

CEM OHSE NEWSLETTER

June -August 2024 Issue 2



Ototoxicity what is it?

Ototoxicity, also known as ear poisoning, can occur from taking certain medications or prolonged exposure to chemicals such as hexanes. N-butanol, toluene and other organic solvents. These ototoxins can damage the delicate hair cells in the cochlea, affecting your hearing. Symptoms can range from mild tinnitus to permanent hearing loss. Additionally, when they damage the vestibule it can lead to imbalance and worse case scenario incapacitation.

How can you tell if you are working with ototoxins?

Start by checking the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) of the chemicals you are using and inform the CEM OHSE unit to assess if monitoring is necessary. Remember to complete the HCAR assessment on an annual basis.

For more information on this critical topic, be sure to watch our informative video on ototoxicity by clicking on the link below. Stay informed and protect your hearing from the dangers of ototoxicity.

<https://youtu.be/Cv8-fksNfE8>

What's new from the CEM OHSE unit.

Respirator policy

Are you aware of when and where to use a respirator? Look no further! Check out our latest policy that clearly outlines when you need to wear a respirator. Stay safe and informed with our guidelines. Click on the link below.

[Respirator Policy](#)

Quenching a reactive chemical for disposal?

Are you familiar with the proper procedures for safely quenching large amounts of reactive chemicals like sodium, lithium aluminium hydride, or oxalyl chloride? It can be a risky and intimidating task, but fear not! Take a look at our Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on quenching beforehand. Click on the link below:

[SOP: Quenching of Various Chemicals/Waste](#)

And if you're still feeling nervous, remember that our Occupational Health and Safety Officer (OHSO) is highly trained in handling hazardous chemicals and is always ready to assist. Stay safe and confident in your work!



Hazardous waste, recycling, and E-waste. What goes where and in which container?

Have you ever had to clean up a lab and deal with hazardous waste? Do you know where everything should go? Well, look no further! Check out this informative chart that explains everything from non-halogenated waste to RUCs. It's all, right there for you to reference. And if you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to contact the CEM OHSE Unit for guidance. Click on the link below to access the chart and make your lab clean-up a breeze!

[Waste Disposal Chart](#)

Opening hours

Hazardous waste store: Tues, Thurs 10am-12pm

Recycling store: Tues, Thurs 10 am-12pm

E-waste store: Tues, Thurs 10 am-12pm



E-waste store P9



Recycling store P9

Remember to contact/email Sophie Rees-Jones to make an appointment beforehand.

Someone Else's Problem (SEP)

Have you noticed something not working, such as lights that are out, water leaks, or plugs not working? Do you ever think to yourself, "Well, someone else will take care of it or report it"? Well, now is your chance to take action! Scan the QR code or click on the link below to report an issue. It's easy and only takes a couple of minutes to do. Come on, be a part of the team and make a difference!



[Maintenance Issue Online Report Form](#)

