Travel Safety, Insurance, & Security

U.S. State Department travel warnings have been issued for the northern states of Mexico and other select countries.

If you’re planning international travel, visit the U.S. State Department website at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis_pa_tw_1168.html for current conditions and advisories.

Protection Benefits for UC Faculty, Staff, and Students

UC Office of the President - Risk Services has recruited the services of iJET, an organization that can provide worldwide assistance to UC travelers for emergency situations. iJET provides real time intelligence and travel alerts designed to keep our travelers well informed throughout their trip.

Registered UC travelers will receive direct e-mail notices from iJET/Worldcue regarding political unrest, natural disasters, war activities, health warnings, etc. iJET also provides services for medical emergencies or evacuation, emergency travel arrangements, safe housing, security, and finally rescue and extraction should a situation become critical.

Coverage extends to spouses, domestic partners, and dependents traveling with UC faculty, staff, or students on official business.

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Safe Use of Piranha Solution

Piranha solution is a mixture of sulfuric acid and hydrogen peroxide used to remove organic residues from substrates. Traditional piranha solution is a 3:1 mixture of sulfuric acid and 30% hydrogen peroxide. Some protocols call for as much as 7:1 mixtures.

Use of piranha solution is growing at UCSD. Increased use brings increased risk to both researchers and EH&S staff if piranha solution is not used and processed appropriately. EH&S had 2 recent incidents where unlabelled piranha solution exploded at the campus waste processing facility. Apparently the solutions had not yet fully reacted, leading to pressure buildup and eventual explosion.

Fortunately no one was hurt, but the story could have been different.

UCSD’s Piranha Solution SOP

EH&S has published a standard operating procedure for safe use of piranha solution on Blink at http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/research-lab/chemical/specific/piranha.html.

The 3 key components are:

- Clear 2.5L poly-coated acid containers for waste storage
- Vented caps designed for the 2.5L poly-coated container
- A specific label that must be affixed to all piranha solution processing containers

EH&S will provide the 3 items above free to labs generating piranha solution.

This piranha solution management strategy is the only acceptable means for processing piranha solution at UCSD. There may be other pressure generating waste streams where a similar management strategy would apply (e.g., aqua regia).

Improve safety for everyone: if you work with piranha solution, use and properly label the required container and vented caps above. Thanks for practicing safe science.

Requirements for Minors Performing Research

Attention principal investigators: If you permit minors (under 18 years of age) to carry out research activities in your laboratory, you must obtain authorization and observe specific restrictions and procedures.

See Minors in UCSD Laboratories at http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/research-lab/laboratory/minors/ for details.
Safety Training: Enrollment Central
http://enrollmentcentral.ucsd.edu

Browse “EH&S—Safety” under Course Topics for schedules and registration. Learn more about safety training resources at blink.ucsd.edu/safety/resources/training/.

Bond and Ground Class 1 Flammable Liquids

Class 1 Flammable Liquids must be bonded and grounded when transferring liquids. (Glass containers are excluded.)

Bonding and grounding is the process of providing an electrically conductive path between a dispensing container, a receiving container, and an earth ground. This pathway eliminates the potential buildup of static electricity and possible spark that can cause a flash fire if there is a flammable mixture of fuel and air.

Where to Buy Red Biohazard Waste Bags

Red biohazard waste bags are required for packaging and disposal of dry biohazardous and medical waste, and some animal carcasses and parts. EH&S recommends using bags pre-printed with the UCSD address that can be purchased from:

- Chemistry & Biochemistry Stockroom
  1220 Urey Hall
  http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/facilities/Recharges/Stockroom/index.cfm
  #707756 (24” x 19”)
  #707757 (36” x 24”)
  #707758 (48” x 37”)

- Core Bio Services
  Biomedical Sciences Building & Biomedical Library
  (basement beneath Biomed Library)
  https://corebio.ucsd.edu/4DCGI/Catalog/index.html

- Marketplace
  (by the case only)
  http://marketplace.ucsd.edu/
  #703155SA (38” x 47”)
  #703150 (24” x 36”)
  #703145 (19” x 24”)

Travel Safety, Insurance & Security

Registration is automatic when booking travel through UC Travel (Connexxus). However, if booking travel through Southwest (SWABIZ) or other outside agencies, you must self-register at http://www.uctrips-insurance.org.

Your travel insurance registration is automatically transmitted to iJET, generating a “Welcome Email” from the iJET/Worldcue system.

This Welcome email includes a link for you to update and complete your online travel profile, including emergency contact information.

Completing your travel profile is crucial for assuring assistance with your safety throughout your trip.

The iJET/Worldcue system stores your information in a secure database for prompt retrieval in the event of an emergency.

Familiarize yourself with UC travel insurance program benefits at http://www.uctrips-insurance.org. UC travel insurance benefits are available at no cost to UC faculty and staff who travel out of state or country on official UC business, and to students in UC-sponsored and supervised off-campus activities and programs abroad.

Questions? Contact UCSD Risk Management Office: (858) 534-3820, ehsrisk@ucsd.edu.

Cal/EPA Approved Disinfectants

Disinfectants used in California must have a California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) pesticide registration number. Clorox® bleach and now Waxie® bleach are registered products. Either can be used as a disinfectant when applied according to manufacturer’s instructions.

See Flammable and Combustible Liquids Storage Guidelines at http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/research-lab/chemical/liquids/storage/index.html to learn how to bond and ground when transferring flammable liquids.