

Graphics Lab Case Study

BioPharmaceutical Research Institute, Cambridge, MA

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d e s i g n

The Challenge

Proper waste and sharps disposal is critical when handling biohazardous materials in laboratories. A preeminent global biopharmaceutical company needed a clear, consistent way to communicate vital instructions on biohazard disposal to people who worked in its labs at two different facilities. The solution had to be dynamic enough to get the message across but cost-effective as well, since the finished product would be used throughout the many labs in the two facilities.

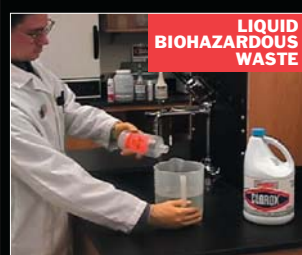
The Graphics Lab Solution

Working with the company's EH&S professionals, Graphics Lab designed a colorful, easy-to-read information sheet that segmented instructions for the disposal of the different types of biohazardous wastes the company's labs generate on a regular basis. The signs were laminated and distributed throughout the laboratory facilities to be used as a reference tool in the waste disposal process.

The Results

Waste and sharps disposal instructions are now prominently displayed in the company's labs. The message is consistent and clear. The number of dangerous incidents – particularly disposing of sharps improperly – has dropped since the signs have been in place.

LABORATORY BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE & SHARPS DISPOSAL



Treat with **1** part bleach for every **10** parts liquid, with minimum of **30** minutes contact time prior to sink disposal. Liquids such as...

- Blood and body fluids
- Cell culture fluids
- Liquids containing viable rDNA materials



Non-sharp biohazardous waste such as...

- Gloves
- Benchpaper
- Plastic petri plates
- Plastic tubes
- Disposable tyvek labcoats
- Disposable faceshields



Sharp (physically dangerous) waste, regardless of whether it is biohazardous, such as...

- Needles & syringes
- Pasteur pipettes
- Pipette tips
- Glass & plastic serological pipettes
- Glass slides
- Glass tubes
- Broken glass
- Glass bottles
- Razor blades
- Wire



Non-sharp, non-contaminated waste such as...

- Paper towels for handwashing
- Pipette wrappers (R)
- Packing slips (R)
- White & colored paper (R)
- Lab product catalogs (R)

R = Recyclable



For additional biowaste or sharps containers, or to report improper disposal so that the EHS technicians may be alerted, please contact EHS at xxx (Cambridge) or xxx (Andover).



No animal carcasses, radioactive or chemically-contaminated waste!! Please use blue recyclable trash bins for non-contaminated paper and cardboard.