

Think Safety First!

CHEMICAL SAFETY MOMENT

Issue 30 – May 2018

SDS Trivia: Section 8 – Can you define TWA, PEL, and STEL? What are the values for Methanol?

Please close your Hood Sash

Your first line of defense against chemical exposure is your hood. When working at your hood keep the sash as low as possible and don't forget to close the sash completely every time you walk away. Closing the hood sash can save you and your colleagues from a potentially dangerous situation, plus it saves energy!



NO!

YES!

Also, remember to keep your hood clear of clutter by removing stored chemicals and other obstructions. Less clutter equals greater air flow and a safer working environment.

Remember, good safety is good science!

Lab Inspections in June

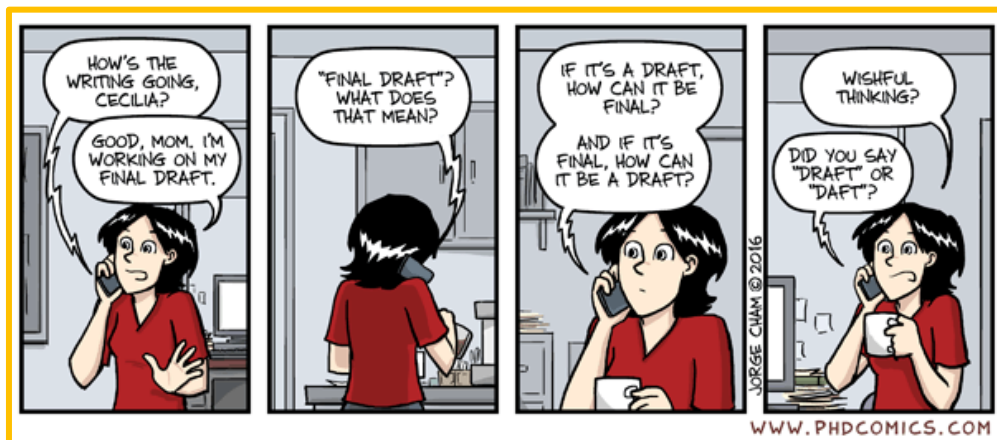
EHS lab inspections are next month, are you ready?



EHS will be using BioRaft to complete all of the inspections next month. Please make sure your lab is setup in the system and complete a self-inspection to check your lab.

Common inspection findings include:

- Waste containers not properly labeled,
- Safety training not completed or expired,
- Unlabeled chemical containers,
- Chemical storage compatibility issues,
- Peroxide forming chemicals not dated or expired,
- Electrical safety (frayed cords), and
- Emergency contact information missing.



SDS Trivia Answers: A **time weighted average (TWA)** is the **average** exposure within the workplace to any hazardous contaminant or agent using the baseline of an 8 hour per day or 40 hours per week work schedule. A **short-term exposure limit (STEL)** is the acceptable average **exposure** over a **short** period of time, usually 15 minutes as long as the time-weighted average is not exceeded. The **permissible exposure limit (PEL or OSHA PEL)** is a legal **limit** in the United States for **exposure** of an employee to a chemical substance or physical agent such as loud noise, typically a reference to the TWA or STEL. TWA (Methanol) 200 ppm, STEL 250 ppm.