

Davis, Linda S

From: Davis, Linda S
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2008 11:47 AM
To: 'chme@ecn.purdue.edu'; 'chmegrad@ecn.purdue.edu'
Cc: 'Gauger, Steve A'; 'L. A. Swihart'
Subject: Safety Update #3: Hydrogen Fluoride and Hydrofluoric Acid
Attachments: HF use and first aid requirements

ChE Faculty, Staff and Graduate Students,

Attached is an e-mail from Linda Swihart (School of Chemistry, REM) concerning hydrogen fluoride and hydrofluoric acid safety. She states **"HF -- hydrogen fluoride and/or hydrofluoric acid -- is one of the most dangerous chemicals in the building. Depending on the concentration and the type and size of exposure, it is easily a life/death (or loss of limb) issue."**

If you use either of these chemicals in your laboratory, please notify me and also take the precautions described in Linda's communication.

Thank you.
Linda

Linda S. Davis
Industrial Education Director
School of Chemical Engineering
Purdue University
480 Stadium Mall Dr.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2100
Phone: (765)496-1710
lsdavis@purdue.edu

Davis, Linda S

From: Dr. L. A. Swihart [swihart@purdue.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2008 11:23 AM
To: Davis, Linda S
Subject: HF use and first aid requirements

It's been over a year since the last reminder, so here it is again

See <http://www.chem.purdue.edu/chemsafety/Chem/HFuse.htm>

HF -- hydrogen fluoride and/or hydrofluoric acid -- is one of the most dangerous chemicals in the building. Depending on the concentration and the type and size of exposure, it is easily a life/death (or loss of limb) issue.

If you have it, even if you aren't using it lately, you need to know what you have to

- a) have on hand for exposure response first aid and supplies, and
- b) know what to do and how to do it

in order to deal with an exposure.

It's not just HAVING the first aid supplies but knowing where they are, how to use them, how to label them, how often to replace them

AND the knowledge and readiness to deal with an exposure include knowing when to call the paramedics and what information to give them when they arrive.

I think all the links in that page still work. I will check them after class.

Linda