

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

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Recognizing that one of the more readily apparent safety concerns for the Physics Division is the quantity of hazardous materials stored in many laboratory areas, the Division has made a concentrated effort since 1994 to reduce hazardous material inventories to more manageable levels. In support of this objective, the Division has established a Between Use Storage Area, or "BUS Stop," for the storage of excess, yet still serviceable chemicals. Using ORNL Pollution Prevention funds collected from a tax on waste disposal requests, the Physics Division hired a student intern to help set up the BUS Stop. By the end of 1996, there were almost 400 excess chemical items on inventory, available for use – free of charge! Many divisions at the Laboratory have been able to take advantage of our surplus. Approximately \$4,000 worth of excess chemicals was transferred to new users at the Laboratory in 1997 and 1998. Using the BUS Stop saves money on purchases of new materials, and also eliminates disposal costs for excess serviceable hazardous materials.