Laboratory Safety Induction – Chemicals

University laboratories are able to import and purchase chemicals without the need to obtain prior ERMA approval (a very privileged status), provided the laboratory meets the requirements of the HSNO (Exempt Laboratory) Regulations, 2001.

In order to meet these requirements and to fulfil obligations to staff and students under the Health and Safety in Employment Act, the University of Auckland must ensure a standard level of understanding of chemical safety.

This induction consists of three documents which you are required to read and understand:

1. Induction Kit Part 1 – Chemical Safety in the Laboratory
2. Induction Kit Part 2 – Classification and Safe Handling of Chemicals
3. Instructions for Accessing and Using Chem Gold II and CCOHS MSDS Databases

In addition you will be issued with two other documents:

1. General Safe Method of Use
2. Safe Method of Use # 2 – Laboratory Work Practices

which are a set of rules for all University laboratories as laid out in the Exempt Laboratory Code of Practice. These Safe Methods of Use codify much of what has been given you in the induction kit and are the formal rules for chemical safety.

After you have read these five documents you will be required to sign a statement to the effect that you have read and understood them and will follow their requirements.

By ensuring a standard level of understanding about chemical safety among staff and students at the University of Auckland, it is hoped that this induction will provide good preparation for laboratory work not only in the University of Auckland but also as part of future employment and study both within New Zealand and overseas.