

## MEMO

### Laboratory waste bins: Recommendations for solid contaminated waste

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## 1 Purpose

The purpose of this communication is to summarize the rules and recommendations regarding waste bins for solid contaminated waste: gloves, paper, plastic lab consumables, etc. (excluding glass and sharp/pointy objects) contaminated with one or more of the following GHS pictograms.



This communication applies to solid contaminated waste only; it does not apply to biological or radioactive waste. Waste contaminated with *nanomaterials* must be double packaged (in a bag or a plastic container).

Waste contaminated with an oxidizer must be collected separately in an UN-certified container (use the white plastic buckets).



## 2 Rules & requirements

There is no universal waste bin for EPFL laboratories. Each research unit can purchase a model of its choice outside of Catalyse **AS LONG AS** it fulfills the requirements listed below. To be used with the official EPFL bags for solid contaminated waste only. See sections 3 and 4 for examples.

1. Waste bins made of metal are highly recommended, especially for chemistry laboratories.
2. Plastic bins are allowed.
3. Bag holders are allowed.
4. Bins without lid OR a with a foot pedal opening lid.
5. Adapted to the size of the official EPFL waste bag for solid contaminated waste (90-110 L).

### 3 Examples and recommendations



Official EPFL waste bag for solid contaminated waste.

Note: these bags are gray in Lausanne and Neuchâtel, blue in Sion.



Metallic waste bin available at the Chemical stores on campus.



Metallic waste bin available through Catalyse (select Kaiser+Kraft catalog; ref# 521214).



Metallic waste bin without lid available through Catalyse (select Manutan catalog; ref# A497898).



Waste bag holder with a foot pedal opening lid available through Catalyse (select Manutan catalog; ref# A518379 ).

Ex: <https://www.manutan.ch/fr/fab/poubelle-anti-feu>.

#### 4 Examples of waste bins NOT recommended or NOT allowed.



These yellow plastic bins should only be used for glass waste and or sharp/ pointy waste.

**Note:** No needle, no scalpel blade.



These cardboard boxes are ONLY allowed for waste contaminated with genetically modified organisms. For BIO laboratories only.

**Note:** No glass, no needle, no scalpel blade.