

How to Handle Chemical Spills in Controlled Settings

What to do	How to do it
1 Plan and prepare for spill response.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Identify chemicals of concern and post an Emergency Guide near facility phones. Make sure company personnel read and understand the chemical spill response procedures during safety meetings.b. Assemble a spill kit, tailored to clean up small spills of chemicals commonly used in your facility.<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Keep it fully stocked and easily accessible.o Train personnel how to use its contents and when it is safe to clean up a spill.c. Make sure everyone working in the facility knows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Locations of fire extinguishers, spill kits, and telephoneso How to operate the fire extinguisher and when it's safe to do soo How to use any decon available (ie: eye wash and emergency shower).
2 If a spill occurs, evaluate the spill and decide if it can be handled by company personnel.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Isolate and deny entry until you can safely evaluate the chemicals involved and extent of the spill.b. Large or extremely dangerous spills include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Spills that present an immediate hazard (fire, explosion, chemical exposure, etc.)o Any spill of highly dangerous chemicalso Moderate or large-scale chemical spillso If the spill is large or if you're unsure how to classify it, go to Step 3.c. Small, incidental spills include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Spills that can be cleaned up by facility personnel without putting themselves or others in danger.o If you're confident you can handle the spill yourself, go to Step 4.
3 For large or dangerous spills, contact specially trained personnel and follow chemical spill procedures.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Call 911:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Request the Fire Department and identify hazards involved.b. Follow your Emergency Guide's instructions for major chemical spills:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Avoid breathing vapors.o Quickly identify the spilled material if you can do so safely.o If the spill involves a flammable liquid, turn off all ignition sources if you can do so safely.o Alert people in the area and evacuate.o If someone has been splashed with chemicals, flush the affected area with water for at least 15 minutes. Call UCSD Poison Control, (800) 876-4766, for advice and seek medical attention as recommended.o Keep people away from the spill area until

- responders arrive.
- Have someone available who is knowledgeable about the spilled material to provide information to incoming responders.

4 **Clean up small spills** according to these guidelines.

- a. **Alert people** in the area. Avoid breathing vapors and try to determine what spilled.
- b. **If someone has been splashed** with chemicals, immediately flush the affected area with water for at least 15 minutes. Call UCSD Poison Control, (800) 876-4766, and seek medical attention as recommended.
- c. **Wear personal protective equipment** including safety goggles, gloves and appropriate clothing during cleanup.
- d. **Confine the spill** to a small area. Use appropriate absorbent material from your spill kit to absorb spilled materials.
 - Place any contaminated absorbent in container.
 - Label the container with a chemical waste label and include it in the next hazardous waste collection.
- e. **Clean** the spill area.
- f. **Replenish your spill kit supplies**, so the kit is ready when you need it.