Spring 2009 Lab Safety Summit

Laboratory Accidents
- Eye protection saves — Nitric Acid at University of North Carolina
- It could have been worse — Phenol at Iowa State
- Luck ran out — T-Butyl Lithium in California

Emergency Action Plan
- Plan ahead — don’t leave it to chance that you know what to do in an emergency.
- Develop a Laboratory Emergency Action Plan.
- Don’t be in the dark — plan what to do in case of fire, medical emergency, severe weather, spills, etc.

Chemical Inventory
- Submit by email in excel format to jlgunni@iastate.edu.
- On-line access provides instructions, a sample spreadsheet, and useful information.
- Chemical inventories should be updated annually. Email notice to jlgunni@iastate.edu if nothing has changed in the last year.
- Consumer products used as intended are not required in the inventory (dishwashing soap, cleansers, etc.).

Don’t Leave Your Safety to Chance!
Spring 2009 Lab Safety Summit

Top Ten Safety Fixes for Your Lab

2. Perform and document that Laboratory Safety Surveys are being done.
3. Verify accuracy and submit chemical and biological inventories to EH&S annually.
4. Test and document that eye wash stations are in good working condition.
5. Label containers appropriately with names of chemicals completely spelled out.
6. Verify that building area mechanics have tested the safety shower within the past year.
7. Post appropriate signage on hallway doors (emergency contact cards, NFPA numbers, biological or radiation warning signs).
8. Check that outlets within 6 feet of a water source are ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected.
9. Ensure areas are clean, uncluttered and all garbage is disposed.
10. Post appropriate safety signs in the lab, such as first aid kit, safety shower, PPE, fire extinguisher, etc.

Don’t Leave Your Safety to Chance!