

FLASHPOINT

RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

November 2016



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BEST PRACTICE IDEAS

Safety Moments - Prior to group meetings, present photos of lab safety transgressions in a powerpoint presentation. These can include bad housekeeping, exposed sharps on benches, chipped glassware still in use, incomplete or no labeling of reactions, waste, etc.

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SAFETY ALERTS

At Notre Dame:

An employee's right thumb tip was amputated while attempting to perform routine preventive maintenance on a return fan. The return fan had been de-energized, but was "free wheeling" due to building air flow as the supply had not been de-energized. While removing the fan guard, the employee's glove was pulled into the rotating flywheel amputating the right thumb tip without bone loss. The employee was treated at a local hospital. For additional information see [Thumb Tip Amputation - September 2016](#).

At Other Universities:

A professor at Dickinson State University was injured during a chemistry demonstration on October 4, 2016. The demonstration involved using a flash powder, made from hydrogen peroxide and acetone. The professor conducted the experiment a couple of times before it exploded resulting in non-life threatening injuries. His students received only minor injuries, however, he required surgery. For more information, see [Dickinson State Lab Explosion](#).

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TRIVIA CONTEST

How many labs total are to undergo joint assessments during FY16-17?

Hint: The answer can be found on our [RMS website](#).

A drawing will be made from all the correct responses sent to riskman@nd.edu by November 22, 2016. A prize will be awarded and the winner will be announced in our next issue.

Congratulations to **Deborah Donahue**, the winner of our September Trivia Contest! She defined flashpoint correctly with the following: "The flashpoint is the lowest temperature at which flammable vapor will ignite when an ignition source is present."

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complyND

The complyND team has developed some [quick tips](#) to help you answer questions you may have about the system. These tips include what browsers are supported, how to start a training course, completing a training assignment, and creating a training (ad-hoc) assignment. For more information on these tips and other helpful items such as [User Guides](#) and [How To Videos](#), please visit the [complyND](#) website at <http://comply.nd.edu>.

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ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER

Remember it is important to handle broken glass appropriately in laboratories to avoid risks to those working in the labs as well as those handling the broken glass for disposal. To ensure the safety of those handling broken glass and to meet regulatory requirements, please ensure the following:



Glass contaminated with chemicals or biologicals should be placed in a properly labeled sharps container like those shown at the left. Once these containers are full, RMS will pick them up during regularly scheduled pick-ups.

Broken glass that is not contaminated with chemicals or biologicals should be placed in a structurally sound container like the one shown at the right. Once full, the container should be taped shut and marked broken glass then Building Services will handle disposal.



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HUMOR



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Flashpoint Risk Management & Safety



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