Industrial Hygiene

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1. GENERAL

The purpose of an industrial hygiene program is to ensure quality assessment of real or potential health risks resulting from exposure to physical, chemical, biological, illumination, energy and/or ergonomic risk factors.

Harmful exposures are those that exceed recognized exposure limits and other exposures deemed harmful.

2. PROGRAM GUIDELINES

2.1. Each member with identified harmful exposures should:

(a) Identify and evaluate harmful exposures in the workplace;
(b) Develop programs to reduce risk to faculty, staff, students and visitors;
(c) Provide and document safety training to affected faculty, staff, students and visitors for identified hazards;
(d) Provide for appropriate retention of exposure monitoring records; and
(e) Develop and implement appropriate control measures to eliminate or reduce exposures.

2.2. Monitoring

Each member should develop a means to monitor and evaluate demonstrated harmful exposures, in accordance with nationally recognized practices and protocols, as appropriate. A typical monitoring program may include:

(a) Project/job hazard analysis (hazard identification);
(b) A site sampling strategy/protocol;
(c) Sampling and monitoring;
(d) Chain-of-custody protocols;
(e) Evaluation of results;
(f) Communication of results, in writing, to affected employees;
(g) Initiation of appropriate corrective action;
(h) Recordkeeping and records retention protocols; and
(i) Periodic re-sampling and follow-up evaluation(s) when monitoring results indicate a risk of potentially harmful occupational exposures.

2.3. Documentation

Each member performing monitoring should develop a standardized method for documentation.

2.4. Guidelines for Evaluating Occupational Exposure

2.4.1. In conformance with recognized industrial hygiene practice, each member should evaluate monitoring results against recognized exposure limits.

2.4.2. If indicated, periodic re-sampling and follow-up evaluation should be conducted.

2.5.3. In cases where exposure limits are exceeded, the affected member should eliminate or reduce the harmful contaminant or condition.

3. INDOOR AIR QUALITY (IAQ) INVESTIGATION

To ensure indoor air quality is conducive to a productive environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors, each member should have a process for investigating IAQ concerns as they arise.