

Meeting 10/7/08 SRC Subcommittee on Laser Safety

Present: Eddie Ciprazo (UCB), Bob Schoenlein (MSD), Ken Barat (EH&S), Xianglei Mao (EETD), Marc Hertlein (ALS), David Littlejohn (EETD)

Agenda:

- (1) change in chair for the LSC
- (2) laser vendor training
- (3) door interlocks for laser labs
- (4) laser safety protocol
- (5) campus baseline eye exams
- (6) laser lab signage
- (7) laser lab audit in November

Minutes

- (1) David Littlejohn is replacing Bob Schoenlein as chair of the LSC. We thank Bob for his service for the past few years.
- (2) The egress issue with some laser labs has been resolved. As a less expensive alternative to installation of a crash bar on the exit door of laser labs, the contact plate for the magnet on the door can be removed. This allows staff to exit the lab in an emergency with a single action. This satisfies the safety regulations and emergency exit concerns.
- (3) Ken is working with local laser vendors to provide training for service personnel. For repair of embedded class 4 laser systems, there is a template available to generate a laser service AHD. Alternatively, a temporary authorization for repair can be produced. This will minimize delay in bringing in laser service personnel to the lab.
- (4) The approval of the laser safety protocols is still in progress. Berkeley Site Office has not yet approved the submitted protocols. The laser safety committee endorses the draft protocols.
- (5) UC Berkeley is planning to drop the baseline eye exam requirement for new laser users. LBNL policy remains that all lab staff and guest who will become laser users shall get a baseline eye exam. LBNL staff and guests working on campus can schedule an eye exam at LBNL with no direct cost to the PI.
- (6) There are new requirements for text that is incorporated in laser warning signs posted at the entrances to laser labs. Ken will make sure that the signs are correct. There is the option of using either the red starburst or the international symbol of the black starburst with a yellow background enclosed by a triangle as the icon on the warning sign.
- (7) There will be an audit of laser labs by the Berkeley Site Office and staff from Oak Ridge in mid-November. Their intent is to visit as many laser labs as possible.