

MSD Safety Committee Meeting
2/4/02
Minutes

Present (Research group in parentheses): J. W. Ager (Chair, Ager), M. Charnahan (Chemla), H. Chang (Chu), D. Ah Tye (NCEM), V. Vreeland (Vreeland), P. Ruegg (B62/66 Manager), H. Hansen (EHS Hazardous Waste Specialist), J. Seabury (EHS Liaison), M. Doeff (DeJonghe), J. Kruzic (Ritchie), R. Schoenlein (Shank).

Absent: J. Beeman (Asst. Chair, Haller), K. Jackson (CXRO), E. Bourret (Haller), C. Weber (Orenstein), N. Markovic (Ross), D. F. Ogletree (Salmeron), T. Koffas (Somorjai), M. Van Hove (Van Hove), W. Swider (Liliental-Weber), H. Feick (Weber), F. Salmassi (B2 Manager), D. Owen (B72 Manager), M. Holm (MSD EHS Administrator), P. Hou (Hou), E. Saiz (Tomsia). G. Somorjai

Groups without representatives: Bertozzi, Fadley, Chrzan/Morris, Healy, Weiss. J. Song and C. Klapperich were named as representatives from the Bertozzi group following the meeting.

Status of MSD performance in selected EH&S areas, 7/01 – present

J. Ager presented the status of MSD performance in the current evaluation period in the following EHS areas.

- Laboratory Self-Assessment Deficiency (LSAD) completion rate and status of current Self Assessment (SA) inspections. Backlog of overdue LSADs in B2 reduced from > 50 in 7/01 to <5 at the end of 1/02 due to efforts by F. Salmassi and P. Ruegg. SA inspections of all MSD space proceeding on schedule; 2 floors of B2 have been done. SA Team reports that overall rate of findings is lower than in the 2000 and 2001 inspections.
- MSD performance in hazardous waste management
SAA compliance rate: 92%, “excellent”
Waste QA: 91.2%, “marginal”
Non Conformance and Corrective Action Reports (NCARs): 1, “unsatisfactory”

Action Items from 12/17/01 meeting

- Meg Holm e-mailed MSD SAA signage to all SAA custodians on 1/22/02.
- Analysis of options for implementing Ergonomics Program and discussion of goals and implementation. Deferred to next meeting per request from J. Seabury. The cost of new office furniture was identified as a barrier to the implementation of any MSD Ergonomics program. The suggestion was made that the recent bankruptcy of a

number of .com businesses might provide an opportunity to obtain more modern office furniture at low cost.

- Concrete suggestions for improving hazardous waste compliance in MSD. The following suggestions were made. (1) The date and approximate times of the quarterly SAA inspections should be announced via e-mail to all MSD SAA custodians and their supervisors. It was suggested that the presence of the SAA custodians/users during the inspection could provide an opportunity for the inspectors to help researchers understand the SAA rules as they apply to specific laboratories and waste streams. (2) The required “SAA refresher course” that was held in 12/01 for all MSD SAA custodians should be repeated at least one time per year.

New Items

- J. Ager discussed (per 1/30/02 General Administrative Memo) LBNL requirements and procedures for disposing of chemicals, vacating laboratory space, and transferring formal authorizations upon termination of employees/guests.
- J. Ager discussed (per 1/17/02 e-mail to Division Safety Coordinators from M. Kotowski) laboratory rules for storage of heavy objects in glass-fronted cabinets.
- J. Seabury presented an overview of storage/testing requirements for peroxide-forming chemicals. 11 MSD Hill research groups have (according to the LBNL Chemical Inventory) some amount of these chemicals. Most are in the Class B category (methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl methacrylate, tetrahydrofuran, 2-butanol, acetaldehyde) and have a safe storage time of 12 months after opening. The procedure for testing for the presence of peroxides and appropriately documenting the tests on the chemical bottle was discussed.

Action Items

- J. Ager to forward information from EHS on storage/testing requirements for peroxide-forming chemicals to the supervisors of the research groups that, according to the LBNL Chemical Inventory, have them
- John Seabury to prepare an analysis of options for implementing an Ergonomics Program within the MSD and to discuss the recommendations with Joel Ager and Jeff Beeman before the next Committee meeting (Held over from 12/17/01 meeting).