Laboratory Chemical Spill Response

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE TEAM (9-911)

HIGH RISK due to nature of the chemical (highly toxic, flammable, reactive) and quantity involved; extensive measures required to control or contain the spill; unique circumstances of the lab; personnel contamination or injury involved; or other factors necessitate the need for prompt, full scale, professional emergency response action.

Call Reno HazMat, 9-911

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (5040)

MODERATE RISK during normal working hours, but when there is a “low comfort level” of lab personnel involved. Because of the particular circumstances involved, additional physical support, professional advice or technical information is needed.

Call EH&S, 5040

“DO IT YOURSELF”

LOW RISK because worker fully understands hazards and risks involved; there is no personnel contamination; adequate spill control materials are at hand; proper personal protective equipment is available; worker has been trained in spill clean up procedures. Report personal contamination to EH&S.

* GUIDE: 1 L or less of flammable liquid or concentrated acid or base, or 100 ml or less of a particularly hazardous substance.

Lab personnel should preplan, through the development of written SOPs, their actions in case of spills or personal contamination associated with all chemicals in the laboratory inventory.

* Volumes indicated are planning guidelines only and do not equate to risk or to a lab worker’s ability to properly handle an effective chemical spill response.