

Meeting date: 22 August 2022

Meeting place: 1590-213

Meeting subject: Work environment committee meeting

Attendees: Bjarke Rolighed Jeppesen (BRJ), John Lundsgaard Hansen (JLH), Jeppe Kristensen (JK), Ken Howard (KH), Morten Foss (MF), Dennis Wilkens Juhl (DWJ), Janni Nielsen (JN), Annette Wandahl (minute taker, (AW)), Thomas Vosegaard (chairman, TV), Lise Refstrup Linnebjerg Pedersen (deputy chairman, LRLP),

Regrets: Troels Skrydstrup (TS)

1. Approval of agenda
The agenda was approved without any comments.
2. Approval of minutes from last meeting on 23 May 2022
The minutes was approved without any commetns
3. APV follow-up
All the follow-up groups have arranged meetings and an invitation for a meeting on 7 september where the focus groups are to present what they have discussed and which actions they suggest be taken has been sent out. At the meeting an attempt at coordinating and prioritizing the suggested actions will also be made. The final deadline for submitting the APV action plan is end of October 2022, and we are on schedule for meeting this deadline for now.
4. Fire inspection on 20 June 2022
On 26 June there was a fire inspection by Østjyllands Brandvæsen. The fire brigade pointed out some issues that must be solved. MF went through the list of issues and how they have been attempted to be solved. Some of them were easily solved, others are more complicated, i.e. moving containers away from the building, ensuring proper set up of gas flasks, replacing missing or fading signs, etc. One of the more complicated issues is the missing permission for a gas cage, which is unfortunately still unsolved, and the deadline of 1 September is approaching rapidly. If not solved in time, a temporary solution will be implemented. Another outstanding issue is a description of how the fire brigade should enter GMO labs in case of a fire.

Dansk Brand- og Sikringsinstitut (DBI) will visit iNANO on 1 September 2022. However, they will not issue enforcement notices and will only visit to give us good advice on fire safety, etc. MF will ask them about a possible solution for the gas cage lacking a permit.

Lastly, it was mentioned that the cardboard storage in the hallway is not allowed and should be moved. The NAT TECH facility management are looking into solutions. A possible solution could be that the groups would have to take the cardboard outside every time they need to dispose of it.

5. Fire alarm on 3 July 2022

The fire alarm went off on Sunday 3 July and unfortunately the procedure of calling off the alarm and who should be contacted was unclear.

Ove Fjordside, manager of the facility management staff, has given this insight to the facility management's procedure: "When the facility management employees (Thomas and Erik) are not here, it is the Park Guard that operates the ABA facility and receives the Fire Brigade. This is also evident from the instructions placed by the ABA facility".

TV mentioned that it should be clear to all permanent staff what they are expected to do in case of a fire alarm outside normal operating hours.

It was, therefore, agreed that a five-point bullet list of what people should do in case of a fire alarm outside normal operational hours should be drawn up and communicated to the contact safety persons who should then mention it on the group meetings. MF will draw up such a list and BJR and JLH will make a small text about the clean room alarms to be included in the Securitas instructions guide.

Also, the committee agreed that in order to prevent people from entering the house and the labs before the ventilation has been fully restored following an alarm, Securitas should be asked to seal the front doors off with barrier tape.

The 30-minutes wait before entering the labs following an alarm as well as blocking the front doors with barrier tape should be practiced in connection with the upcoming evacuation drill.

6. Storage of gases and flammable liquids (incl. H₂)

Concerning the H₂ storage in the engineers' hallway in the basement MF has found a solution based on input from the contact person from Air Liquid and Peter Hald from Chemistry. He has calculated that it is unlikely that the concentration of H₂ would become critical in case of a spill. Also, he has agreed with the senior VIP in the charge that the main valve will be closed when H₂ is not being used and that no extra bottles of H₂ will be stored in the hallway.

Furthermore, DWJ has looked into the storage of liquids, and it seems that we may have a problem, as we are only allowed to storage 50 units including waste (one liter is a storage unit), which is a limit that is easily reached in the chemistry labs.

A solution could be that the groups will have go down with their chemical waste every day and not store a lot of extra bottles in the labs. This should also apply to the teaching lab used by BCE.

It was agreed that MF and JK should look into how this can be implemented and communicated to the contact safety persons. DWJ has also made a chart that the groups can use to easily calculate how much liquid they have in their lab. This chart will also be distributed.

7. Emergency phone call from the basement

Following concerns from various people about being trapped in the basement during a fire, MF has spoken to Bent Lorenzen who says that the problem is very difficult to solve as only expensive solutions exist. The department of Physics has the same problem as us, however, at Chemistry the basement is located a bit higher up so they do not have this issue.

The committee discussed various solutions including Wi-Fi extenders, land line emergency phones, etc. In the end it was agreed that MF should ask DBI about their thoughts and possible solutions to the problem.

8. Evacuation drill

The evacuation drill will take place on 13 September 2022 as previously suggested as there are no critical application deadlines on this day. The drill will be notified two weeks in advance to staff and students, and it will be held before noon to avoid people going home because they cannot work in the lab. The 1st year students will be present in the iNANO auditorium and it was decided to tell the lecturer about the drill in advance. Peter Hald will be presented with a smoke machine and the ventilation will be shut off. The NAT-TECH facility management staff will also be notified.

All committee members will have tasks to carry out in connection with the drill. The tasks will be communicated in an email and in Labbook. The members were encouraged not to put the specific time of the drill in their calendars to avoid staff and students guessing when exactly the drill will be carried out.

It was noted that iNANO does not have a sign at the gathering point as the departments of Physics and Chemistry have.

9. Revised checklist for SSV

MF and DWJ have revised the checklist for the safety service visits. Some points were redundant and other points have been sharpened. The checklist will be available on Labbook. Also, the committee discuss whether the checklist for the introduction of new group member should be mandatory for the groups to use or not. In the end the committee decided that it should be sent to the safety contact persons along with a strong recommendation to use it. The list will also be part of the safety service visits.

10. Accidents and near-accidents

LRLP briefed the committee about an accident where an employee got bacteria culture spurted in the eye and a near-accident where bacteria culture was spilled in the hallway including the actions that have been taken to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

11. Working with pathogenic bacteria

JN has found some safety slides on working with pathogenic bacteria on Cornell University's homepage. The safety guidelines were given to the group that experienced the accident and near-accident mentioned above and the group will implement these guidelines. The safety slides can also be used by groups that have not previously worked with pathogenic bacteria.

12. iNANO online safety quiz

It has been decided that Brightspace is the system that will be used for the quiz. A draft of the quiz has already been made, and JN and DWJ will go through it and then it will be tested prior to launch.

13. Next meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for 26 October at 14.15. It was suggested to put the topic of working with pathogenic bacteria on the agenda again. The committee members were encouraged to contact LRLP if they have input to agenda items.

14. AOB

LRLP mentioned that only three persons have registered for the first aid course scheduled on for 24 November 2022. The committee agreed that all the spots should be filled and that an additional reminder should be sent out.