



ECKERD COLLEGE

Safe Operating Procedure

(01/04)

USE OF CORROSIVES

Corrosive chemicals are generally acids and bases, oxidizing agents, and some dehydrating agents. Corrosives react with the skin and are particularly damaging to the lungs and eyes. The following precautions should be observed when using these materials:

- Segregate acids from bases.
- Use bottle carriers for transporting bottles of corrosives.
- Store large bottles of acids on a low shelf or in acid cabinets.
- Personal protective equipment is important when working with corrosives. Safety glasses, neoprene gloves, faceshields, and rubber aprons should all be considered.
- Always add acid to water (never the reverse) to avoid violent reaction and splattering. (Remember: Do what you oughtta, add acid to water.)
- Wherever corrosives are used or stored, be sure that a working safety shower and eyewash are readily accessible. Should there be contact between corrosives and any body tissue, particularly the eyes, immediately flush the area of contact with cool water for fifteen (15) minutes. Remove all affected clothing and immediately get medical assistance.