

Committee on Chemical Safety
Safe Practices Subcommittee

Attending: Art Marcinkowski, Paul Schickedantz, Michael Cournoyer, Barbara Foster, Russell Phifer (chair), and Harry Elston (guest).

1. The subcommittee reviewed the Task Force on Lab EH&S White Paper, and recommends three changes to the document. These changes were proposed in the areas of Hazardous Waste Identification, Hazardous Waste Accumulation Times, and Regulation of Scintillation Fluid Disposal by EPA. The proposed changes do not significantly change the policies; instead they are designed to clarify the supporting documentation.

The subcommittee MOVED and APPROVED that the White Paper be submitted back to the Task Force as amended.

2. The subcommittee reviewed the proposed policy statement prepared by Dr. Cournoyer entitled "Recommendations for the Use of Alternative Drying Purification Techniques". The information provided included two recommendations which were translated into a proposed policy statement, with supporting documentation. The policy statement reads:

"The ACS Committee on Chemical Safety recommends that laboratory personnel performing solvent purification procedures consider the use of alternative purification techniques such as column methods or the use of commercially prepared high purity solvents instead of distillation procedures. These alternative methods have been shown to represent, in many cases, attractive risk-based and cost-effective methods when compared with traditional solvent distillation techniques."

The remainder of the well-prepared document by Dr. Cournoyer should serve as supporting documentation for this policy statement. The subcommittee MOVED and APPROVED a resolution that the policy statement should be authorized by the full CCS committee.

The subcommittee reviewed the draft copy of the Managing Mercury Spills booklet. Comments were provided on specific points, and the members will continue to review the document prior to the Task Force meeting in November.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Phifer, Subcommittee Chair
August 17, 2002