



## HSC Safety Tips No. (10)



1. Stored items or equipment inside the laboratories must **NOT** block access to the fire extinguisher(s), safety equipment, emergency shower and eye wash stations or other emergency items.
2. Chemicals, especially liquids, should **NEVER** be stored on the floor, except in closed door cabinets suitable for the material to be stored. **NOR** should large bottles (2.5 liter or larger) be stored above the bench top.
3. Fire extinguishers **SHOULD NEVER** be concealed from general view or blocked from access.
4. Corridors, stairways and access to emergency equipment and/or exits **MUST** be kept dry and not be obstructed in any fashion, including storage (especially combustible material such as paper and wooden boxes), equipment, phone or other wiring.
5. Safety shields **SHOULD** be used for protection against possible explosions, implosions or splash hazards. Portable shields can be used to protect against hazards of limited severity (e.g. small splashes, heat and fires). A portable shield, however, provides no protection at the sides or back of the equipment and many such shields are not sufficiently weighted and may topple toward the laboratory personnel when there is a blast (permitting exposure to flying objects). A fixed shield, on the other hand, that completely surrounds the experimental apparatus can afford protection against minor blast damage.

