

Fume Hood Decommissioning

Fume hoods are designed to contain work with volatile hazardous chemicals. They are installed into the ventilation system of a building and so affect the ventilation of the entire building and the exhaust at the stack. At the time of decommissioning or moving to a new location, proper safety precautions are recommended for any personnel involved with the project to ensure not only their safety, but also that of others in the building.

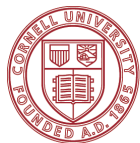
There is an additional concern for the presence of asbestos within the fume hood itself, and potentially in any pipe insulation associated with the ductwork and/or Mercury in cup sinks. Any asbestos must be properly removed and disposed of by a licensed asbestos removal contractor. EH&S can assist laboratories with the cleanup of any Mercury contamination.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- For all instances of hoods being disconnected from the building ventilation system, the safety of those involved is the responsibility of the project manager. If the removal of the hood is as a result of malfunction, work inside of it must stop immediately and signage posted so that lab occupants know of the hood failure. Otherwise, removal of the hood should be coordinated with the lab occupants so as to protect their research.
- In active labs, the laboratory group must be contacted and informed that maintenance will be performed on their fume hood. Laboratory workers must stop all operations inside the hood and cap all containers inside the hood. If work is required on the interior of the hood, laboratory personnel must remove any chemicals in the hood and ensure all spills on hood surfaces have been cleaned up.
- In the case of fume hoods that are being moved to another location on campus, asset numbers and descriptions that are posted on the piece of the equipment should remain posted.
- Contact EHS for the re-commissioning of fume hoods serving new locations.
- Project Managers are responsible for notifying facilities to “retire” hoods that are being permanently decommissioned. The asset number associated with the piece of equipment needs to be communicated to the appropriate parties.

Personal Protective Equipment

- When working on or dismantling fume hoods, personnel should always wear Nitrile gloves and safety glasses.
- When work involves coming into contact with powders or solids on the internal components of the hood and its ductwork, universal safety precautions should be followed. This should include wearing splash-proof goggles, a N95 respirator, and /or chemically resistant coveralls and gloves in order to avoid contact with corrosive



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materials. If there is a persistent chemical odor in fume hood system, EH&S should be contacted so that an exposure assessment can be conducted.

- All personnel working with hoods should wash their hands at the completion of their work.
- Maintenance on a roof: Since other exhaust systems from the building may be operational, an organic vapor/acid cartridge respirator may be required for certain tasks inside of or near fume hood exhaust stacks. EH&S can be contacted at 255-8200 to schedule an exposure assessment. Note: The use of respirators at Cornell must follow the protocol established by the Cornell Respiratory Protection Program.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Chemical Hoods

- Assess duct lining, fume hood lining and all internal exhaust components for potential contamination with chemical residue. If potential contamination is identified, contact EHS for assistance.
- If heated perchloric acid was used in the hood or there is evidence of residual contamination (stains, powders or discoloration of the hood), then contact EHS at 255-8200 before proceeding.

Radioactive Material Hoods

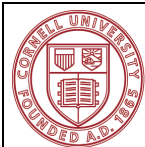
- If radioactive materials were used in the hood, project managers should verify with the lab personnel or EHS that a survey of the hood has been performed and no radioactive contamination is present.
- Do NOT work in areas or on equipment that is posted with Radioactive Material signs or labels.

Environmental Health & Safety

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January 21, 2013

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for recordkeeping.*



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Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

Location: _____

Presenter Name: _____

PRINT NAME	NET ID	DEPARTMENT	SIGNATURE

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