Safetygram

ISM-121 LABORATORY PERSONNEL

September 2008

WALK-IN REFRIGERATORS OR FREEZERS

The following potential hazards are associated with walk-in refrigerators or freezers:

- Oxygen depletion if dry ice is stored inside.
- Extremely slippery floors due to frost formation.
- Potential biological, chemical or radiation hazards in the stored samples.

To minimize the hazard to personnel, the following precautions should be taken:

- Do not store dry ice (or packages in which dry ice is used as a refrigerant) in walk-in refrigerators or freezers.
- Clearly label all items in storage.
- Access to walk-in refrigerators or freezers should be limited to designated personnel only.
- Required maintenance should be coordinated with the appropriate facility personnel.
- Place rubber mats on floors to prevent slips/falls.

If you have any questions on the potential hazards associated with walk-in refrigerators or freezers, please call EHS at x1451.