

HS301 PCB Spill Response and Disposal Procedure

Policy Hierarchy link	Work Health and Safety Act 2011 Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 Work Health and Safety Policy
Responsible Officer	Director, UNSW Safety and Sustainability
Contact Officer	Manager, UNSW Health & Safety

Superseded Documents

3.2

3.3

2.4	Director, UNSW Safety and Sustainability	30 March 2016	30 March 2016			
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	3.1 Spill Response					

and operations where equipment containing PCB material is used commercial absorbent, kitty litter or a diatomaceous earth. Absorbent

- material is located in the main facilities store.

 o Non –porous surfaces should be cleaned with an organic solvent and the solvent collected and disposed of as PCB containing liquid. Kerosene is suggested as the organic solvent by ANZECC but care should be taken during its use and storage as it has a low flash point and thus will ignite readily if sources of heat or ignition are present.
- Using protective equipment as listed above, place absorbent in a strong sealed polythene bag (available from Facilities Store) which is then placed in a sound sealable metal drum and labelled as follows:

If a major spill occurs :

- Remove any person from the area likely to come into contact with the spill.
- Contact security on 56666 to coordinate the situation. They will alert trained emergency personnel to undertake the spill clean-up procedure
- If safe to do so (i.e. no risk of contact with the material) use any available absorbent to prevent PCB materials from entering storm-water drains, gullies, etc until security arrives.
- Follow the directions of security once they arrive.
- With a major spill there may be an inhalation risk and in such cases local exhaust ventilation may be necessary.

3.2 Disposal of PCB Waste

The table below outlines the procedure to be followed depending on the material containing the PCB.

Material	Methodology

	 No absorbent is to be washed, swept, or by any other means, placed into an area where it may enter the environment. All absorbent must be contained and disposed of as above. Ensure drum lid is secure on leaving. 	
Contaminated equipment	 Cleanse with an organic solvent (e.g. kerosene). The solvent waste is then disposed of as per oil above. 	Facilities to decide
Contaminated Clothing	 Remove without allowing contaminated side of clothing to come into contact with skin. Place in polyethylene bag then in 200 litre solids PCB drum. Ensure lid is secure on leaving. 	Facilities to decide
Transformers	 For small units (able to fit in one 200 litre drum), they may be disposed of as per damaged/undamaged capacitors above as applicable. Larger units should be left on site and the HS Unit contacted immediately to arrange for collection of equipment for removal by licenced EPA contractor. If unit is leaking, oil must be contained either in metal container for transport and disposal or with absorbent (follow procedures for oil or contaminated absorbent as applicable) 	Facilities to decide
Contractor Generated wastes	Must be taken off site and disposed of by contractor in accordance with all relevant legislation.	N/A

• All metal drums containing PCB contaminated waste, labelled as above, should be stored in the Facilities PCB collection point (to b

doing so are experienced in cleanup and control of PCBs and are competent to use the advised PPCE).

A quantity of an absorbent material shall be accessible nearby for use if a spill occurs.

Personal hygiene is very important after handling PCB's, even if gloves are worn, wash hands well before eating, drinking, smoking or usy imghe a11.3(g)-6.6(ho)2.6(l)2.6(le)

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