Geo-Chem Building Specific Information

Hazardous Materials Alarm

A hazardous materials (Hazmat) alarm pull station is located outside all High Hazard rooms (H room) and along hazmat transport routes on the floor (east exit and east elevator). Hazmat pull stations are yellow. This is a local audible and visual alarm that is NOT connected to the building automated system or the fire alarm system. If alarm is activated, one must call Brown Public Safety at 401-863-4111 to report the alarm. Public Safety will contact the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) to respond.

The visual strobe is amber in color. Alarm pull stations are located outside each H room and along the hazmat transport route on floors 1, 2, 3 and 4. Signage below strobe alarm says “Hazardous Materials Alarm”.

See pages 3-5 for pull station and strobe alarm locations.

In the event a hazardous chemical is spilled in the hallway while it is transported to or from an H room:

1. Pull the hazardous materials pull station to activate the local alarm. 
   *Amber strobes and chimes will be activated on the floor where the hazmat alarm station was pulled.*
2. Leave the hallway. 
   *Exit the floor completely or exit the building. Do not block exits.*
3. Call Brown University Public Safety at 401-863-4111. 
   *Report the spill location and name and quantity of chemical.*
4. Stay in safe location until alarm is deactivated. 
   *DPS will respond to stairwells of the floor the alarm was activated on to ensure no one enters the floor. EHS will respond and clean up spill. Alarm will be deactivated when it is safe to return to the hallway.*
In the event one hears or sees the hazardous materials alarm has been activated:

1. Leave the floor or building.

   *If you remain in the building, do not block exits.*

2. Stay in safe location until more information is available.

   *Go to the Geo-Chem evacuation location (area in front of Science Library)*

3. Building occupants may re-enter the building or the floor when it is cleared to do so.

In the event a hazardous chemical is spilled inside the H room:

1. Alert co-workers and evacuate the room.

2. Once everyone is out, close the door.

3. Call Brown University Public Safety at 401-863-4111.

   *Do not pull the hazardous materials alarm.*

4. Stay in the general area but a safe distance away to provide detailed information to responders. Do not allow anyone to enter the room.

   *DPS will respond to the doorway to ensure no one enters into room. EHS will respond and clean up spill.*
1st floor
Hazardous material pull stations and strobe alarm locations.
2nd floor
Hazmat pull stations and strobe alarm locations.
3rd floor

Hazmat pull stations and strobe alarm locations.
4th floor

Hazmat pull stations and strobe alarm locations.
The hazardous ventilation indicator for the High Hazard rooms (H room) will be **green** during normal operation (System Normal) and will turn **red** (System Alarm) when ventilation is running below the operational threshold. There is a pressure sensor in H rooms tied to building automation system (BAS) to confirm room is negative with respect to surrounding areas. The indicator lights are located outside H rooms 217 and 414 and are required to be here because dispensing is allowed in these two rooms. A message will be sent to the building automated system (BAS) when light is **red**.

**Green light:** Total room differential pressure (DP) is -0.02” inches of water column (wc).

**Red light:** The DP rises to near neutral (-0.005” wc)

> There is a 5 minute delay so the DP would need to stay at -0.005 wc for 5 minutes before the red light is triggered and an alarm is sent to the BAS. This will prevent nuisance trips that could be caused by someone keeping the door open while moving materials in or out of the room or to account for room fluctuations in airflow/ room DP.

**If light is red, do not enter the room.** If anyone is currently in the room, please ask them to leave the room.

The BAS will notify Facilities Management (FM) service response. Service response will notify both FM Division 9 controls and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety of the BAS notification.
In the event of a fire alarm, the fire department and Brown Public Safety are alerted. Building occupants are to evacuate the building immediately. High Hazard rooms (H room) have visual and audible alarms if the fire alarm is activated while a person is inside an H room.

The ventilation system emergency shut off is located near the ceiling outside of rooms 217, 348A, 404A, and 414. Signage is installed to indicate button which is encased to restrict access. The shut off is to be pushed by the fire department only during an emergency and typically will be pushed when there is a fire inside the H room and the fire department needs to shut off the exhaust fans for the H rooms.

In the event the fire department pushes the shut off button, they will be responsible for the button reset (i.e., turn exhaust fans back on) at the fire panel. No notification will be sent to the building automation system if button is pushed.
*Undergraduates are prohibited from entering room 217.

*You cannot dispense solvents unless you have been trained by stockroom staff or by a senior researcher in your laboratory.

*Only stockroom staff may replace empty drums with new ones. Report empty drums to stockroom staff.

Please follow these steps when dispensing:
1. Impact safety glasses, long pants, closed toe shoes must be worn to dispense.
2. Check to ensure safety lock on drum is secure.
3. Place your 1 gal empty container in spill tray.
4. Add funnel.
5. Remove cap from drum.
6. Tip container and pour into funnel. Be careful not to over fill funnel (funnel drains slower than pour).
7. Place tipper in upright condition to determine if bottle is full or if you are done filling the container.
8. When done, place funnel in spill tray. Put cap back onto drum.
9. Close 1 gal container before removing from spill tray.
10. If a spill occurred (within or outside the spill tray), please use spill mat and notify stockroom staff.
11. Please remember to check out your order on the IMAC in room 216 Stockroom. Solvent part #’s are posted on chalk board.

In case of an incidental spill:
Report spill to stockroom staff so that it may be cleaned up properly.
Do not empty the contents of the spill tray onto the floor.

In case of a spill or emergency:
Leave the room and call Brown University Public Safety at 401-863-4111.
Geo-Chem Building Evacuation Location

Location 1: Basement and 1st floor (DEEPS) go to the grassy area between Geo-Chem and CIT
Location 2: 2nd, 3rd, 4th floors (Chemistry) go to the area outside of Science Library
Do not congregate at the George Street entrance.