

Safetygram

NCI-Frederick

ISM-136

Laboratory Personnel

March 2013

Alterations to Laboratory Services

Because of problems created by “do-it-yourself” projects, employees are asked to refrain from making alterations or additions to the services supplied to laboratories such as electrical, gas, supply air, exhaust air, compressed air, and vacuum. Modifications can adversely affect performance of these systems as well as cause unexpected hazards.

In one instance, laboratory personnel connected the exhaust from a freeze-dryer vacuum pump to the supply air diffuser with 20 feet of plastic tubing. The vapors from the pump were blown directly into the laboratory, obviously not what was intended.

All laboratory alterations and additions must be initiated as work orders. Please contact FME (x1068) or EHS (x1451) for assistance in planning modifications.