



LAB SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Engineering Controls

Lab safety starts with a safe attitude.

Identifying needs, getting familiar via training, and maintaining engineering control equipment is critical in protecting health and safety, especially in emergency situations.

- Examples include: fume hoods, biological safety cabinets, glove boxes, secondary containment for tanks and containers, neutralization systems for wastewater discharges, air cleaning systems, and others.
- Engineering controls are our first line of defense and protection. When the hazard assessment process indicates a potential impact, an evaluation should be conducted to determine if engineering controls are necessary to prevent or reduce workplace exposures or minimize compliance issues.
- Periodically check if appropriate engineering control equipment and supplies are maintained, serviced, and in good condition. Before using a fume hood, check to be sure the EHS sticker indicates an inspection within the last year.
- If your fume hood or other equipment monitor alarm sounds or you feel that the exhaust ventilation is not working correctly, take immediate action. Do NOT mute and continue working! Submit a work order for repair or contact labsafety@tamu.edu with questions.
- Having a regular training and maintenance program for your lab's engineering control equipment is imperative. Do not use broken or damaged equipment – notify lab members and schedule its service immediately.