



Chemical Spill Guidance

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SPILL CONSIDERATIONS:

Appropriate chemical spill responses will vary depending upon the nature of the spill. Primary considerations include:

- **Hazards** affiliated with the spilled material;
 - **Location** (e.g., fume hood, countertop, floor, equipment);
 - **Nature** (e.g., personnel exposure, property damage, risk to others);
 - **Volatility and viscosity** of the spilled material;
 - **Other properties of material** (e.g., pH, normality, temperature);
 - **Nature of affected surfaces** (e.g., absorbent, porous or smooth-pitted);
 - **Additional challenges** (e.g. broken glass/sharps, fire, explosion);
 - **Susceptibility** of spilled material to neutralization/remediation
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CHEMICAL SPILL KIT:

All laboratories in which hazardous chemicals are used or stored should be equipped with a chemical spill kit. The chemical spill kit minimally includes:

- Vermiculite (kitty litter)
- Chemical resistant gloves
- Acid and/or base neutralizer (if applicable)
- Trash bags
- Dust pan & broom.



CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSES:

- I. **MINOR Chemical Spills:** small, manageable spills that do not threaten the safety of the workers
 - Stop work and notify others in the vicinity that a spill has occurred.
 - Don appropriate personal protective equipment for the situation. Minimally, spill responders should don eye protection and gloves; shoe covers should be considered if the spill is located on the floor.
 - Take action to stop the spill (upright bottles, recap or contain leaking containers, etc.).
 - Cover the spill with absorbent materials, such as vermiculite, to stop it from spreading. Small corrosive spills may be covered in neutralizer which will make the spill easier and safer to clean up.
 - Clean up the spill and any absorbents used. Decontaminate the spill area and bag all cleanup material. Label all contaminated cleanup materials as Hazardous Waste.
 - Dispose of spill cleanup materials through EH&S.
- II. **MAJOR Chemical Spills:** large, unmanageable spills or spills that present a risk of fire, explosion, or occupant health
 - Notify all workers in the space that a spill has occurred and immediately evacuate to a safe location.
 - If necessary, activate the building fire alarm system to evacuate the building.
 - Notify UPD (662-325-2121). Qualified EH&S Specialists will be dispatched to assess the situation.
 - If safe to do so. Isolate the space to prevent inadvertent entry: lock any access doors, place signs on doors reading "DO NOT ENTER-CHEMICAL SPILL"

Report all hazardous chemical spills to EH&S: 662-325-0026