LAB SAFETY AWARENESS

Engineering Controls

Safe Science is Good Science

Caltech

Lab safety starts with a safe attitude.

Identifying, getting familiar via training, keeping and maintaining engineering control equipment is critical in protecting and saving lives and health, especially in emergency situations.

- Examples include: fume hoods, biological safety cabinets, glove boxes, secondary containment for tanks and containers, neutralization systems for wastewater discharges, air cleaning systems, and others.
- Engineering controls are our first line of defense and protection. When the hazard assessment process indicates a potential impact, an evaluation to implement engineering controls to prevent or reduce workplace exposures or minimize compliance issues is conducted.
- Check if appropriate engineering control equipment and supplies are maintained, serviced and in good condition periodically. Before using a fume hood check to be sure the survey sticker is up to date.
- If your fume hood or your other equipment monitor alarm sounds or you feel that the exhaust ventilation is not working correctly, take immediate action. Contact your EH&S team x6727 and the Facilities Service Center x4717, 9. Do NOT mute and continue working!
- Having a regular training and maintenance program of engineering control equipment is imperative. Do not use broken or damaged equipment – notify and schedule its proper service immediately.

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