilities. A suggestion is to place a reminder sticker on the hood to indicate who to call.

Also we need to better identify what goes into hazardous waste. What kind of material we should throw into hazardous waste? Ask yourself these four questions: is it flammable, is it corrosive, is it reactive, and is it toxic. Almost everything is toxic so it is hazardous waste, err on that side.

Hazardous waste training is a one-time course and Ron would like it to be every two years or three years. That would help because it would remind you what is a hazardous waste and what is not. Refer to waste management posters on the website.

Helen Bergstrom - Is there a way to get expedited hazardous waste pickup? Waste Mgmt. group has to process everything within 7-days to the best they can. Waste Mgmt. will improve. Can they deliver additional containers?

Timely pick-up is a big problem for everyone. There might be waste that they cannot take because it is not labeled right, or the requisition is not fill out properly. For instance, if you did not indicate the pH on the requisition or it does not have enough mineral oil in the container they will leave it and they will not pick it up or tell you why. The new waste requisition system under development will allow you to print out labels with barcodes.

Open Action Items:

Date	Action Item	Assigned	Status
12/4/18	LN2 fill station hose at B62 may be leaking	R. Scholtz	Follow up with B62 building manager. Hose replaced. Completed
12/4/18	It's taking too long to get wastes picked up from the SAA's.	R. Scholtz/ EHS Waste Management	Make sure all information on requisition is complete. Need % compositions for mixtures.
12/4/18	The B70 gas cylinder cage has racks that are too deep. Need to look at reconfiguring so that the racks.	R. Scholtz/ Joey Silveira	Looking into options and cost estimates with Facilities. Probably not going anywhere soon.
6/21/19	Provide simple reminder posters for proper waste labeling that can be posted near each SAA	R. Scholtz	ETA safety website
6/21/19	Develop a schedule for regularly conducting CMS inventory scans of lab areas.	R. Scholtz/ J. Zhu	Large labs annually, small labs 2-3 years
6/21/19	Follow-up with Waste Management regarding expedited waste requisitions. Invite Waste Generator Assistant to our next meeting	R. Scholtz/ Waste Management	New requisition system update
6/21/19	Identify options for better securing lab areas to prevent unauthorized access/theft	R. Scholtz/ J. Silveira	Keys, card keys
6/21/19	Post hood alarm/facilities notification reminders on fume hoods	R. Scholtz/ J. Zhu	Stickers near hood monitors
6/21/19	Post 911 emergency notification reminder posters in each lab area	R. Scholtz	Includes reporting electrical shocks