

LAB SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Engineering Controls

Lab safety starts with a safe attitude.

Identifying, getting familiar via training, keeping and maintaining engineering control equipment is critical in protecting and saving lives and health, especially in emergency situations.

- Examples include: fume hoods, biological safety cabinets, glove boxes, secondary containment for tanks and containers, neutralization systems for wastewater discharges, air cleaning systems, and others.
- Engineering controls are our first line of defense and protection. When the hazard assessment process indicates a potential impact, an evaluation to implement engineering controls to prevent or reduce workplace exposures or minimize compliance issues is conducted.
- Check if appropriate engineering control equipment and supplies are maintained, serviced and in good condition periodically. Before using a fume hood check to be sure the sticker is up to date.
- If your fume hood or your other equipment monitor alarm sounds or you feel that the exhaust ventilation is not working correctly, take immediate action. Contact lab safety and facilities. Do NOT mute and continue working!
- Having a regular training and maintenance program of engineering control equipment is imperative. Do not use broken or damaged equipment – notify and schedule its service immediately.