University of Washington Department of Chemistry

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

BASES

1. PROCESS	Handling, dispensing and diluting bases including: Ammonium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide, Sodium Carbonate and Sodium Hydroxide. Other bases used in this lab are:
2. HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS/CLASS OF HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS	Bases can cause burns to skin and eyes upon contact and to mucous membranes if ingested.
3. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	Wear chemical splash goggles and heavy duty neoprene, PVC, or natural rubber gloves (consult Appendix F for proper glove selection). A lab coat or apron is recommended for personal protection and is required when dispensing and cleaning up spills greater than 1 liter.
4. ENGINEERING\VENTILATION CONTROLS	Concentrated bases should be dispensed in a fume hood.
5. SPECIAL HANDLING PROCEDURES AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS	When diluting bases, small amounts should be added gradually to water and mixed thoroughly to dissipate any heat generated. Bases should be stored separately from acids, oxidizers and flammable solvents. Bases in glass bottles over 1L should be transported in spill proof carriers.
6. SPILL AND ACCIDENT PROCEDURES	In cases of skin contact, flush affected area with copious amounts of water for 15 minutes. Obtain medical attention. Neutralize any spilled bases with citric acid.
7. WASTE DISPOSAL	Small quantities (25ml or less) of bases may be diluted 10 to 1 and discharged with excess of water. Large quantities of concentrated bases should be labeled with "Hazardous Waste Label" and contact EH&S (5-2848) contacted for collection.
8. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR ANIMAL USE	*

^{*} To be filled in by PI or Laboratory Supervisor if necessary

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