



HSC Safety Tips No. (16)

1. Contact of liquid nitrogen or any very cold gas with the skin or eyes may cause serious freezing (frostbite) injury. **ALWAYS** protect hands when working with liquid nitrogen with Cryo Gloves. The gloves should fit loosely, so that they can be thrown off quickly if liquid should splash into them.
2. **NEVER** allow any unprotected part of your body to touch objects cooled by liquid nitrogen. Such objects may stick fast to the skin and tear the flesh when you attempt to free yourself. Use tongs, preferably with insulated handles, to withdraw objects immersed in the liquid, and handle the object carefully.
3. Protect your eyes with a face shield or safety goggles (safety glasses without side shields do not give adequate protection). When handling liquid in open containers, it is advisable to wear high-top shoes. Trousers should be worn outside the shoes. Any kind of canvas shoes should be **AVOIDED** because a liquid nitrogen spill can be taken up by the canvas resulting in a far more severe burn.
4. Use **ONLY** containers designed for low-temperature liquids. Cryogenic containers are specifically designed and made of materials that can withstand the rapid changes and extreme temperature differences. Nevertheless, fill these containers **SLOWLY** to minimize the internal stresses that occur when any material is cooled.
5. **DO NOT** use any stopper or device that interferes with the venting of gas of any liquid nitrogen container. Inadequate venting could damage or burst the container. Use only the loose-fitting necktube core supplied or one of the approved accessories for closing the necktube. Check the unit periodically to be sure that venting is not restricted by accumulated ice or frost.

