



# The Lab Rat

# NEWSLETTER

## Training

Training information found at:

[ehso.emory.edu/training](http://ehso.emory.edu/training)

## Chemical Waste

Email [chemwaste@emory.edu](mailto:chemwaste@emory.edu) for chemical waste pick-ups or requests.

Include a chemical waste disposal form with all waste.

## Radioactive Waste

Request radioactive waste pick-ups through EHS Assist.

Include a radioactive waste disposal form with all waste.

## PPE

Choose from the following based on the potential exposures involved:

- **Eye**—Glasses, goggles & face shields
- **Gloves**—Appropriate for the type of procedure.
- **Clothing**—Gowns, lab coats, aprons, coveralls.
- **Respirators**—Appropriate for the type of procedure.

## Eye Wash Testing

Eye wash stations should be tested once per month.

## Certifications

The following require annual certification:

- Biosafety Cabinets
- Geiger Meters
- Chemical Fume Hoods



EMORY  
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Environmental Health and Safety  
Research Administration

August 2016 Edition

## GHS Classification & Labeling of Chemicals

In this and future editions of *The Lab Rat Newsletter*, EHSO will provide quick overviews of the current **hazard communication standards**. The goal is to remind laboratory personnel of the information these pictograms are communicating regarding hazards in the laboratory.

WHAT	Categories:
	<p><b>Pictogram: Flame</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flammables</li> <li>• Pyrophorics</li> <li>• Emits Flammable Gas</li> <li>• Self-Heating</li> <li>• Self-Reactive</li> <li>• Organic Peroxides</li> </ul>
HOW	WHERE
<p><b>Storage Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always keep away from heat sources (e.g. ovens, incubators)</li> <li>• Liquids: maximum 16 L per 100 ft<sup>2</sup> of lab space (outside flammables cabinet)</li> <li>• Gases: isolate from oxygen gas cylinders</li> </ul>	<p><b>Storage Locations for Solids &amp; Liquids:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flammables Cabinet under Chemical Fume Hood</li> <li>• Standalone Flammables Cabinet</li> </ul>

**Common Examples:** Acetone, Ethanol, Acetonitrile, Toluene, Sodium (metal), Diethyl Ether

## BioRAFT Demo for 3yr & New Submissions

Do you need to submit a 3-yr biosafety renewal or a new biosafety project? Please join us for a demo of the BioRAFT platform on **August 5, 2016 at 11 am**. The link for GoToMeeting has been posted in the “Announcements” box in BioRAFT ([emory.bioraft.com](http://emory.bioraft.com)).

# Electrical Safety: Lab Incident at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



A recent electrical incident in a research laboratory at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign resulted in second degree burns on one hand and a reminder to revisit electrical safety. The former Director of Research Safety at this university, Peter Ashbrook, published the following pieces of advice in a recent article in the *Journal of Chemical Health and Safety* (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jchas.2015.06.002>):

- Make sure cords are in good condition and do not overload outlets.
- Do not use 3-to-2 prong adapters and do not leave electrical circuits exposed.
- Power strips should have circuit breakers or fuses.
- Extension cords are only for temporary use (less than a day).

- Do not daisy chain extension cords or power strips.
- Outlets must be GFCI protected if within six feet of a water source.
- If you have custom-built electrical equipment or have modified the electrical parts of any of your laboratory equipment, there should be a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) about the hazards and how to control them.
- All “small” electrical incidents and near misses should be carefully reviewed to make sure that all appropriate steps are being taken to minimize hazards.

For more information, please revisit the electrical safety article in the July 2015 edition of *The Lab Rat Newsletter*: <http://bit.ly/1kFDzy7>

## Fire Extinguishers

Visual inspections of your fire extinguishers should be conducted **monthly**, confirming the following:

- Is it present and mounted in its proper location? Is it readily accessible?
- Is the pin in place and is the gauge needle in the green?

After confirming these questions, **initial and date the attached tag**.

For **servicing**, contact Campus Services at 404-727-7463.

## Building Liasons

Radiation and Research liasons can be found at the following:  
[ehso.emory.edu/about/](http://ehso.emory.edu/about/)

## Feedback

Send comments to:  
[biosafe@emory.edu](mailto:biosafe@emory.edu)

We look forward to reading your ideas and comments!

## About This Newsletter

- This newsletter is a tool to help fulfill a legal requirement for ongoing safety training.
- Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that individuals in their area have read and understood the information that applies to their area.
- The signed newsletter should be placed into the PI's EHSO Lab Safety Binder.

## Signature Here

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand the information in this issue of Lab Rat Newsletter.

\*Use an additional sheet of paper for more signatures, if needed, and attach to this document.

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**BIORAFT**  
Remember to register your lab!  
Visit our website for more details: [ehso.emory.edu](http://ehso.emory.edu)

**SAFE Lab Spill Cleanup**  
EHSO's **Spill Response Team** is on-call, 24/7, to assist with safe spill cleanup and disposal. Call the new, dedicated 404-727-2888 right away for all mercury spills and spills you believe may cause harm or injury. See the *Emory Just-in-Time Guide* for additional spill information.