

LAB

NOTES

Safety Newsletter for Lab Workers

UCSD Environment, Health & Safety Office

Shipping Hazardous Materials



UCSD conforms to strict government regulations when transporting hazardous materials. All outgoing shipments of any infectious substance, diagnostic specimen, and other hazardous material **must**:

- Be processed by a Shipping Department certified employee
- Arrive at the destination in good condition
- Present no hazard during shipment

If you plan to ship hazardous materials, you must **contact the Shipping Coordinator at (858) 536-3225, Ext. 244 in advance** and carefully follow the

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Personal Protective Equipment

Engineering controls and work practices are the first step in eliminating or minimizing workplace hazards. Personal protective equipment (PPE) provides added individual protection even when a hazard is being controlled by other means. PPE includes all clothing and accessories designed to protect against safety and health hazards.



PPE doesn't eliminate the hazard. If the equipment fails or is improperly used, exposure can occur. For reliable protection, make sure PPE is clean, in good condition, fits correctly, and is appropriate for the materials and equipment you're working with.

Supervisors are responsible for assessing job hazards and providing appropriate PPE. They also must

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Photo and X-Ray Processor Audits

EH&S Research Assistance Program (RAP) specialists are auditing UCSD photo and X-ray processors to ensure compliance with several regulatory agencies.

Make sure machines in your facility meet the requirements below that auditors will check for:

- **Container** leaks, contamination, and overfilling.
- **Material Safety Data Sheets** (MSDSs) for chemical products, developer, and fixer must be:
 - Current
 - Vendor and product specific
 - Posted near all processors, unless the containers are completely labeled
 See "MSDS Sources" on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/msds> for easy access to searchable online MSDS databases.
- **Processors using chemical recovery cartridges** will be checked to make sure cartridges are dated with the installation, and are changed out to meet silver removal requirements. See "How to Dispose of Photo and X-Ray Processor Waste" on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/menu/hazwaste> for more information.
- **Processors serviced by an outside vendor** must have log sheets kept near the equipment with entries for the following:
 - Service dates and type of service performed
 - Cartridge replacement and removal dates
 - Hazardous waste removal dates
- **Proper hazardous waste** tagging, accumulation time, and storage. See "How to Store and Dispose of Hazardous Chemical Waste" on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/menu/hazwaste> for more information.

Questions? Contact the RAP specialist for your building: <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/rap>.

Shipping Hazardous Materials

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guidelines on Blink's "How to Ship Hazardous Materials" page. It may take several days to complete the required paperwork if your shipment contains **multiple hazardous materials**. Give the Shipping Coordinator advance warning for these shipments.

Requirements for radioactive materials are different. Read "How to Transfer Radioactive Materials" on Blink (<http://blink.ucsd.edu/menu/rad>) for instructions.

Follow shipping instructions carefully. Failure to comply with international and federal transportation regulations when shipping hazardous materials can result in civil penalties of \$32,500 per occurrence and in criminal penalties including five years imprisonment.

Choosing PPE ... continued

provide training on how to wear and maintain appropriate PPE, and ensure their employees **use** it. Disposable PPE should be available for visitors and service workers, if necessary. Determine appropriate PPE by doing the following:

- **Evaluate hazardous materials before work begins.** A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) will list appropriate and compatible safety equipment. In-depth resources, such as toxicological databases, will give information on chronic and acute toxicity issues.
- Go to MSDS Sources on Blink for links to both kinds of information: <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/msds>
- Contact the RAP specialist for your building (<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/rap>) if you have questions:

Factors that affect PPE selection include:

- Nature of the materials being used
- Routes of potential exposure (ingestion, inhalation, injection, or dermal contact)
- Type of operation and equipment involved
- Available engineering controls

Understanding the purpose and limitations of PPE will help you select and use it effectively. Learn more about PPE on Blink's Lab and Chemical Safety Menu at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/menu/lab>.



Go to Enrollment Central for Safety Training

Register for safety training on Enrollment Central at <http://enrollmentcentral.ucsd.edu>. Browse "EH&S-Safety" under Course Topics for schedules. **Find research safety training at:**

- **General Lab Safety & Chemical Safety Training**
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/labchemtrain>
- **Radiation Safety Training**
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/radtrain>
- **Biosafety Training**
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/biotrain>
- **Hazardous Waste Training**
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/hazwastrain>

Corridor Storage Policy

The Health and Safety Coordinating Council has begun the process of revising the Exit Corridor Guidelines and policy for all non-clinical UCSD buildings. A recent survey of corridors has revealed conditions in many campus buildings that may hinder safe exiting during an emergency situation. The faculty-led Health and Safety Coordinating Council will be studying this situation further, and working with the EH&S to develop a campus-wide policy to limit storage of material in corridors, along with an implementation plan to have inappropriate material removed if necessary. The new policy is scheduled to be implemented by July 2005.

The current exit corridor guidelines may be viewed at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/corridor>.

The Health and Safety Coordinating Council is soliciting comments regarding the creation and implementation of the new corridor policy. **Send your comments** to Doug Harvey, Chemical Safety Officer, at ehschem@ucsd.edu, Mail Code 0920, or call (858) 822-1579.

Radioactive Materials Supplier List Updated

Purchasing's "Supplier List for Radioactive Materials" has been updated to reflect new supplier names and contact information. Get the new supplier list and learn more about UCSD's radioactive materials purchasing policies on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/buyradio>.

