

# Think Safety First!

## CHEMICAL SAFETY MOMENT

Issue 11 – May 2016

### Wear Lab-Appropriate Clothing

As the weather begins to get warmer, please remember to wear closed-toed shoes and long pants in the lab. The proper clothing will better protect you against broken glass and spilled chemicals. Keep an extra pair of sneakers and an extra pair of pants in your office if think you might forget!



NO



NO



YES!

Also, make sure to wear your lab coats and safety glasses when in the lab. Their job is to protect you, and safety is good science!

### UL Listed Equipment

It is highly recommended that all electronic equipment be UL Listed by Underwriters Laboratories. A UL Listing means that UL has tested representative samples of the product and determined that it meets UL's requirements for safety. Products that are not UL Listed may pose an electrical or fire hazard to the facility and building occupants.

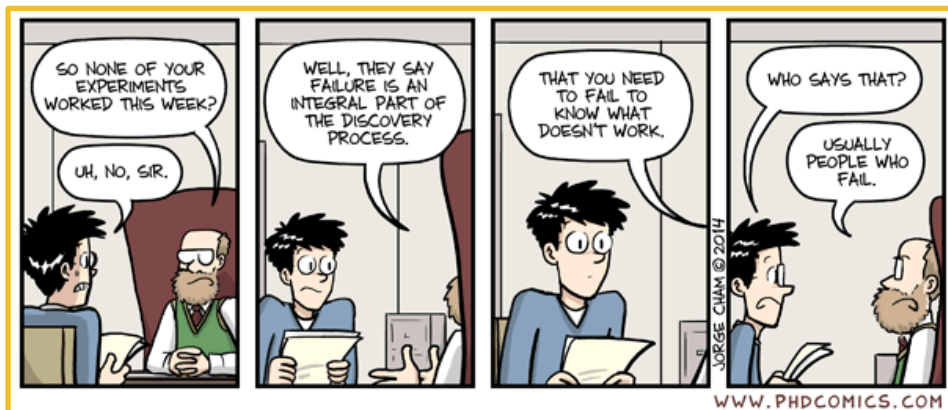


If the equipment is not UL Listed from the manufacturer, you may request that it be completed before purchasing – the manufacturer may charge an additional fee for this process.

### “Spark from pressure gauge caused University of Hawaii explosion...” –C&EN

“An explosion last month that caused a University of Hawaii, Mānoa, postdoctoral researcher to lose an arm was caused by a spark from a digital pressure gauge that was not designed for use with flammable gases...the week before the incident, a similar set-up with a 3.8-L tank resulted in a “small internal explosion” when [the researcher] pressed the off button on the gauge. She also occasionally experienced static shocks when touching the tank, which was not grounded. She reported the shocks and possibly the small explosion to [an advisor] who told her not to worry about it.”

Please learn from this tragic accident. If something feels unsafe, it likely is. Do not be afraid to ask questions!



C&EN link