

Meeting 7/24/08 SRC Subcommittee on Laser Safety

Present: Joel Ager (MSD), Eddie Ciprazo (UCB), Bob Schoenlein (MSD), Ken Barat (EH&S), Xianglei Mao, (EETD), Don Lucas (EH&S), Musa Ahmed (CSD), Gary Piermattei (EH&S), Marc Hertlein (ALS), Paul Blodgett (EH&S).

Agenda:

- (1) discussion of laser interlocks (re: fire safety etc.)
- (2) policy on laser vendors
- (3) status of laser safety protocols

Minutes

(1) Roughly 12 LBNL laser labs have magnetic interlocks that violate the 'single motion' exit requirements. That is, they do not have a crash bar, and instead employ a second button or mechanism to de-activate the magnetic lock before exiting the laboratory.

The cost of a crash bar is ~\$1,000 plus installation costs.

Ken is recommending a graded approach to correct these problems (on a case by case basis), consisting of:

- (a) administrative procedure in place of an interlock system
- (b) de-activate the magnet altogether
- (c) install a crash bar

(2) Vendor Safety

There is a new Pub 3000 chapter on vendor safety. Three recommended steps for vendor safety related to laser AHDs:

- (a) service AHD for systems with embedded class IV lasers (i.e. systems that otherwise do not require an AHD). Such equipment would be identified by Division Safety Coordinators and via the JHA for vendors.
- (b) Temporary work authorization – issued by the LSO
- (c) Incorporate service vendor procedures into existing laser AHDs (this is included in many already).

(3) Laser Safety Protocols – LBNL has made a formal request that these protocols be approved by the Berkeley Site Office. Discussions are underway between Howard Hatayama and Audra Richards.