Tic Toc, Tic Toc … Storing time sensitive chemicals is a dangerous practice in the Laboratory.

**Time sensitive materials** are those chemicals when stored for prolonged periods or under improper conditions can become unstable. These chemicals present a hazard to researchers and result in costly disposal.

General categories of time sensitive chemicals:

- Peroxide formers can undergo hazardous polymerization and become shock sensitive.
- Stabilized chemicals become shock sensitive when the stabilizer evaporates.
- Materials can undergo slow chemical reaction creating additional hazards.

Examples of time sensitive materials:

- multi-nitro chemicals such as picric acid (trinitrophenol)
- peroxide forming chemicals such as diethyl ether and tetrahydrofuran (THF). (see photo 1)
- anhydrous hydrogen fluoride (AHF) compressed gas cylinders stored over a prolonged period of time. AHF will react with the mild steel producing hydrogen gas build-up and may result in an explosion. (see photo 2)

If you discover time-sensitive materials that have expired or are undated:

1) **DO NOT TOUCH THE BOTTLE.**
2) Visually inspect the bottle for product identification and expiration date.
3) Visually inspect for water content, discoloration, crystal deposits on the walls, white residue around the neck or lids.
4) If you determine that the container may have crystals - **immediately secure the area and notify EH&S at 949-824-6200.**
5) Corrosive compressed gas cylinders should be returned to the supplier after two years.

For additional information, please visit the following references:

- [Lab safety Guidelines, Appendix E, Section XIII, REACTIVE OR EXPLOSIVE CHEMICALS.](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/labres.html)
Thank You to our Safety Partners - Spring 2011

EH&S recently recognized and rewarded the following people for engaging in activities and behavior that foster a safe work environment.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

**Facilities Management**

*Al Medina*

**Safe Act:** Recognized for his involvement for the "best use of the Safety Video Library" in FM employee safety training programs.

*Bill Mitchell*

**Safe Act:** Recognized for his high attendance and active participation in injury prevention training at FM Safety Committee meetings for 2010.

*Eric Allton*

**Safe Act:** Recognized for his strong commitment in the development of the FM monthly Safety Committee with continuous implementation of work orders submitted to him from other FM employees.

Congratulations to our Safety On Site Raffle Winner!

EH&S recently awarded Ida Smith from the Department of Pharmacology an iPod nano as the winner of the annual Safety On Site (SOS) individual participation raffle. Ida’s work unit, the Hoshi lab, completed all levels in the SOS program, which involves completing their identified hazard assessments, taking their required safety training, and having each member participate in two safety activities throughout the year. More information on the Safety On Site (SOS) program can be found at: [http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/iipp/index.html](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/iipp/index.html)

Ida Smith, Pharmacology

Thank you to everyone who completed the SOS levels and your contributions to making the campus a safe place to work!

**Student Affairs Human Resources & Staff Development** – Bill Reddel

**ULAR (University Laboratory Animal Resources)** - Lisa Li, Sylvia Nguyen, Sylvia Yeung, Rafael Hernandez, Ryan Heitzman, Thuyet Tran, Antonio Arreguin, Wilber Cabrera, Jesse Rodriguez, Jose Aguayo, Amado Brito, Andrea Linde, Jessika Deck, David Flores, Rafael Feliciano, Maria Velasco, Russel Garcia, Rommel Medina, Claire Lindsell, Willy Orquiz, Jefferson Chau, Tony Razo, Thi Nguyen, Jennifer Chavez, Paresh Patel, Johnny Stephenson and Jaime Lopez

**Dept of Pharmacology** - Juliana Chang, Derek Green, Seung Woo Kang, Naoto Hoshi, Nayna Sanathara and Ida Smith

Congratulations to the following work units for the completion of Safety On Site Level 3! Each work unit member was awarded Starbucks gift cards and a SOS item for their completion of the Hazard Assessment & Corrections Tool as well as EH&S required safety training and work unit specific training.

For more information on the SOS program visit: [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/iipp/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/iipp/)

**Information & Computer Science Student Affairs**

**Human Resources and Staff Development - Student Affairs Auxiliary Services**

**Newman Lab - Department of Physics and Astronomy**

Upcoming EH&S Safety Training in Spanish

EH&S continues to provide required employee safety training. The following has been scheduled in the Spring time. Mark your calendar if you have been recommended to attend!

**Core Safety** Date: 4/1/11  
Location: EH&S Rm 122A&B  
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 am

**Bloodborne Pathogens** Dates: 4/20/11, 4/26/11, 5/5/11 & 5/10/11  
Location: EH&S Rm 122A&B  
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 am

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**Level 1:** SOS Representative has completed safety self-assessment and has taken SOS Representative training  
**Level 2:** Work unit hazard assessments have been conducted and all identified items under work unit’s control have been corrected.  
**Level 3:** All work unit members have taken EH&S required and work unit specific safety training and are current on all re-training requirements.  
**Level 4:** Participated in two individual safety activities in one calendar year.
UC Irvine lab researchers must wear, at a minimum, a knee-length laboratory coat, eye protection and closed toe shoes. If handling hazardous materials, researchers must wear protective gloves. For operations involving more hazardous materials, higher level PPE is needed. This might include flame retardant lab coats, splash goggles, heavy duty re-useable arm length gloves, and respirators.

Wearing PPE routinely is important to prevent serious injury. Post-docs and graduate students have an important role in modeling safe practices in the laboratory setting for undergrads that come into the lab to get research experience. Principal Investigators must establish expectations for laboratory safety with all researchers and be ready with consequences for those that do not meet them. In developing research budgets, Principal Investigators need to include safety as a necessary expense for conducting funded research.

EH&S inspects for the use of PPE during its Laboratory & Building Safety Surveys (LBSS). Labs where researchers are not wearing at least minimal PPE are documented in a report to the Principal Investigator. EH&S Coordinators follow up after 30 days to document whether researchers are wearing PPE. EH&S is not in every lab every day, so day-to-day enforcement is the responsibility of the lab supervisor and Principal Investigator. Each researcher should expect his or her colleagues to follow the safety rules to minimize the severity and frequency of injuries to researchers.

UC Irvine has chosen Mission Linen Supply to provide lab coat service to our laboratories. Mission’s Sales Rep is Jim Long at jlong@missionlinen.com. Campus EH&S provides guidance and support for PPE selection. For more information on PPE and selection tools, please visit:


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**UCI Food Composting Program - a milestone towards “Zero Waste” by 2020**

Did you know that the school of Biological Sciences opened their new eatery in February? Subway is currently open for business inside The Room on the Green and shares space with B.C.’s Cavern on the Green. With any new and existing eateries on campus, rest assured that EH&S continues to conduct periodic routine health inspections of all campus dining facilities with inspection reports available for patron review at each facility upon request.

Any comments or concerns about dining facilities on campus may be directed to UCI Hospitality and Dining Services at 949-824-1492 or to request a health inspection report, contact EH&S at 949-824-6200.

What may further impress you as a patron is that a sustainable practice is spreading in full force - UCI’s first campus Food Composting program managed by Facilities Management. Facilities Management spearheaded this successful recycling effort in 2010 by starting the first campus Food Composting Program. This was a collaborative effort between Facilities Recycling, Aramark, UCI Dining, Housing and Rainbow Disposal. “We started this food composting program in Mesa Commons and after it proved to be successful, we expanded it to 5 other restaurants and Brandywine Commons.” said Anne Kreighoff, Superintendent of Refuse and Recycling at FM. Over 100 tons of food have been composted and kept out of landfills to date with a projected 400 tons of food composted by the end of 2011.

To learn more about other cost savings and environmental efforts on campus recycling, contact Anne Krieghoff at 949-824-9097 or email at ucirecycles@uci.edu.

“Zero Waste” is our ultimate goal. UCI is planning on reaching that goal by 2020.

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**Laboratory Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Are you properly “dressed” in a lab?**

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5th Annual Faculty and Staff Wellness and Safety Fair

SAVE THE DATE
Mark Your Calendars For This Year's Fair
Wednesday, May 18, 2011
10:30 am - 1:30 pm
Anteater Recreation Center
Presented By:
The Wellness and Safety Partnership

Campus Recreation
Environmental Health & Safety
Facilities Management
Health Education
Human Resources
Materiel and Risk Management
Parking and Transportation
Police

EH&S At Work - 2010

Pounds of Hazardous Waste (universal, chemical, biomedical & radioactive) processed through EH&S and diverted from landfills

Number of Hazardous Waste Pickups

Number of ergonomic risk factors identified from the first visit of assessment

Number of ergonomic risk factors reduced from the first visit of assessment

Number of Lab Animal Occupational Health Program (LAOHP) Medical Questionnaires conducted

Employees referred for further medical clearance

Construction and Renovation plans reviewed

Days averaged turn around time per plan (14 days is standard)