

CHEMICAL SAFETY MOMENT

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Transport Chemicals Safely

Rule 1: Use a 4-sided cart and additional secondary containment when transporting chemicals between buildings. Use spill pads and additional dunnage to protect bottles from breaking.

Interior Transport:

- 4-sided cart or bottle carrier. (prevent bottles from tipping)



|--Interior Transport--|----- Exterior Transport -----|

Exterior Transport:

- 4-sided cart, PLUS
- Additional containment (cardboard boxes are okay, too)

Rule 2: NEVER transport cylinders across public roadways (e.g., Academy St.).

Rule 3: Never place chemicals in your car or ship chemicals on your own.

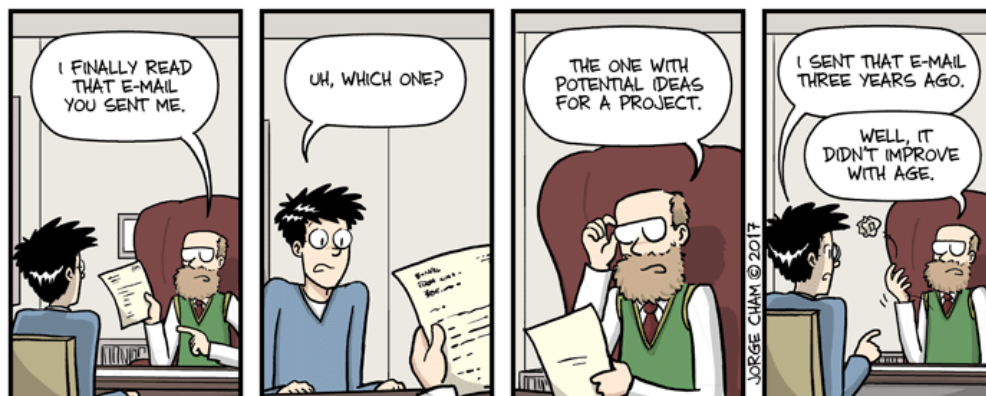
Rule 4: Contact EHS if you have questions or to have EHS transport chemicals for you. ehs-chemical@udel.edu.

Lessons Learned from a Two-time Nobel Prize Winner

Barry Sharpless was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2001 and again in 2022, but early on, he learned the importance of wearing safety glasses after losing an eye in a lab accident. [Full story: <https://news.mit.edu/1992/safety-0311> and QR code below]

As an assistant professor at MIT, Dr. Sharpless was headed home for the day but stopped to check on a graduate student before leaving the lab. The first-year student was flame-sealing an NMR tube in a liquid nitrogen bath. As Dr. Sharpless held the tube up to the light and he saw a large volume of liquid in the tube. The liquid, later realized to be liquid oxygen, quickly disappeared, and the tube instantly exploded, sending shards of glass into his cornea and collapsing his eye. He spent the next two weeks in the hospital with both eyes covered. *“The pain was terrific, but my fear was even greater”* he said. [...] Following the experience, he said, *“there’s simply never an adequate excuse for not wearing safety glasses in the laboratory at all times.”*

If you have questions about proper eye protection, please contact EHS: dehsafety@udel.edu



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