Chemical Safety for Laboratory Users
Pre-class Assignment

• Select ONE chemical that you will frequently use. Write down the name of the chemical, and how it is used in your work.

• Get a container of the selected chemical, read the label, and answer the following questions:
  1. What are the major hazards of this chemical (e.g. flammable, toxic, corrosive…etc)?

  2. What other specific warnings are found on the container?

• On a campus computer, go to the Library webpage, under Databases, search for MSDS, find the chemical you selected in either one of the Material Safety and Data Sheet (MSDS) databases. Then, answer the following questions:
  1. List the synonyms of this chemical (see Section 1 or 2).

  2. What are the major hazards according to the MSDS (Sect 3)?

  3. What are the first aid measures for inhalation or skin contact (Sect 4)?

  4. If the chemical is identified as “flammable”, list the flash point, lower explosive limit (LEL) and upper explosive limit (UEL) (Sect 5).

  5. List three things you should do in case of a spill of this chemical (Sect 6).

  6. What are the occupational exposure limits (Sect 8 or 15)?

  7. What personal protective equipment is recommended for handling this chemical (Sect 8)?

  8. List three of the toxicity data for this chemical (Sect 11).

• The “Instant Gloves + CPC database” is located at a Reference Standalone computer on G/F, (floor plan: http://lbcone.ust.hk/floorplans/floor/view?name=gf&place_id=210); Access Instant Glove + CPC Database, and find a glove material that suits the chemical you selected. Record the breakthrough time for the chemical to penetrate the glove material.

Please bring the completed assignment sheet to the class. This is one of the requirements to pass the Chemical Safety Training. If you have any questions about this assignment, please contact Mr Pak Ip at Ext 6538 or email sepopcip@ust.hk

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