

## Minutes of the ESDR Lab Area Safety Lead Committee 1st Quarterly 2020 Meeting

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**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020

**Time:** 10:00am – 11:00am

**Present (16):** Juhyeon Ahn - Helen Bergstrom – Chee Yuen George Chen (*for Xianglei Mao*) - Chen Fang - Yanbao Fu - Xin He - Kenneth Higa - Giselle Jiles – Imran Khan - Douglas Kushner - Grace Lau – Jonathan Lau – Ning Li - Marion Russell - Ron Scholtz – Eongyu Yi – Julie Zhu

**Zoom Meeting (4)** Marca Doeff – Andrew Haddad - Ari Harding – Sean Lubner

**Location:** Building 70A, Conference Room 3377

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

### Updates:

- CMS Validation efforts were completed in 3-weeks. Many thanks to all for their hard work in accomplishing this task.
  - There were approximately 1,000 chemical containers identified as “disposed” or not entered, but still present in the lab areas. These had to be entered. Another 1,000 containers were identified for disposal. This included a few time sensitive peroxide formers.
  - During validation efforts we found that there were quite a few affiliates, grad students, and post docs were listed as owners of chemicals and should not be. PI’s and/or career level researchers only should be listed because they really have to take responsibility for the chemicals.
    - If a CMS access request is sent to EHS, Ron has asked EHS to stop adding names without his approval.
    - To be added as a proxy or owner you must take EHS 0346 Chemical management System Training  
<https://training.lbl.gov/webcourses/EHS0346/>
- A schedule has been developed for an annual CMS inventory check of all ETA lab areas. This will be conducted by Division over the course of each year. We will be checking for bar coding, inventory accuracy, and overall chemicals.
- We had a recent electrical shock incident where someone was unplugging a lap top charger from a power strip. The plug was sticking and hard to pull out. When trying to use force to unplug, a finger came in contact with a hot prong. When having difficulty unplugging an item, always turn off power source downstream first. Always keep your fingers away from the prongs when plugging/unplugging.
- ESDR Safety Stand Down April 2, 2020 9:00am – 12:00r noon. The primary focus area will be sample management practices. A document describing sample management best practices has been distributed and should be used as a guide for preparing for the stand down.

### Share a Safety Story from your area:

**Show & Tell** - Power strip UL not listed, fuse not listed, but cord in good condition. How to dispose of outdated power strips: unplug, cut the cord and throw away. Everyone should check their drawers and cabinets for old power strips and dispose. Try to rotate out the older strips.

**Kenneth Higa** – What is the LBNL policy for using headphones in the Lab. Discourage using headphones in the Lab since they may not hear important life safety announcements or alarms. Not as alert to surroundings.

Kenny gave an update on a recent incident involving three workers becoming exposed to a dilute solution of sodium azide used as a preservative for membranes delivered to the lab area. Poison Control was called and it was recommended they go to the emergency room for evaluation. Concentrated sodium azide is very hazardous. The dilute form is not considered hazardous. Packaging not clearly identified by manufacturer. Lesson learned to always assume the worse and wear gloves and use a fume hood when unpacking delivered packages.

**Marion Russell** – Washing safety glasses. Encourage single user policy of safety glasses. Put your name on your glasses.

Recently had a package containing hexane delivered. The box was left upside down even though there were direction arrow labels on the box. There was a slight leakage at the cap. We need to remind transportation to deliver packages upright. Again, always assume the worse when opening packages and wear gloves and use a fume hood.

**Juhyeon Ahu** – Face mask shortage. Julie Zhu is discouraging scientists from ordering face masks because the health care workers are in dire need of face mask. If you need a face mask for work related purposes, always notify EHS (Julie) so that a workplace evaluation can be performed. There may be other controls available other than a face mask.

**Ron Scholtz** – Be careful as to how you store chemicals that might be incompatible i.e., acetic acid (*a combustible*) should be placed in a separate small tray in a flammables cabinet, not in a corrosives cabinet. Compatibility charts have been posted on all chemical cabinets. Always, always check the displayed compatibility charts if unsure.

**Douglas Kushner** – Drawer cleanout and found numerous old tubing and broken items that should be thrown out. As a result more space is now available.

**Eongyu Yi & Yanbao Fu** – Disposed of chemicals found in drawers and cabinets. Broken vacuum pumps should be shipped back to vendors for repair. Make sure you drain oil out and place a sticker outside with date drained. Most people just purchase new pumps. Pumps can be rebuilt in-house so long as the pump is unplugged and under your direct control. No electrical work should be performed as part of the rebuild.

**Grace Lau** – Is hazardous waste people expediting waste collection pick up? Having issues getting wastes out. Issue with a contaminated mouse that needed disposal. Dead mice smell an issue.

**Jonathan Lau** – Disposal of someone else’s stuff.

**Ron Scholtz** – Glove box best practices document still needs to be developed. Plan for every 6-month cleanouts & inspections.

**Xin He** – Remove samples.

**Chen Fang** – Storage of Plastic vials/bottles outside the Lab in the hallways in the cabinets. **Ron** suggests an annual inspection of cabinets and monitor hall cabinets. There should be no hazardous items stored in the hallway cabinets.

**Julie Zhu** – Evaluating options for replacement of the current Chemical Management System (CMS). Vendors are coming onsite to demo their own products. Please contact Julie if you would like to be involved and see to add you to the invite, might also be online. New system wish list:

**Marion Russell** – Better mobile platform/mobile scanning

**Ron Scholtz** – Everything barcoded and entered into the system prior to receiving.

**Julie Zhu** - Procurement side/chemical purchase side. Know what chemicals coming before they are actually purchased which will leave time to intervene; this will eliminate some of the data entry

**Yanbao Fu** – What is the standard in-house procedure to retire/dispose of chemicals before a person leave the Lab? **Ron Scholtz** - suggested we formalize a researcher exit procedure. **Marca Doeff** - suggested writing the PI’s names on the containers.

**Nang Li** – Hazardous waste pickup wait issues. Pick up time wait time is around 4-weeks.

**Chee Yuen George Chen** – Pump oil container crack leads to leaking, Check physical condition of containers and dispose when needed.

**Helen Bergstrom** – How do you get a broken glass picked up? Janitors are supposed to dispose of broken glass. These go directly into the regular trash bin. Make sure the box is labeled “non-hazardous.”

**Next Meeting: Tuesday June 9, 2020 at 10:00am in Room 70A-3377**

**Open Action Items from 3-10-2020 Meeting:**

Date	Action Item	Assigned	Status
12-10-19	List of all equipment that needs to be plugged into emergency power, identify if there is an e-power outlet available, and what the outlet number is	Ron Scholtz	Surveys being conducted of B62 and B70
12-10-19	Develop a glove box “best practices” document that can be used to improve management of glove boxes	Ron Scholtz and LASL group	Ron will initiate draft. Group will review and provide feedback

3-13-2020	Supply information on where to order DYMO label makers. Each lab area should have one available to better identify chemicals, cabinets, drawers	Giselle Jiles	<b>COMPLETED</b> - Two DYMO LabelWriters 450 ordered 2 one for Building 70 & one for Building 62
12-1-19	Put together a schedule of required glove box inspections/clean-outs. These will be documented and mandatory	Ron Scholtz/ Marca Doeff	Calendar of activities being developed. Inspection sheet with guidance to be developed