

Safe Science = Good Science

Feb 14, 2024

3-Month Training Survey Winner

Congratulations Jack Easley for being our first drawing winner for completing the DEHS 3-Month Training Surveys!

Three months after taking a SciShield training module, you will receive an email with a survey link to help improve our training programs. Completed surveys will be put in a monthly drawing for a \$20 gift card.

Tips for Lab Safety

- Ensure chemicals are properly labeled.
- Keep chemical and hazardous waste containers closed when not in use.
- Ensure that chemicals are separated by hazard classification and stored in the appropriate locations in the laboratory.
- Wear appropriate shoes, clothing, and PPE for the hazards in use.

Exposures

- With chemicals or containers posted with any of these labels, please avoid any form of skin-to-skin contact, ingestion, inhalation, or injection.
- Any form of exposure can result in highly damageable effects to your bodily tissues/organs.
- Seek a medical evaluation after an exposure.

Chemical Hazard Symbols

Per updated OSHA chemical labeling requirements since 2016, providing identification of these hazard symbols correlated to certain chemical substances is required. Using eight out of the total nine hazard symbols have mandatory instructional use in the United States. The only exception including the environmental hazard symbol.

Everyone in the laboratory needs to understand the hazard pictograms and be aware of the hazardous chemicals in their laboratory.

Hazard Symbols and their Meaning



Flammable: Flammable content when exposed to heat, fire, sparks, or give off flammable gases when reacting with water. Ignition sources should be avoided.



Health Hazard: From this hazard, long or short-term exposure could cause serious long term health effects. Ingestion and skin contact from this agent should be avoided.



Explosive: Agent may explode in result of heat, friction, shock, or a fire. Chemicals with this posted label should be separated from any potential ignition sources.



Oxidizing: Agent will burn even with the absence of air and can potentially intensify fires within combustible materials. Chemicals with this label should be separated from any potential ignition sources.



Toxic: Agent indicates a life-threatening effect, some cases even after minimal exposure. Any form of skin contact or ingestion of this agent should be extremely avoided.



Compressed Gas: Vessel contains constrained gas. Gas may be cold when released and explosive when heat is applied. Vessel should never be heated.



Corrosive: Agents can cause damage to the eyes and burns to skin. Avoid any skin/eye contact, do not breathe in vapors.



Moderate Hazard: Agent can potentially cause skin irritation or reveal minor toxicity. Chemicals with this label should always be kept away from the eyes and the skin for precautionary measures.



Environmental Hazard: Agent indicates toxic substances towards aquatic organisms and can potentially cause long-term health effects. These agents should be disposed of responsibly.