College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

CoE Safety Newsletter

Fall 2018

Personal Protective Equipment: Safety Glasses

Many laboratories in the CoE contain chemicals that present a splash hazard. Other non-laboratory areas, like machine shops and instrument analysis rooms may have tasks that require eye protection be worn if the opportunity for an eye injury exists. **Safety glasses with side shields or safety goggles must be worn when there are hazardous chemicals present in labs.** A common reason for forgoing eye protection is blurred vision from fogged-up eyewear. While this problem may cause accidents, anti-fog wipes and fog-resistant glasses are easily available and wipes should be used regularly to keep lenses clean.
Some specialty eye protection that must be worn in certain locations includes:

- Potential exposure to lasers (Class 3B or 4) where the optical density of lens is based on beam parameters
- Potential exposure to UV radiation - glasses marked "ANSI Z87 U shade"
- Safety glasses with shade 3 or 5 lenses are primarily used for torch soldering, brazing and cutting. Arc welding, which requires a darker lens found in welding helmets
- All machine shops where eye impact by any means - glasses marked "ANSI Z87+"

Contact EH&S or the CoE Director for Safety for assistance in finding the right safety glasses for your research.

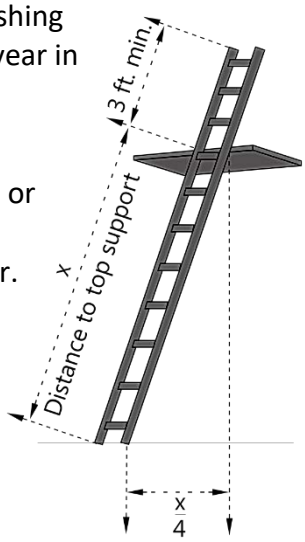
Fall Safety Seminar: Shipping Hazardous Materials & Cylinders

Tuesday, November 27th 12:00-1:00PM, Room 175 in the 1410 Engineering Drive Building.

Nils Gibson, Chemical Safety Specialist with UW Environmental Health and Safety, will be giving a seminar on the common topics that College of Engineering researchers should know about shipping hazardous materials. From what can be shipped via FedEx or the USPS to whether you can use your own vehicle to take a sample to another lab across the country. Nils will offer insight into how to deal with old compressed gas cylinders lurking in the back of the lab and what to do if you have a one-time sample to dispose of.

Fall Ladder Safety

Fall chores often include work on ladders. You might be cleaning leaves out of gutters, washing windows, or hanging holiday lighting. Tasks on ladders are commonplace; however, each year in the U.S., more than 500,000 people are treated[1] for ladder-related injuries.
Here are some tips for safer use of your ladder this fall:



- When climbing the ladder, use three points of contact — keep one hand and both feet or both hands and one foot in contact with the ladder at all times. Avoid leaning over, or stretching beyond your arms natural reach on a ladder as that could cause it to tip over.
- Never stand on the top two rungs of a ladder. Step-stools designed with an extended hand rail to allow top-step use are the exception. Wear solid, slip resistant shoes – save the flip flops for the beach.
- When leaning an extension ladder against a structure, the bottom feet should be out 1' from the structure for every 4' the ladder goes up.
  – i.e., 20' from base of ladder to roofline: ladder feet should be firmly set 5' out.

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CoE Safety

Stay Safe Badgers

1. CPSC (US Consumer Product Safety Commission) [2014]. Unpublished data from the National Injury Information Clearinghouse (CPSC) using the CPSC's Injury Cost Model. https://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2017/03/13/ladder-safety-month/