

USE OF CHEMICALS IN LABORATORIES

The manual for the use of chemicals in laboratories: ISTISAN Reports 13/34 includes the risk accidents with chemicals

These events are always possible and they have the potential to cause damage to human health and/or to the environment. To prevent a fire in a chemical laboratory is easier than extinguish it. For this reason it is recommended to minimize the triggering elements of fire: fuel, combustive agent and trigger.

Another serious danger involving chemicals is the environment contamination. In case of environmental contamination there are several steps that must be taken to limit the damages:

- Use PPE,
- Delimit the area with sheets of paper, to point out the contaminated area and prevent the spreading of the substance
- Collect the liquid with absorbent powders, where present, or with suitable absorbent paper
- Dispose the contaminated paper or absorbent powder as chemical waste
- Wash the contaminated surfaces with a suitable cleaning agent