

Safety Bulletin

A monthly update from the College of Engineering Local Safety Committee

Flood in labs could have been prevented

Laboratories 2D17 and 2D16 were flooded when a hose connected to a graduate student experiment broke because the main water supply valve wasn't closed. No one was present in 2D17 when the hose broke, which resulted in flooding of that lab that then extended across a hallway and into 2D16.

No one was injured and there was no damage to equipment in the incident. However, the potential for a significantly worse outcome has led to a commitment by the graduate student that the experiment set up will not be used until a solution for the problem has been implemented.

Flood Response Plan Reminders

1. SECURE THE AREA: When a flood is discovered in the Engineering Building, do not enter the flooded area without proper

protection. Secure the area so others cannot enter the flooded area until safe to do so. If it is unsafe to remain in the building, proceed with an orderly evacuation that will be directed by the building wardens and floor guards responsible for the area.

2. REPORT THE FLOOD: Report all floods and flooded areas to the Facilities Management Division (FMD) Customer Service Centre for clean-up (306-966-4496; customerservice.centre@usask.ca). After hours, call Protective Services at 306-966-5555. The supervisor in the area or the unit designate must complete a university incident report using [Safety Resources](#) online incident reporting system.

\$10,000 fire equipment tampering fines possible

The Saskatoon Fire Department has recently charged, convicted and fined individuals for either falsely setting off fire alarms or

maliciously discharging fire extinguishers. Fines for these convictions have ranged from \$580 to \$2,100. Under the Fire Prevention Act fines can be as high as \$10,000.

It is against the law to tamper with smoke alarms, fire alarm systems and fire extinguishers and to block or obstruct an exit or prop open fire separation doors, which include suite doors and stairwell doors.

Use CSA/ULC approved electrical adaptors only

All electrical adaptors used on campus must be Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and/or Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC) approved. The [Electrical Safety Guide for Non-Electrical Workers](#) is available on [Safety Resources' website](#).

Safety Quote of the Month

Prepare and prevent, don't repair and repent.

- author unknown

