

Environment, Health & Safety

Safety Briefs

Please Post!

Aug/Sept 2005

September is Campus Preparedness Month

In coordination with a national effort lead by the federal Department of Homeland Security, September is designated as campus preparedness month.

As we witness the tragic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, all members of the campus community are encouraged to dedicate time out of your busy schedule to review with colleagues and family what to do in the event of a natural, technological, or human-caused disaster.

Please take time in September to review the campus Emergency Management Plan, your Department Emergency Action Plan, and your Personal Supplies Checklist for emergency events.

Find details on each of these topics at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/emergencyprep>.

If you need assistance regarding emergency preparedness efforts, contact the UCSD Manager of Emergency Services, Phillip Van Saun, at (858) 534-1064 or pvansaun@ucsd.edu.

Door Wedges Compromise Safety



If you're tempted to prop open a door on warm summer days, **make sure it's not a fire door**. Propping open fire doors can jeopardize the safety of everyone in your building should a fire occur.

Fire doors, easily identified by a label on the edge of the door and frame near the hinges, protect exit corridors, exit stairwells, and hazardous areas from less hazardous spaces. Special construction enables fire doors to hold back smoke and gases from a fire long enough for people to evacuate during an emergency.

If you need assistance correcting a life safety problem, contact the UCSD Fire Marshal, Richard Benton, at rbenton@ucsd.edu or (858) 534-1062.

Safety Award For Excellence Goes to

Marine Physical Laboratory, Pt. Loma



The MPL team has the safety program EH&S strives to achieve with all our research and operations partners. During a recent San Diego County inspection, no violations or negative comments were noted. That's impressive, considering reconditioning of ballast tanks for the SIO vessel FLIP was taking place, a difficult process carrying significant EPA, OSHA, and Best Management Practice requirements. Their success demonstrates the overall philosophy of MPL to achieve a clean, safe, and sustainable work environment.

Nominate someone! The Safety Award For Excellence (SAFE) celebrates UCSD employees who excel in creating and maintaining a safe and healthy work place. Use the online nomination form at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/safe> to tell us who's making UCSD a SAFE place to work.

Department Emergency Action Plans

Department Emergency Action Plans address the specific needs of faculty, staff, and students during emergency situations, such as fires, hazardous spills, earthquakes, flooding, explosion, and civil disorder.

Every department must have an Emergency Action Plan. Larger departments occupying

continued on back ...see Dept. Emergency Action Plans



Please Post or Circulate



“Safety Training Days” on Enrollment Central

Register for EH&S safety training
on Enrollment Central at:

<http://enrollmentcentral.ucsd.edu>

Browse “EH&S—Safety” under Course Topics for classes and schedules. Learn more about UCSD safety training resources at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/safetytraining>.

UCSD Vehicles Driver Responsibility Training

Employees who drive a UCSD-owned vehicle as part of their job duties are strongly encouraged to attend UCSD Vehicles Driver Responsibility training.

Training is available by two methods:

- Method 1: Attend regularly scheduled training presented by Fleet Services on the second Tuesday of each month. To register, contact Fleet Services: debell@ucsd.edu, (858) 534-3485.
- Method 2: Schedule a custom training program. Contact EH&S Risk Management: ehsrisk@ucsd.edu, (858) 534-3820.

Topics covered include:

- Operator responsibilities and liability
- Safe driving practices
- What to do when an accident occurs
- Reporting procedures and statistics
- Insurance costs and funding

Campus Casualties Incident Reports

- An employee suffered contusions and abrasions to the head when hair was pulled from the scalp after becoming caught in a drain snake being used to clear a kitchen sink.
- A mail cart driver backing up hit the accelerator instead of the brake. The cart collided with a wooden mail-sorting bin which struck and lacerated the driver’s leg.
- Another cart driver lost control driving down a slope, hit a tree, and fell out. Contusions to the employee’s torso and arm resulted.

Department Emergency Action Plan ... continued

multiple locations may decide they need individual plans for each facility they occupy.

Your department plan should identify **hazards unique to your workplace**, along with corresponding response strategies that minimize employee exposure to hazardous conditions during an emergency.

Read ‘Emergency Preparedness Planning for UCSD’ on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/emergencyprep> for instructions on what to include and how to gather information.

Emergency Action Plans are important because of the many types of work environments at UCSD and varying levels of risk at each one. Consider these facts about UCSD employees — they:

- Work for 280 departments in 550+ buildings
- Conduct research in more than 2,300 laboratories
- Handle 180,000 different chemicals
- Generate tons of hazardous waste
- Experience a variety of work-related injuries and illnesses each year
- Work in a seismically active area

If you need any assistance with your department emergency action plan, contact the UCSD Manager of Emergency Services, Phillip Van Saun, at (858) 534-1064 or pvensaun@ucsd.edu.

Who’s Your Department Safety Coordinator?

Department Safety Coordinators (DSCs) serve as liaisons between their departments and EH&S, receiving and distributing safety information.

Find out who your Safety Coordinator is by checking the DSC list on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/departmentsafety>.

If you need assistance in designating a DSC for your department, contact Rich Belmontez at (858) 822-5974 or rbelmontez@ucsd.edu.

Ergonomics Resource Fund

EH&S has funding assistance available to help purchase ergonomic products from Marketplace for employees who have completed ergonomic training.

Learn how to take advantage of the EH&S Ergonomics Resource Fund on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/ergofund>.

