

# THE CHEMICAL SAFETY MANUAL

## INTRODUCTION AND GOALS

### Introduction

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) has gained recognition as a center of excellence for teaching and research programs. The high quality of education and the number of research grants that UNO has today would not exist without the use of hazardous materials.

UNO is subject to periodic inspections by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), or the Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL), to ensure that all requirements of the applicable regulations are being met. These inspections are very thorough, and include monitoring of laboratory areas, inspection of disposal records, review of the qualifications of workers and the review of transportation requirements. Violations of regulatory requirements may result in civil or criminal penalties, and/or suspension of regulated activities.

This Manual describes elements of the UNO Chemical Safety Program and represents several decades of intramural experience. Additionally, it reflects authoritative standards, guidelines, recommendations and research data obtained from scientific literature. Section A contains information relevant to providing a general overview of hazardous materials regulations. Section B contains specific guidance on UNO program elements.

### Goals

The Chemical Safety Manual provides the campus community with UNO standards and policies for the safe use and storage of hazardous materials and the proper management of hazardous wastes. The Chemical Safety Manual was developed to achieve the following goals:

- \* Provide protection to personnel, property and the environment;
- \* Help ensure compliance with environmental regulations; and
- \* Encourage prudent and generally-accepted safe-handling practices for hazardous materials.

Obviously, not every individual situation or circumstance can be covered in a manual. If situations or questions arise which are not covered in the Chemical Safety Manual, contact Environmental Health & Safety at the numbers listed below for additional guidance.

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