

Liquid Nitrogen Facility Inspection Report

Please find enclosed, the report resulting from the Liquid Nitrogen Facility Inspection held in May of this year. Rather than compile a separate report for each facility, one generic report has been drafted. Not all sections will apply to all facilities. As the designated “person responsible”, please attempt to identify the sections applicable to your area and implement the relevant recommendations.

The Health & Safety Working Group has endeavoured to provide as much material as possible to aid in the implementation of corrective action. Standard signs, training/inspection records and example SOPs and risk assessments are enclosed. If you require further assistance please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Grayson (l.grayson@dundee.ac.uk, ext 5418) or Irene Blair (i.blair@dundee.ac.uk, ext 4255).

Some important, additional points relating to certain sections of the Report are given below.

Report Section 1

New risk assessments have been created in the new Lab Activity Risk Assessment System (LARA) System. The risk assessment for “Use of Cell Freezers” should be applicable to all facilities, without modification. The assessment for dispensing - “Use of 50l Pressure Vessel” - specifically relates to WTB2; however, this assessment can be easily modified to apply to any other dispensing facility. Duplicate records will be set up for MRC/DSTT, WTB Stores and WTB3, who all had valid assessments in the old COSHH database. Duplicate records can be set up for other facilities as required; contact Lisa Grayson for further information. Once the LARA System goes on-line, please ensure risk assessments are modified/created to cover all activities carried out in your facility.

Report Section 5/6

A set of new SOPs has also been compiled. The SOPs for “Transport in Lifts” and “Depositing/Removing Sample Vials into/from Cell Freezers” should apply to all facilities. The SOP for “Dispensing from 50l Pressure Vessel” will obviously require some editing to make it applicable to other sizes/types of vessel. Duplicate records can be set up for you to modify, as above.

Report Section 4/6

Not all signs listed in the report will apply to every facility. Please display only those which are applicable to your facility. Note: signs marked as essential **must** be displayed. Only new signs/information posters are enclosed in this package. If you require any additional signs/posters, see Lisa.

Report Section 9

Dewars fitted with a Liquid Withdrawal Device (LWD) should be regularly tested. See Irene Blair for further information.

Report Section 13

The “Registration of Bulk Storage & Dispensing Areas” form no longer exists.

Report Section 14

Maximum Oxygen Displacement Calculations must be carried out as part of “dispensing” risk assessments. See Lisa for further advice.

Report Section 15

The current version of Safety Services COP is available only on their website, at http://www.dundee.ac.uk/safety/Policy/19-2002_cryogenics.htm. (It is not currently available in any other format.) Please make your LN₂ facility users aware of this COP.