

Special waste management - reminders and news

CFST - Laboratory Directive 2022



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CoSec Meeting

7 February 2023

Weight by waste category

120 tons / year

THANKS !



Reminders - Filling limits

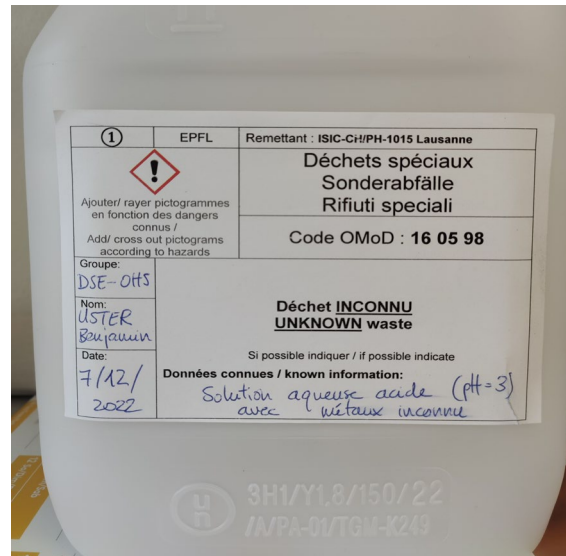
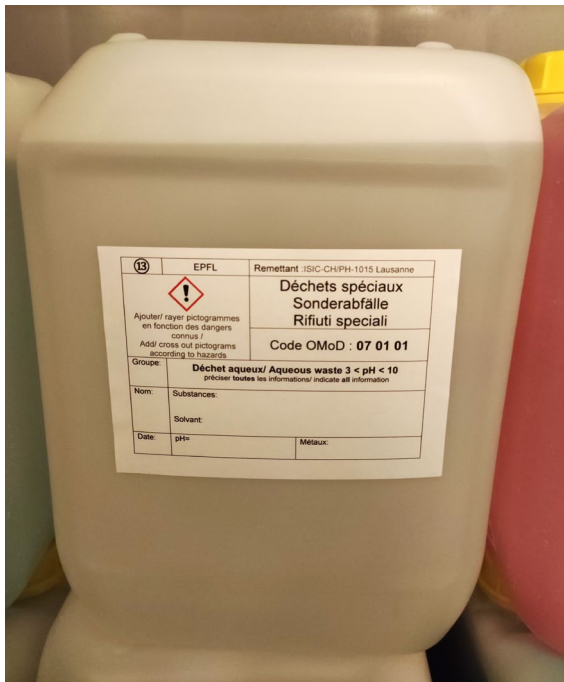


- ❖ Risks of overflow
- ❖ Risks of overpressure (explosion)



**STOP
80%**

Reminders - Labels



- ✓ Name, First name
- ✓ Date of creation
- ✓ Unit
- ✓ Content, pH, etc.

Reminders - Transport of chemicals (and waste)



Reminders - Storage in the laboratory



- ❖ Glass/food containers
- ❖ No label
- ❖ No retention tray
- ❖ Not in a ventiated zone



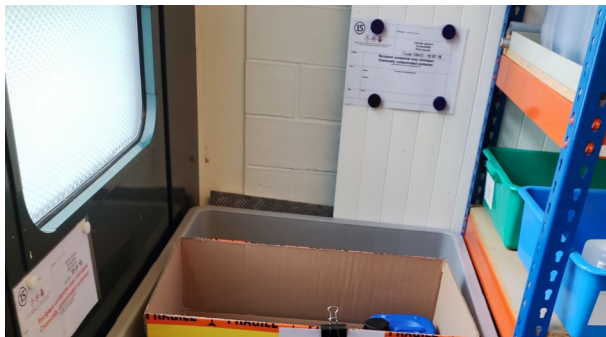
- ✓ HDPE containers
- ✓ Label
- ✓ Retention tray
- ✓ Ventilated zone (fume hood)

Reminders - Empty containers



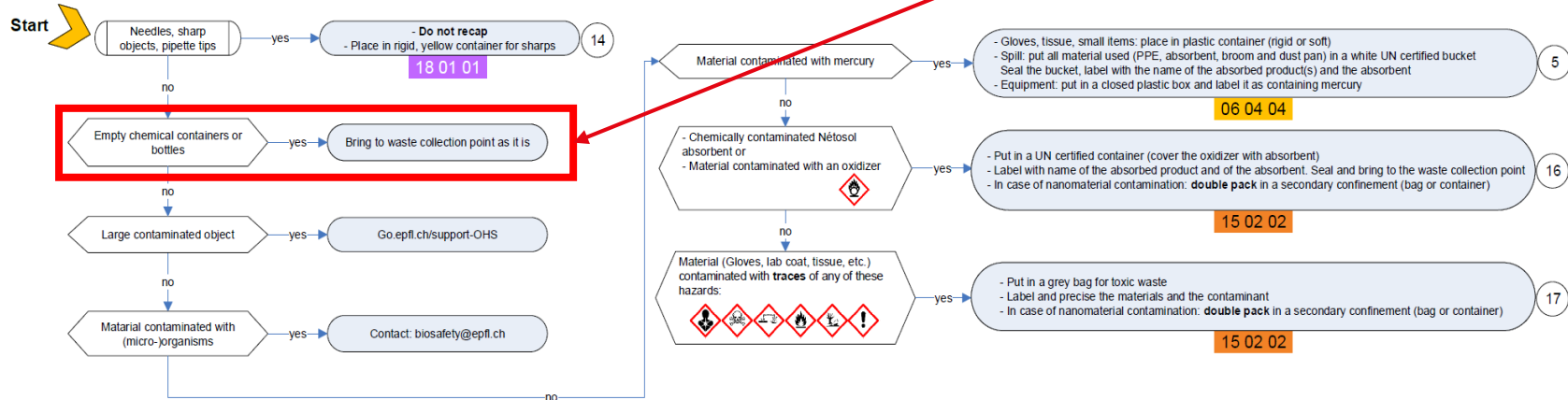
- Empty packaging - glass, plastic & metal
- With the cap in good condition ; rinsing not required
- Return to the waste collection point; Eurobox/plastic boxes
- **NO NEED TO LABEL !**

Reminders - Empty containers



15 01 10

Management of contaminated material: *All pointy/sharp objects must be placed in rigid yellow containers.*



Reminders - Contaminated material or solid objects

15 02 02



- Equipment, consumables, etc. contaminated with :



Objects, contaminated materials : “SOFT” objects only

White and red bags: pipette tips can be discarded if double-packed (SV faculty only, no OMoD code)

Reminders - Contaminated material or solid objects

15 02 02



➤ Equipment, consumables, etc. contaminated with :



OR with



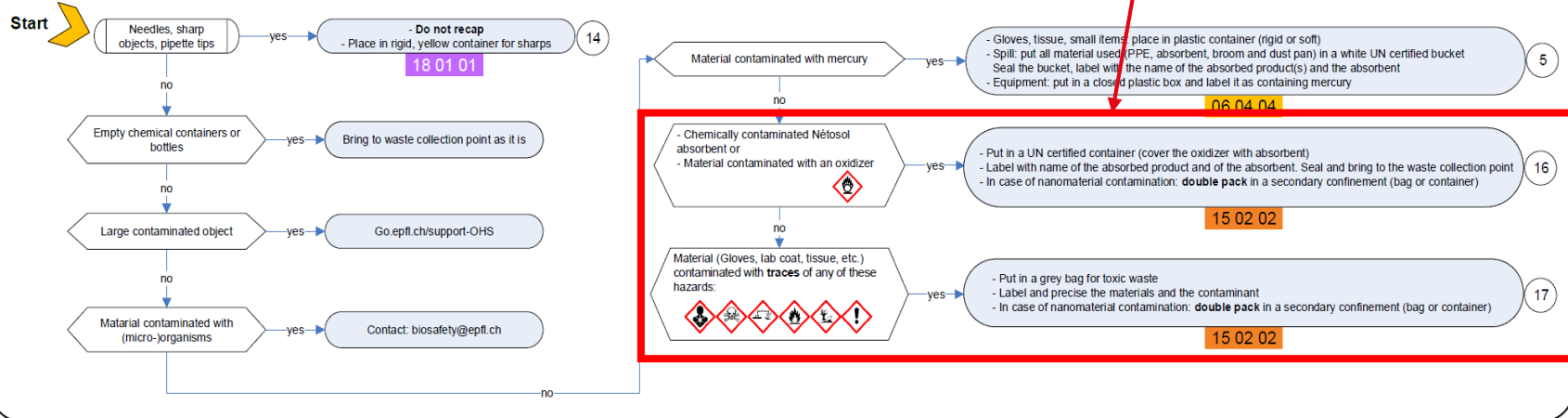
CAUTION: same OMoD code ≠ you can mix them

Reminders - Contaminated material or solid objects

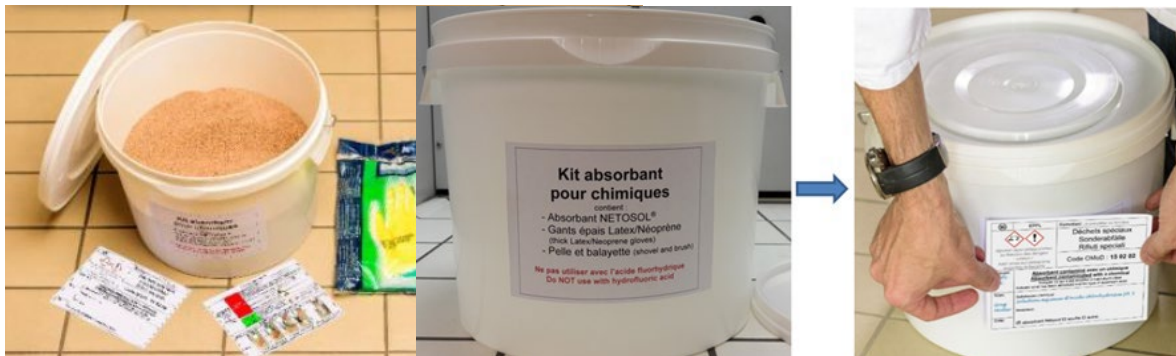


15 02 02

Management of contaminated material: **All pointy/sharp objects must be placed in rigid yellow containers.**

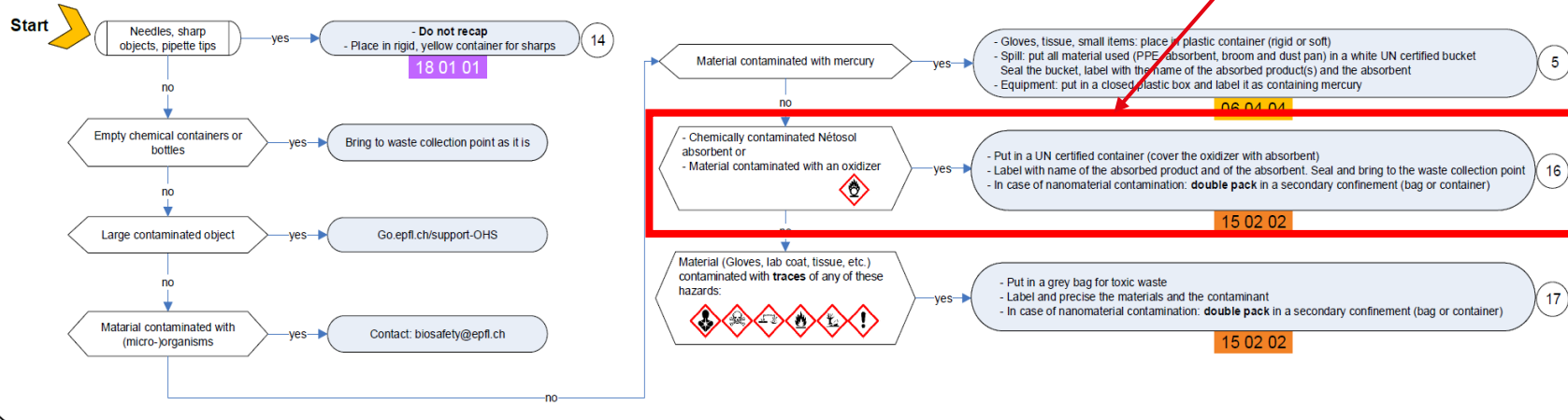


Reminders - Contaminated absorbent



15 02 02

Management of contaminated material: **All pointy/sharp objects must be placed in rigid yellow containers.**



Reminders - Contaminated material or solid objects



18 01 01

- Equipment, consumables, etc. contaminated with :



OR with



CAUTION: same OMoD code \neq you can mix them

Objects, contaminated materials: SHARP / POINTY (that can pierce plastic bags)

Reminders - Needles & scalpel blades



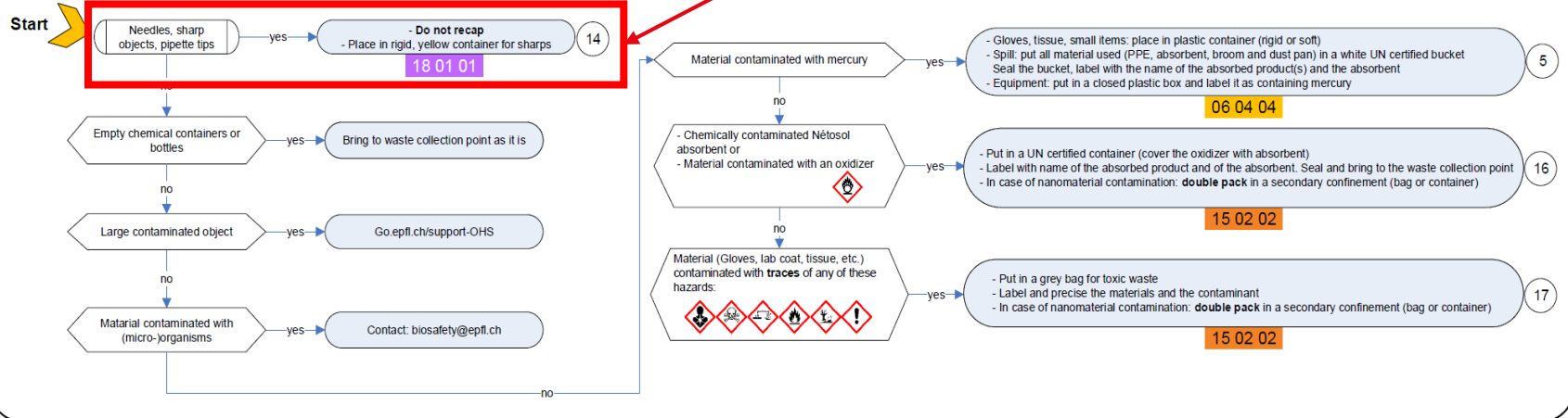
18 01 01

Reminders - Contaminated material or solid objects



18 01 01

Management of contaminated material: **All pointy/sharp objects must be placed in rigid yellow containers.**



Summary «Special Waste Management»

EPFL

Collection « What should I know? »

Management of special waste at EPFL



Do you know how to safely manage your waste?

EPFL VPO-SE OHS

Document available on the OHS website, [waste section](#).

- Version 1 released end of November 2022
- Version 2 available - small corrections

Waste

Laboratory work can lead to the production of hazardous/special waste. Responsible and sustainable research involves that waste and contaminated material are managed in an environmentally friendly manner. Special waste is collected and packaged according to the hazard types and mainly includes the following categories or combinations thereof:

- [chemical waste](#)
- [biological waste](#)
- [nanomaterial waste](#)

In Switzerland, **producers are responsible for their waste**. At EPFL, the **waste collection point** will only accept the waste if it is **stable, properly packaged and labelled** by the producer.

For more information on how to manage your special waste, take a look at our "What should I know?" booklet on waste management!

[Management of special waste](#)

Download

Reminders - Lab waste bins (for solid waste)




Reminders - Lab waste bins (for solid waste)



Please avoid !

Reminders - Lab waste bins (for solid waste)



Security, Safety and Facilities Operations
Occupational Health and Safety







MEMO


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

Version date	April 2022
Category	Waste bin
Keywords	Waste bin, solid contaminated waste, special waste

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).

■ VPO-SE OHS
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Health and
Safety

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1

Document available on the OHS website, [waste section](#)

1. Metallic waste bins are strongly recommended, especially for chemical laboratories.
2. Plastic waste bins are allowed.
3. Bag holders are allowed.
4. Waste bins without lids OR with a foot-operated lid.
5. Adapted to the size of the official EPFL waste bag for contaminated solid waste (90-110 L).

Reminders - Lab waste bins (for solid waste)

Various models available
Order online (Catalysis)

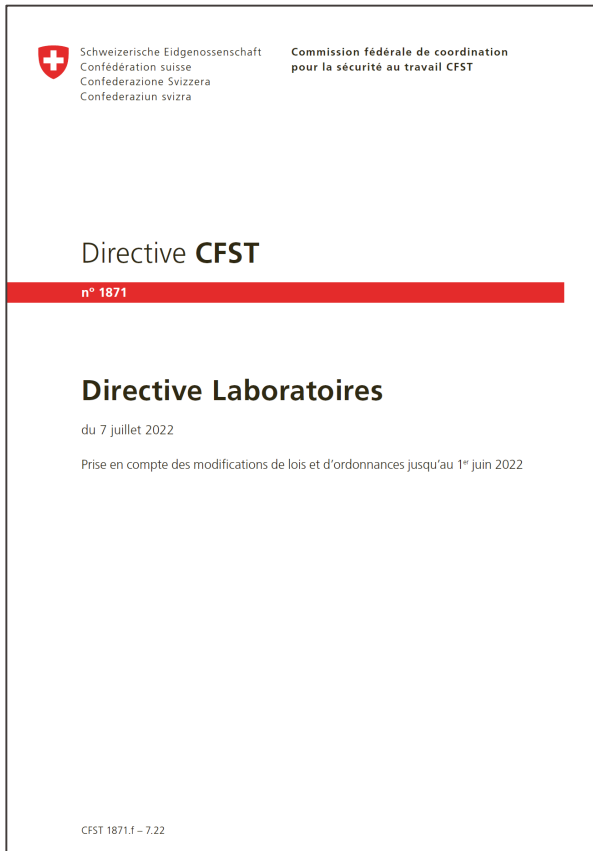


Waste bin for sharp objects
Tolerated



Waste bin for GMOs
Not allowed





The image shows the cover of a document from the Swiss Federal Commission for Safety at Work (CFST). At the top left is the Swiss cross logo. To its right, the text reads: 'Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft', 'Confédération suisse', 'Confederazione Svizzera', and 'Confederaziun svizra'. Further right, it says 'Commission fédérale de coordination pour la sécurité au travail CFST'. Below this, the title 'Directive CFST' is centered, followed by a red horizontal bar containing the number 'n° 1871'. Underneath the bar, the title 'Directive Laboratoires' is centered, followed by the date 'du 7 juillet 2022' and the note 'Prise en compte des modifications de lois et d'ordonnances jusqu'au 1^{er} juin 2022'. At the bottom left, the reference 'CFST 1871.1 – 7.22' is printed.

Commission Fédérale pour la Sécurité au Travail

Federal Commission for Safety at Work

July 2022

Chapter 6 ; 6.14

- Containers for “hazardous materials”
- Volume of waste containers
- New funnels for waste containers

Al. 3 In a laboratory, the **maximum volume of the container for flammable and health hazardous liquids** must **not exceed 3 liters for breakable containers** and **5 liters for unbreakable containers**.

- Breakable containers (= glass): currently delivered in 1L or 2.5L containers
- Unbreakable containers (= plastic or metal): currently delivered in 5L or 10L containers



- Al. 4 Electrically conductive containers must be used **from (\geq) 5 liters for flammable liquids (including waste)** that can form an explosive atmosphere.
- Electrically conductive containers are much more expensive (10x more on average).
 - By using **5L containers - filled at 80%** - we avoid using conductive containers.
 - We will **switch from 10L to 5L containers for all types of waste**, including non-flammable waste.

New funnels for 5 L containers



2 options:

1. New funnel (red neck) - purchased from Semadeni (via Chemistry or Catalysis stores)
2. In-house adapter made by ISIC mechanical workshop (via Chemistry stores)
 - 2 size available ! (bring your funnel to the shop to check the correct size).

Thanks !

Questions ?

<https://go.epfl.ch/support-ohs>

