



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

SAFE@WORK

LABORATORY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Inspection Team Members: _____

Laboratory Room No: _____ Laboratory Supervisor: _____ Inspection Date: _____

Instructions:

- Boxes to be marked ticked (✓) as items are sighted or with a cross (x) if not present. Otherwise NA indicates the item is not applicable to this laboratory. *Any question marked with a cross requires a corrective action.*
- Any corrective actions which cannot be immediately resolved are to be entered into the SafetyNet Hazard-Incident Report Form at the completion of the inspection to assess the risk and determine appropriate controls, responsibilities and time frames.
- If the corrective action is immediately completed please write “Completed” in the column with the heading “SAFETYNET REF.NO”.
- If a maintenance number has been identified please enter the BEIMS number in the column with the heading “SAFETYNET REF.NO”.
- If using the Word version of this form, NA sections can be collapsed by moving your cursor over the section heading and selecting the triangle (**Section**).
- If using the PDF version of this form, please mark any NA sections using the “Select here if this section is not applicable” checkbox.

Section 1 – Work Environment

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
The general area is tidy and free of obstruction and mess.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Spaces between and under benches, cabinets and equipment are accessible for cleaning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Walkways/floor areas are clear of obstructions and trip hazards (e.g. electrical cords).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Floor surfaces/coverings are even, not slippery and are in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Stair treads are in good condition (no worn or broken treads).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Handrails present, secure, and in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Landings are clear of obstruction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lighting adequate and operational	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Temperature is comfortable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Area is free from odours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Noise level is acceptable or controlled to an adequate level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Ventilation is adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hand basin or alternative means of decontaminating hands is available within the area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Facilities for the storage of outer garments and personal items are available outside the room.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 2 – Signage

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
First aid signage is visible and contains details of first aid officers for the area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
An Emergency Evacuation Diagram (from FMD) is located in the near vicinity and is clearly displayed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Exit signs are in place and illuminated.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Building warden signage is visible and contains details of building wardens for the area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hazard/safety signage on entrance/s clearly visible and contains information including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorized access only • No food or drink • Type of chemicals • Lab supervisor details 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 3 – Emergency Requirements

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Exit doors are marked, clearly visible and can be opened from inside (no pad-locks).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Exit corridors are clear of obstructions (including outside of the building).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
A first aid kit is located in the near vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fire equipment (fire blanket, extinguisher, hose reel) is accessible and clear of obstruction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fire equipment (fire blanket, extinguisher, hose reel) have been inspected/tagged within the last 6 months.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Overhead sprinklers and detectors are clear of obstruction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Safety shower and emergency eye wash station is functional and easily accessible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
‘Experiments in Progress’ are labeled with procedures outlining response in case of emergency.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 4 – Electrical

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Electrical equipment tested, tagged and in date.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All power leads, outlets and switches are in good condition (not broken).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Extension leads / power boards are used as designed (no temporary or makeshift leads/power boards, double adaptors, overloading).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 5 – Hazardous Manual Tasks

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Frequently used items within easy reach between knee and shoulder height, heavy items stored at waist height.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Step ladders or stools are accessible to access items stored on high shelves if required and are in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Materials handling equipment available for heavy or awkward items and loads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 6 – Personal Protective Equipment

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
PPE is available and in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
PPE is stored appropriately.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Signage of PPE requirements displayed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 7 – Chemicals

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Chemicals stored in appropriate containers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Containers are labelled correctly (e.g. not handwritten, label contains minimum chemical name and GHS pictogram).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Chemicals are stored according to compatibility. Compatibility chart is readily available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Dangerous goods cabinets are used and maintained in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-closing and close fitting doors • Locking automatically (flammable) • Locking mechanism in 2 or more places (flammable/corrosive) • Self-releasing locking mechanism (oxidizing agents and organic peroxides) • Clearance from ignition/heat sources (flammable, oxidizing agents, organic peroxides) • Bunding • Ventilation • Other specific requirements 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Maximum volumes of chemicals in laboratory inventory has been checked (and recorded) against ChemAlert stock holdings in the past 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
There is bunding or spill trays for the storage of hazardous liquids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Spill kits are available and maintained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Refrigerators used to store flammable materials are intrinsically safe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Refrigerators are suitably labeled (e.g. no food, no drink, no flammables, biohazard).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Segregated waste disposable containers are available and labelled correctly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Carriers are available to transport Winchesters and residue containers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Signage is in place for the transport of dangerous goods in lifts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Materials that are subject to spontaneous combustion, such as oily rags and paint rags, placed in approved oily waste cans that are emptied daily.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 8 – Compressed Gases

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Compressed gas cylinder contents are appropriately identified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cylinders are secured appropriately by bracket or chain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All cylinders are at least 3m away from ignition sources, combustible material and are stored according to dangerous goods class with compatible gases.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Empty cylinders are separated from full cylinders and clearly labelled.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Appropriate resources (eg. cylinder trolley) are available for transporting gas cylinders.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The regulator is appropriate for the gas being used (e.g. stainless steel for corrosive gases, brass for non-corrosive gases).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Gas lines are labelled and free of leaks, kinks, signs of wear & tear.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Gas use is confined to areas with good local exhaust ventilation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cylinders, pipes and valves are protected from mechanical damage.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 9 – Cryogenics

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Dewars < 25 L have handles and loose fitting lids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Dewars > 25 L have wheels and pressure release valves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cryogen storage areas are appropriately ventilated.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 10 – Biosafety

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
There is appropriate Biosafety signage at the laboratory entrance and storage rooms/vessels (refer to Unit's risk group register).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All cultures or biohazardous materials are correctly labelled.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
A supply of disinfectant for decontamination purposes is available and is clearly labelled.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Diluted bleach is stored away from heat and is kept in light proof containers with the preparation date displayed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
A supply of hospital grade antiseptic for washing hands is available at laboratory exit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All keyboards have protective covers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 11 – Biosecurity

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
There is appropriate signage at the entrance to these areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All GMO and Quarantine samples labelled appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All samples are secondary contained (fridges and freezers count as secondary containment within a lab)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Security arrangements are in place and the area has restricted access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Procedures are in place for the transport of materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All surfaces (including furniture) within the laboratory are smooth, impermeable to water and resistant to any decontaminant materials.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
There are locks on fridges and freezers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
There are appropriate pest control procedures in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
There is negative air pressure in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All windows are sealed and there are no gaps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Procedures in place to account for all samples or materials including waste disposal procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 12 – PC2 Laboratories

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
There is appropriate PC2 signage at laboratory entrance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Biohazard stickers are posted on storage units for microorganisms or recombinant or manipulated DNA.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Containers for infectious materials are available and in use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Appropriate resources are available to transport microorganisms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Separate work and storage areas are provided within the laboratory for administration tasks and associated paperwork/reference material.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Protective covers are kept on keyboards which are housed on workbenches.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Windows are closed and sealed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Laboratory gowns are stored in manner that prevents cross-contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Biological safety cabinets are provided and are in working order.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Instructions for the safe removal of PPE and hand decontamination are visible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
A supply of clearly labelled disinfectants for decontamination purposes is available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 13 – Lasers

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
All warning symbols are fixed, legible and clearly visible on equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Correct warning labels are attached to the equipment according to the class of laser in use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Correct warning labels are attached to removable panels of laser equipment according to the class of laser being used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Guarding on lasers is effective and in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Safety interlocks are in place where panels of protective housings are intended to be removed or displaced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Wavelength-specific eye protection is readily available for laser operators.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Protective eyewear is clearly labelled to indicate laser class and wavelength.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 14 – Radiation

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Access to Designated Radiation Areas is limited only to authorised persons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Suitable radiation/contamination monitoring equipment is available and in working condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
X-ray and other radiation producing equipment is kept in a room solely dedicated to it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Ionising equipment is contained in appropriate enclosures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Enclosures have interlocks preventing users from being within the confines of the enclosure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Visible and audible signals are provided inside and outside enclosures to provide warning before and during irradiation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fail-safe mechanisms are provided to prevent generation of X-rays.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The radioisotope laboratory is placarded with the identification of the laboratory, main potential hazards, PPE to be worn, after hours contact name and phone number.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
The laboratory is secured against unauthorised access.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Radiation storage sites are lockable, secured and shielded as required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All work with radioactive material is segregated from other work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Spill trays and absorbent bench coverings are available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The counting apparatus is in a separate room.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
All containers are labelled appropriately.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The monitoring equipment has been calibrated and is in date.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 15 – Plant and Equipment

Select here if this section is not applicable

Criteria	✓	X	NA	Corrective Action	SafetyNet Ref. No.
Fume cupboards and biosafety cabinets have been tested and are in date and empty if no experiments are being conducted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Emergency stops are working.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Guarding on plant and equipment is in good condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Section 16 – Other Comments