

BARRIERS AND POSTINGS

1.0 Objective

The objective of this surveillance is to verify that the laboratory is providing appropriate warnings to employees regarding hazards in the workplace. The Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist examines posting of danger, warning and caution signs; use of cautionary tags on equipment and components, and installation of barriers to minimize risks to employees. The Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist evaluates compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and implementation of best industry practices at the laboratory.

2.0 References

- 2.1 DOE O 440.1A, *Worker Protection Management for DOE Federal and Contractor Employees*
- 2.2 DOE 5480.4, *Environmental Protection, Safety and Health Protection Standards*
- 2.3 29 CFR 1910.145, *Specifications for Accident Prevention Signs and Tags*

3.0 Surveillance Activities

This surveillance focuses on postings and barriers to protect workers from non-radiological hazards. The effectiveness of the laboratory's programs for posting radiological control areas and establishing appropriate barriers is evaluated in surveillance RPS 11.4, Radiological Barriers and Postings.

In conducting this surveillance, the Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist will perform a walkthrough of the laboratory to examine existing hazards and verify that appropriate warnings are provided to employees and that effective barriers are installed and maintained.

Surveillance Guideline BARRIERS AND POSTINGS

Surveillance No.: _____

Facility: _____

Date Completed: _____

Activity 1 - Examine Postings for Occupational Hazards

In performing this activity, the Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist completes a walkthrough of the laboratory and examines postings for various hazards. In order to determine if each hazard is appropriately posted, the Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist should evaluate each posting using the following guidance:

- a. Is the posting clearly visible?
- b. Is the posting close enough to the hazard to provide effective warning?
- c. Do danger signs address immediate dangers to safety and health that require special precautions?
- d. Do caution signs warn against only potential hazards or provide directions for safe work practices?
- e. Do warning signs reflect a level of hazard between immediate danger and potential hazard?
- f. Are postings located such that they are not obscured due to opening of doors, movement of equipment, or routine work activities?
- g. Do postings clearly define the danger or hazard?

| | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>N/A</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. Are electrical cabinets with voltages above 600V posted with signs indicating "Danger, High Voltage"? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Are all rooms where lasers are in use posted with signs warning of laser hazards? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Are all confined spaces posted with signs warning personnel of potential hazards? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Are all areas where flammable gases or liquids are stored or used posted to identify the flammability hazard and to prohibit smoking? | _____ | _____ | _____ |

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| | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>N/A</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|------------|
| 5. Are areas where highly corrosive substances such as acids are stored posted to identify the corrosive hazard? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Are areas where radio frequency hazards exist posted to identify the hazard? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Are high ambient noise areas that involve a hazard for hearing posted as such? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Where personnel are working overhead, are appropriate caution signs provided? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Are areas containing biological hazards appropriately posted? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Are all areas where asbestos hazards are located appropriately posted? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 11. Are all cabinets containing hazardous or toxic chemicals appropriately posted? | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Activity 2 - Examine Use of Accident Prevention Tags

The Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist examines the use of tags at the laboratory to alert personnel to specific hazards that are temporary, out of the ordinary, or not readily apparent. Accident prevention tags include "Do Not Use", "Do Not Operate", "Close Clearance", etc. During this activity, the Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist verifies that appropriate hazards have been identified and that where tags are in place, the hazardous condition still exists. In reviewing use of tags, the Facility Representative or Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist addresses the following:

| | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 12. Does each tag contain a signal word, that is, a word or words that immediately capture an employee's attention such as "Danger", "Caution", or "Warning"? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 13. Can the signal word on the tag be read from a distance of approximately five feet, or more if warranted by the hazard? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 14. Does each tag contain a message explaining the hazardous condition or providing instructions to employees? | _____ | _____ | _____ |

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YES NO N/A

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 15. | Are tags permanently affixed as close as possible to the hazards? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 16. | Are temporary, out of the ordinary, or not readily apparent hazards appropriately tagged? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 17. | Are hazards still present wherever accident prevention tags are in use? | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Activity 3 - Use of Barriers

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 18. | Are barriers provided around all excavations or trenches to prevent personnel from falling? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 19. | Are barriers provided around all work areas where the floor surface is open to permit maintenance or construction? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 20. | Are barriers provided to exclude employee access to areas where significant hazards may exist such as blasting, use of toxic materials, etc.? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 21. | Are only employees who have business inside barriers permitted inside barriers? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 22. | Are barriers readily visible and posted to identify specific hazards? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 23. | Are barriers installed so as to eliminate the potential for inadvertent intrusion into the hazard area? | _____ | _____ | _____ |

OTHER:

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | | | |
| | | | |

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YES NO N/A

OTHER (Cont.)

| | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>N/A</u> |
|-------|------------|-----------|------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

NOTES/COMMENTS:

PERSONNEL CONTACTED: _____

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**IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED FOR FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS, AND FOLLOWUP
ITEMS - USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS**

FINDINGS:

Finding No.: _____

Description: _____

Finding No.: _____

Description: _____

Finding No.: _____

Description: _____

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OBSERVATIONS:

Observation No.: _____

Description: _____

Observation No.: _____

Description: _____

Observation No.: _____

Description: _____

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FOLLOWUP ITEMS:

Followup Item No.: _____

Description: _____

Followup Item No.: _____

Description: _____

Followup Item No.: _____

Description: _____

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LABORATORY MANAGEMENT DEBRIEFED AND RESULTS: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Facility Representative or
Environmental, Safety, and Health Support Specialist