

FACT SHEET

Why Chemical Inventories?

Not having a complete and up to date chemical inventory in a laboratory can have a significant impact on various operations in and round the lab. This fact sheet details some of the potential impacts of having, or not having, a good chemical inventory.

	NO INVENTORY EXISTS	INVENTORY EXISTS BY BUILDING	INVENTORIES EXISTS BY LABORATORY
REMODELING & CONSTRUCTION	Design cannot begin without chemical inventory	Costs increased (potential overdesign) Schedule delays likely	On schedule; on budget; Cost effective design
SPILL RESPONSE, BOMB THREAT RESPONSE & FIRE	8 Fire Trucks Respond. Neighboring structures evacuated. Up to 8 hours operational disruption	3 to 5 Fire Trucks Respond. Building evacuated. Up to 3 hours operational disruption.	2 – 3 Fire Trucks Respond. Immediate area of the building evacuated. Up to 1 hour operational disruption
GRANTS ELIGIBILITY	Not eligible for DOD, DOE, AHA	Not eligible for DOD, DOE, AHA	Eligible for all
CODE COMPLIANCE	In violation: OSHA Fire Code Building Code Operational shut-down possible if discovered	In violation: OSHA Fire Code Building Code Operational curtailment possible if discovered	Compliant
EARTHQUAKE	Up to one year shut-down for clean-up possible Very expensive	Up to 6 months shutdown for clean-up possible Expensive	Up to 3 months shutdown for clean-up possible ¹ Less expensive

¹Enhanced recovery when chemical retaining strips, cabinets, container wraps and containment tubs are also in use.