

Computing Sciences Safety Committee

CRD and NERSC Divisions

Minutes for Thursday, December 4, 2008

Time: 3:00PM – 4:30 PM

Location: 50B-2222

	Committee Member	Group Represented		Backup
X	Michael Banda	Chair/CS Deputy		
	Wes Bethel	CRD/HPC	X	Janet Jacobsen
X	Parisa Farvid	Administrative Services		
	Jason Hick	NERSC/MSG	X	Steve Lowe
X	John Hutchings	CS Facility Manager		
X	Betsy MacGowan	Division Safety Coordinator		
	Victor Markowitz	CRD/BDMTC	X	Amy Chen
X	Scott Mason	CRD/ESnet		
X	Chuck McParland	CRD/ACS		
	Scott Robinson	EHS Division Liaison		
	Ex Officio			
X	Horst Simon	ALD/CRD Division Director		
X	Kathy Yelick	NERSC Division Director		
X	Howard Walter	NERSC/Systems Dept Head		
	Guests			
X	Kim Abbott	DOE		
X	Paul Hargrove	CRD/HPC- HSS Audit team		

X Attendees

Note: This regular meeting of the Computing Sciences Division Safety Committee was combined with a meeting of the CS group preparing for the HSS Audit. The Safety Committee met first, with some HSS Audit group members as guests.

New EHS PPE, Technical Area Policies

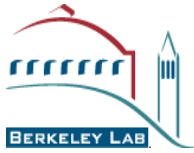
In advance of the upcoming HSS Audit EHS has implemented new policies on personal protective equipment (PPE) and technical areas. The effective date is March 1, 2009; Computing Sciences wants to be proactive and comply sooner. CS will request that our computer rooms be exempted from the minimum PPE requirement of safety glasses, closed toe footwear and long pants. We have already posted the required signs outside our technical areas in 50A and 50B. These signs indicate the name of the “area safety leader,” the contact info, required PPE, and other safety info. A sample sign is passed around.

The EHS database Hazard Management System has been updated with this information.

Soldering issue. The JHA says if you do soldering you must wash your hands and face. Washing your face is not required.

PDU Incident Lesson Learned

Following a recent electrical incident with a power distribution unit (PDU) in 50B-1276, an investigation was made with the Lab’s electrical safety Subject Matter Expert. A Lesson Learned was disseminated through the Lab’s Lessons Learned database.



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Accidents and Near Misses

There was one ergonomic first aid case. The employee had not taken any ergonomic training and was not aware that the discomfort she was experiencing was related to computer use. Fortunately a co-worker alerted the administrative support person who requested assistance. This could have resulted in an injury instead of just a first aid, without the prompt intervention by the Admin.

An investigation was done promptly. It was discovered that the employee had opted out of taking the JHA. She said she did not work on the LBL site and so was not required to complete the online Remedy Interactive training required for CS staff. Following this discovery, the JHA status of the supervisor's other employees was reviewed, and one other person had done the same thing. This employee was asked to re-take the JHA, saying that he did work at LBL.

This case shows the importance of taking the JHA, and also shows that lack of awareness of Ergo issues can lead to problems.

Safety Concern

There was a concern with air quality in 50F following the construction of the new cubicles. It turned out the ventilation system was shut down when the power to 50F was interrupted, and the ventilation did not come back on automatically. Once this was discovered, the problem was fixed by Facilities.

B50 Seismic Retrofit

This will include 3 phases, with impacts to access, parking, and noise. The scheduled start date is the second week of January, 2009.

CS Website Updates

The CS website has been updated with current Safety Coordinator and Liaison names. There is discussion about how many people are aware of the CS Safety Pages. Some people attending the Safety Committee meeting have not seen these pages. Horst points out that hiding pages behind a Staff Only button automatically reduces traffic to those pages by about half. Action: See what can be moved out to the public part of the website, work with John Hules to do so; put links on other Division/Group sites to the safety pages.

Procedures Update

Are the procedures posted in computer rooms consistent and up to date? For example, lifting tiles. This needs to be evaluated. Betsy to follow up.

Computer Room Issues

We share 1275 with IT Division. They have reported an issue with the increased airflow that when you open the floor, dust flies up. Has anyone observed this? Not so much.

Roundtable/Discussion

We should invite Scott Robinson the new EHS Liaison to meetings.