



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
SA-02-99



Langley Research Center Safety Alert

Date: February 25, 1999

TO: All Langley Employees
FROM: 429/Head, Office of Safety and Facility Assurance, OSEMA
SUBJECT: Potentially Hazardous Materials

A "potentially hazardous material" is defined as any substance having intrinsic properties, which can pose a risk of injury or illness to personnel or destruction to property or equipment. That is, any material which is a health or physical hazard, having toxic, flammable, corrosive, cryogenic, or asphyxiation properties. Radioactive and pyrotechnic materials are not included, as they are covered in LAPG 1710.5, "Ionizing Radiation," and LAPG 1710.7, "Use and Handling of Explosives and Pyrotechnics."

Facility Safety Heads (FSH) and their alternates shall be familiar with any potentially hazardous material use permits issued for their facilities. For laboratories operating under these permits, the FSH is the Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO). The CHO is an employee who is qualified by training or experience to provide technical guidance in the development and implementation of the provisions of the Chemical Hygiene Plan (Safety Permit).

The FSH is the first point of contact for any employee within a facility who has a need for the procurement, use, storage, or disposal of a potentially hazardous material, including materials acquired from another LaRC facility or off-site location. The FSH is required to maintain an inventory and Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) file of all potentially hazardous materials within his/her facility.

Employees shall inform their FSH prior to bringing any potentially hazardous material into their facility, to ensure that the MSDS is acquired and that LaRC Form 44, "Hazardous Material-Procurement, Inventory, and Storage Record" is processed to update the facility inventory.

Additional information concerning potentially hazardous materials may be found in LAPG 1710.12, "Potentially Hazardous Materials." Thank you for your continued support of the LaRC safety program.


Alan H. Phillips
47233

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