**University of Würzburg**



Office of Occupational Health and Safety, Animal Welfare and Environmental Protection

# Safety Guidelines

**Laboratory Ovens**

Last update:

Workplace/activity:

|  |  |
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| **Scope** | |
|  | Safe drying of samples containing flammable solvents in laboratory ovens. |
| Safety, health, and environmental risks | |
|  | * Solvent vapour build-up, exposure above permissible exposure limit. * Formation of explosive vapour-air mixtures. * Fire hazard if solvent is heated to a temperature near its flash point. * Heat burns from hot oven chamber, walls, and door. |
| Safety practices | |
| L:\StabsstelleAU\Fischer\Ingrid\Betriebsanweisungen\Symbole\W02.WMF | * Always use vacuum or explosion-proof ovens. * Set temperature to below solvent’s flash point. * Inspect oven and, in particular, seals, hinges, and switches for signs of damage. |
| **What to do in the event of malfunction** | |
|  | * If you notice anything abnormal, turn off oven and notify supervisor. * In the event of fire, attempt to extinguish with C02 extinguisher but only if you can do so without putting yourself in danger. * In the event of a release of significant amounts of solvent vapours, alert others in the affected area, open windows where appropriate, ventilate room. |
| **What to do after an accident** | |
|  | * Move injured persons to a safe area and render first aid. * **Call 112 to alert emergency responders.** * Brief emergency responders. * Notify first aiders. |
| **Maintenance, waste disposal** | |
|  | * All replacement parts must be original manufacturer or equivalent to original manufacturer parts. Always follow manufacturer’s maintenance schedule. |

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Date Signature

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June 2021