Spill Procedure ς UCL Chemical Engineering

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1. Scope

This document is to be used as a reference for when a spillage occurs and should be followed throughout the Department of Chemical Engineering. The document covers ways to reduce spillages, the different types of spill, the contents of the spill kits and how to use each item, and the procedure to effectively deal with spill, including those

Spill Procedure

2.2. Risk Assessment

If a risk assessment details the use of chemicals it must have the procedure for what to do in the event of a chemical spill. Ensuring that there is a plan in place for a spill will reduce the consequences of that spillage.

The control measures for the spill must include how to prevent the spill and how to clear up both small and large spills. Guidance on waste handling and spillage procedures may be found on the MSDS of the chemicals that are being used.

Spills can be prevented in a number of ways. For instance

- Carrying bottles correctly by using bottle carriers, not lifting them by the lid
- Working in a bunded area or using a fume cupboard will contain a spill from spreading and reduce clear up time.
- Ensuring that all unattended items are clearly labelled with the substance name will aid clear up if they are spilt.
- Making sure other lab users are aware of the potential hazards in the laboratory.
- Ensuring lab users know the spill response procedures in the event of a spill to protect themselves and others.

2.3. Contents of a Spill Kit

In the Department of Chemical Engineering each wet lab (a lab that uses chemicals for research purposes) must have a spill kit. Interconnected labs may share a spill kit. Additional specialised spill kits may be required for some chemicals. The spill kits must be checked by the area safety representative every month. If they have been used and require restocking this should be reported to the DSO

2.3.1. Contents of a Standard Spill Kit

- Absorbent Metal Wool: This wool adheres to the mercury making the mercury easier to gather up. It should be used where the mercury is in tight situations.
- Instruction sheet: Follow the instructions to ensure the mercury is decontaminated correctly.

2.3.3. Hydrofluoric Acid (HF) Spill Kit

Note: Lone working with HF is forbidden, as it can cause unconsciousness and may prove fatal

- Calcium Gluconate Gel: To be applied to the skin immediately after contact with HF.

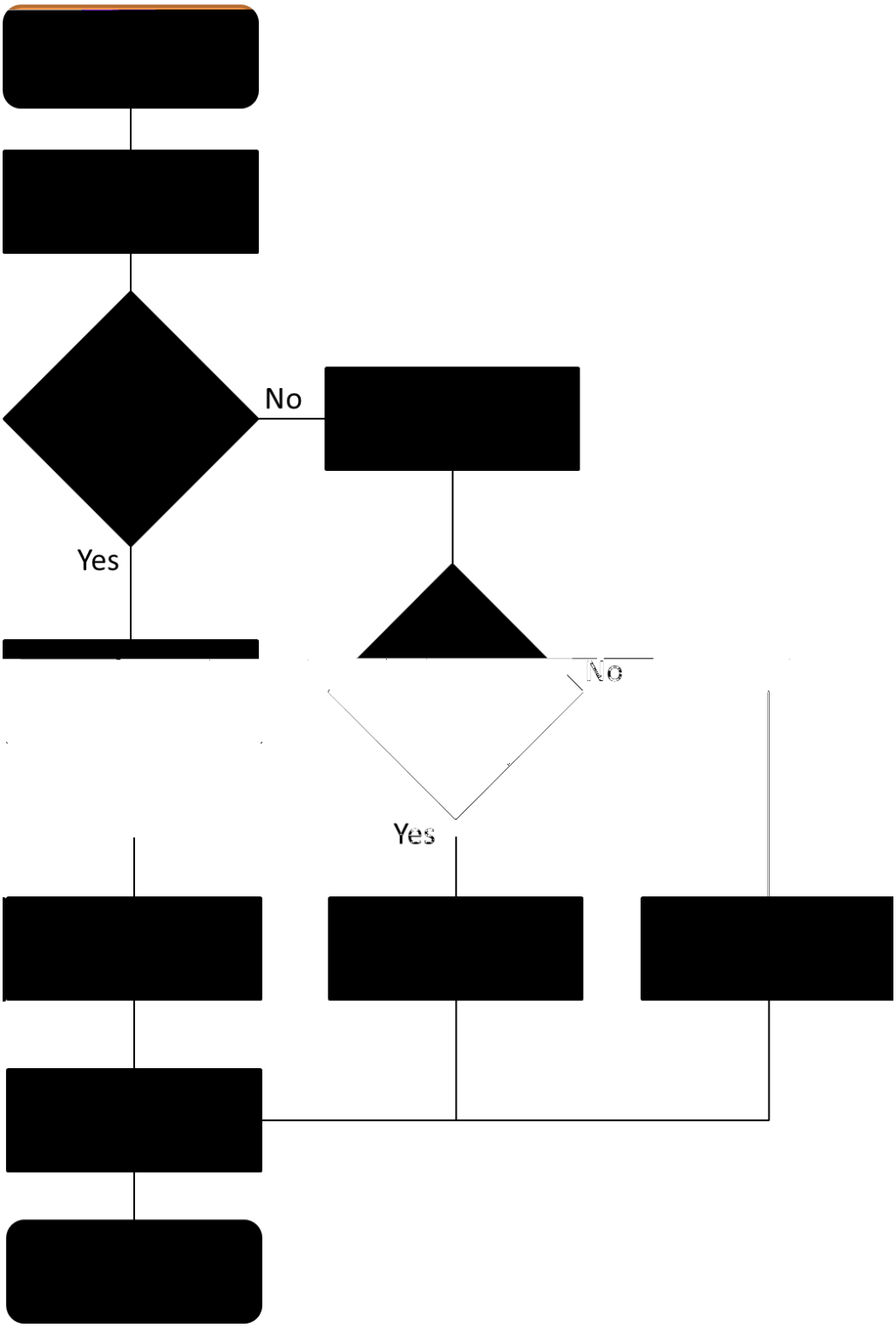
2.4. Waste

Once a chemical spill has been fully dealt with the used materials will need to go to waste. For most cases, general hazardous waste will 715.66 Tm [(L)7(o)-5(n)3(e)9(w)6(1 0 0 1h)3(e)15 BT 1 0hn. 0 0 1(in)5(str94 782.76(e)9pa(

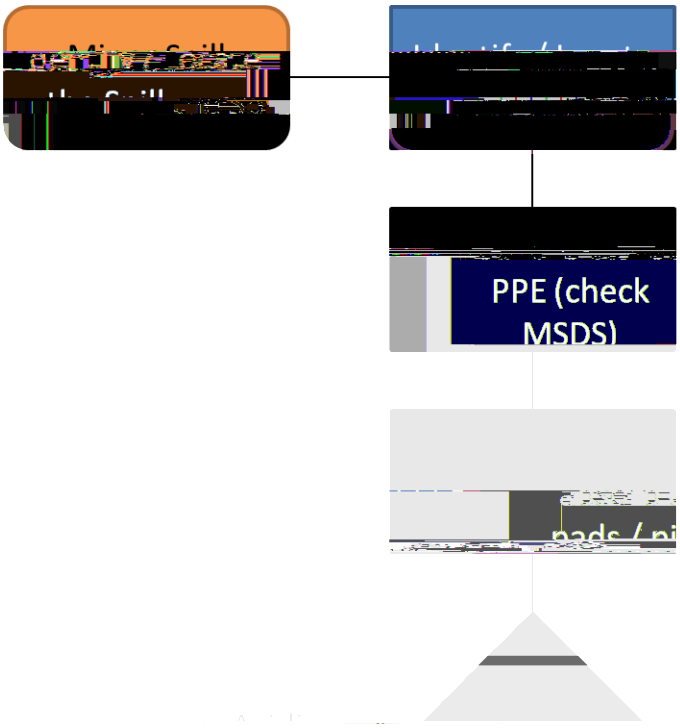
3.

4. Flow Charts

4.1. General



4.2. Minor Spills



4.3. Major Spill