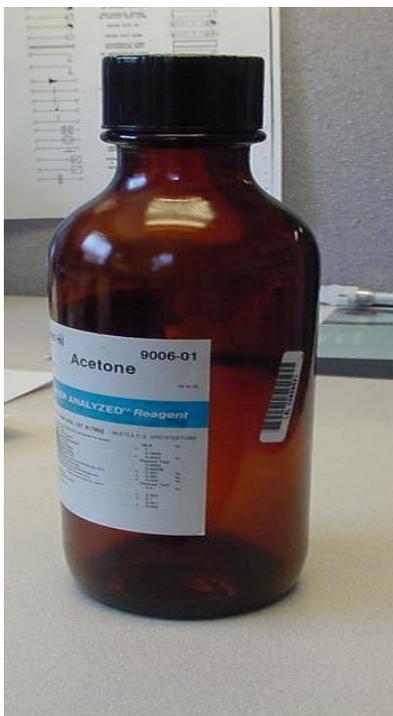


Materials Safety

LBNL Chemical Inventory Process



For many reasons, it is important that each lab at LBNL maintains an accurate inventory of their commercially obtained hazardous materials. The inventory is required by several laws and also allows us to monitor the types and quantities of hazardous materials in use in our labs.

For example, when we discovered that tetramethylammonium hydroxide was extremely toxic via skin contact, we used the database to identify and warn other users of this chemical in MSD and across LBNL. At that time, none of the people using TMAH were aware of the potentially fatal results of skin exposure.

Implementation of this requirement has been audited several times over the last 8 years, most recently in the late summer of this year. Within the labs recently examined, implementation varied from 100% to 31%, with an un-weighted mean of 73%. Our target number is 95% in all labs.

Each lab determines how its inventory is managed. At the Molecular Foundry and JCAP, one or a few people do all of the inventory work. In the rest of the Division, it is up to the PI to ensure that the inventory is accurate.

Please review your chemical inventory (<https://cms.lbl.gov/>) to ensure that all of the commercial containers of hazardous materials are properly barcoded and entered into the CATS system. When a container is empty, the record must be removed from CMS.

The MSD EH&S Technicians can help you identify inventory problems and train users to use the CMS database. Contact Sherry Chan at x7841 (Somorjai group, JCAP), Carleton Falzone at x7679 (Molecular Foundry) and Paul Johnson at x5810 (balance of MSD at LBNL).

Finally, if you purchase engineered nanoparticles, please check the “Nanomaterial” box when entering these materials into the CMS system.

Thanks!

Rick Kelly

10/30/14