STANDARD OPERATION PROCEDURES FOR WORKING WITH SODIUM AZIDE AT AMHERST COLLEGE

General Information

Sodium Azide is an acutely hazardous, odorless solid, that poses considerable risk to lab personnel. It is commonly used as an explosive trigger in airbags, and a toxic component in pesticides.

Sodium Azide poses considerable risks to humans and the environment and hence special precautions must be taken in both its use and disposal.

Personal Protective Equipment

When working with Sodium Azide, the following personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn:

Splash goggles
Lab coat
Long pants
Close toed shoes
Nitrile Gloves (double-gloving is recommended). Change glove immediately upon contact. Dispose gloves separately as P-coded waste

Safety Devices

Fume hood – always work with Sodium Azide in a fume hood to prevent exposure by inhalation

Identify the location of all the safety devices in the room before beginning your procedure. Also, familiarize yourself with all the possible means of egress

Specific Health Hazards

Note that Sodium Azide has a recommended Skin exposure ceiling value of 0.3mg/m³. This means that, at no time, personnel should come into contact with a concentration higher than this.
Short term exposure to Sodium Azide may cause skin, eye, and respiratory irritation. Repeated exposure may lead to the compromising of organs such as the kidneys, liver, heart spleen, and the Central Nervous System.

Pictogram:
Hazards: Toxic, carcinogenic, environmental

**Routes of Entry**

Inhalation, ingestion, skin/eye contact

*If any part of your body comes in contact with Sodium Azide, call the Amherst College Emergency phone number 413-542-2111. Also call this number if you begin to feel ill after working with (or in the vicinity of) Sodium Azide*

Eye contact

Use eyewash to flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes. Do not use ointment

Skin Contact

Wash skin with plenty of water. Use safety shower, if needed

Ingestion

Do not induce vomiting

**Storage and Special Handling**

Store in a tightly closed container in a cool, dry area that is well ventilated; preferably not on a shelf. Store in a secondary container with a lid

Label container with the following: “Acutely Toxic”

Store away from oxidizers and acids

If you have Sodium Azide (solid or in solution) that you no longer need, please contact Jason Williams for disposal
Environmental Health & Safety

Special Handling

Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water before leaving the lab
Do not handle cell phones or other devices while working with this product
Do not touch skin while/after using this product unless hands have been thoroughly washed
Limit the touching of surfaces, clothing, body, personal items, door handles, lab materials while using this product

Spill clean up

Please do not attempt to clean up a Sodium Azide spill as this is an acutely toxic compound
If a spill occurs:
Alert everyone in the area
Leave the room
Close the door behind you
Contact Jason Williams (x2736) or call the emergency phone number, x2111 to report any spills of this compound

Disposal

Sodium Azide should never be bulked with other chemicals. Dispose of it by itself unless it’s already mixed in with other chemicals
Disposable pipets, pipet tips, and any other disposal devices that come in contact with Sodium Azide must be disposed of as hazardous waste (in its own container as it is p-coded waste)

Empty containers of Sodium Azide must be disposed of as hazardous waste (p-coded waste)

Contact Jason Williams if you have any questions about this SOP or this compound.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>DOC. NO.</th>
<th>REV.</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.H.O</td>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12/9/2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOC. TITLE**

**SOP FOR SODIUM AZIDE**