



October Safety Newsletter

5 mins read

Upcoming Event: ChEEST @ OChEGS Symposium October 14th

Want to know more about the team, and how you can be part of it? Come and chat with us during the OChEGS symposium on October 14th! The team will hold an info table and a poster during the activity.

Safety Tip: There is a safe way to do all jobs

Ask yourself these questions:

1. What could go wrong in terms of safety?
2. What is my action plan in such cases?

DO NOT perform the tasks or job until you have the answer to these questions. Read labels and educate yourself about the substance by reading the Safety Data Sheet. There is no substitute for proper work practice and well-informed laboratory personnel.

Did you know...?

You can report a safety concern, incident, or near-miss through the EHS portal. See the form [here](#).

DO NOT use this form to report an emergency, contact UHPD at 713-743-3333.

EHS can use this information to improve safety training and to provide better recommendations for incidents or near-misses.

In addition, safety incidents and near-misses should be discussed with the Principal Investigator of the laboratory.

Safety Story of the Month – Dr. Richard Willson:

“I have twice come near death by compressed flammable gases. First was the sudden failure of a packed mixer bearing on a reactor full of ethane. I killed the power, evacuated the lab, and prayed while the hood vented the gas. We installed a magnetically coupled mixer, which would be less likely to fail in the future. On another occasion, someone in a crowded lab demonstration knocked over an unsecured hydrogen cylinder, breaking off the regulator! Fortunately, the cylinder valve was closed, so we weren't smashed by a flying cylinder, then blown up. My grad student saw the cylinder begin to fall and managed to sprint out the door. He later apologized for not trying to save me, but there wasn't anything he could have done”.

Do you have any experiences related to safety to share with us? Send your stories to UHChESST@gmail.com and we will include them in our upcoming newsletters!

Can you spot all the unsafe activities in this picture?



Have a question? Need some clarifications? Contact us at UHChESST@gmail.com