• The Problem - Hood fan failure

• The Event - Delayed Evacuation

• The Procedure - Evacuate
Everyone in HMB affected
Only Two Exhaust Fans

• The chemical fume hoods and the first floor labs are serviced by 2 exhaust fans

• If either fan fails, the remaining fan is not able to service all hoods
Backflow = Bad

- In the worst case, the hood can backflow at 100 ft/min, the opposite of the required flow.

- The majority of hoods do not backflow.
Areas of Concern

- Former trouble areas were rooms 100 and 190HMB.

- Current trouble areas are 130, AA, B, C, D, 131, 133 (central labs)
Contaminated air flows up...
Lowest pressure point: 4th floor
The Procedure

• If the hood is obviously backflowing, evacuate the building.

• Pull Fire Alarm To Evacuate HMB.

• If you suspect hood is backflowing, investigate.
Hood Failure?

- Are the lab doors pressurized outward?
Hood Failure?

• Are the telltale strips weakly pointing inwards?
Is there a hood alarm activation?
Hood Failure?

- Is the Magnehelic gauge reading low?
Check Hood Function

- Close hood sash

- If hood is still in alarm or showing significant flow loss, there is a possibility of hood failure.
Check Other Hoods

• Check adjacent hoods or

• Check with your neighbor.
Hoods typically fail on the same side of building (West or East).
Hood Failed = Evacuate

• During regular business hours, contact the Department Safety Coordinator (DSC) in room 270HMB, 642-3827 or

• Contact the department front office. They are not technically trained and cannot determine safety hazard level. They are instructed to pull the fire alarm and call UCPD.
Evacuate

• After hours, pull the fire alarm
• HMB autodialer may be offline.
• Call UCPD at 2-6760 (510-642-6760)
Call UCPD

- You can use the emergency call box located outside Evans Hall.
Tell UCPD:

- The HMB fire alarms were activated
- There is no fire
- There is a possible chemical release
- Fume hood exhaust failure.
EH&S says:

- The building can be reoccupied 30 minutes after the fume hoods are restarted.
Other Good Reading at

http://mse.berkeley.edu/safety.php

• Building Emergency Plan (BEP) Training to be online soon.

• Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP)

• MSE Safety Committee Minutes