

## LABORATORY SAFETY COMMITTEE

November 4, 2013

**TO:** All Laboratory Personnel

**FROM:** John Park, Laboratory Safety Committee

**SUBJECT:** November 4, 2013 Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

**Participants:** Chris Cangemi, Joe Jurgevich, Joe Mohn, Heather Morgan, Max Overman, John Park, Mark Starr

### Changes to OSHA Hazard Communication Standard:

Chris discussed training that is required as part of upcoming changes to OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard, which has been revised to incorporate guidelines established by the Global Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (or GHS).

From a laboratory standpoint, by 2015 we will see changes to chemical bottle labels and MSDS sheets (which will now be called Safety Data Sheets). These changes should lead to bottle labels being easier to read, especially regarding the specific hazards of each chemical.

Steve Kaasa has put together an on-line training module that will be accessed through BEACON. Chris will email the information to Max, who will then send to everyone in the lab. The training module needs to be completed by December 1, 2013.

### CO<sub>2</sub> Fire Extinguishers:

Two 5-lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers have been ordered for the lab building. When received, there will be one installed at each end of the main hallway. These extinguishers provide a 10 – 15 second discharge of CO<sub>2</sub> that can be used for class B and C fires (flammable liquid and electrical fires).

### Respirator Fit Testing:

John and Max still need to have updated fit-testing for the half-face respirators that are worn during solvent waste transfers. Chris will also provide ordering information for chemical exposure badges (for methylene chloride) that John and Max will wear during a future transfer of solvent waste to the drums. This will provide an updated assessment of exposure level and re-assessment of protective equipment.

**A reminder to safety committee members:** checks of the safety devices for each lab unit should be conducted and documented on a monthly basis. This includes eyewashes and drench hoses, safety showers, fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors. For fume hoods, please check each hood every three months with the velometer (located in John's office).

- The next safety committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 2, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.
- Minutes were prepared by Max Overman and John Park on November 4, 2013. MO/JP