

LABORATORY COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Introduction

The Vanderbilt University Chemical Safety Office has implemented a Laboratory Compliance Assistance Inspection Program to help laboratories maintain compliance with the OSHA/TOSHA Lab Standard, the Vanderbilt University Chemical Hygiene Plan, and the EPA/TDEC hazardous waste regulations.

Background

The goal of this program is to help laboratories understand the regulatory requirements associated with using and disposing of chemicals, provide feedback to the laboratory and department on areas that are in compliance and areas that need improvement, and assist laboratories with correcting any deficiencies.

Inspection Program

In this program, EHS Safety Officers periodically and systematically visit labs and complete an inspection checklist. The inspection checklist is available in the EHS Assist tool and can be used by labs to conduct their own inspections as part of their routine compliance maintenance. The EHS Safety Officers interact with the Principal Investigator/Lab Manager during the inspection and explain any checklist items that are unclear and assist with developing corrective actions for any deficiencies observed. A written report of the inspection findings (including corrective actions, if applicable) is prepared and issued to the Principal Investigator/Lab Manager and the Department Chair.

EHS Services Offered

Services provided by the lab safety coordinators include:

- Chemical Inventory Assistance
- Specific instruction regarding hazardous chemicals
- Assistance in implementing the OSHA Lab Standard
- Fume Hood Inspections
- Assistance and advice on...
 - Setting up a new lab
 - Chemical Storage
 - Laboratory Moving Procedures

Inspection Results

Inspection Information can be viewed using the EHS Assist tool located at http://ehsa.vanderbilt.edu

Questions

Please contact EHS if you have questions about the Laboratory Compliance Assistance Inspection Program or if you would like to schedule a compliance assistance inspection for your laboratory at ehs@vanderbilt.edu.