

# Hazardous Material Spills/Releases

For the purpose of this protocol the following definitions are provided:

- ***Incidental Release:*** a small isolated chemical spill without the potential to cause significant injury/illness and/or environmental damage. It does not require evacuation other than from the immediate release area and can be contained and cleaned up by staff (Category I) or EH&S (Category II).perso

the material. A Category I Release is a chemical release in which:

- Material presents no significant threat of harm to personnel and/or environment.
- Lab personnel are familiar with the material.
- Lab is equipped with fully stocked spill kit.
- Lab personnel have the appropriate PPE available.
- Lab personnel have been instructed on proper spill cleanup (clean up procedure) in a formal, documented setting either in the lab or work site or provided by the manufacturer.
- Ventilation is adequate.

**Note:** EH&S will respond to and evaluate the release if doubt exists about the incident.

**Category II:** An incidental release of a large quantity and/or high hazard chemical that staff can safely and effectively remediate. A Category II Release is a chemical release in which:

- Material presents a significant threat of harm to personnel and/or environment.
- Lab personnel are unfamiliar with the material.
- Lab is not equipped with necessary clean up tools (absorbent, neutralization agents, etc.).
- Ventilation is inadequate.
- Material can be detected by available instrumentation and EH&S personnel.

**Category III:** An Emergency Release of a large quantity and/or high hazard chemical (according to NIOSH pocket guide and/or SDS)