

CHEM 04: Advanced Chemical Emergencies

Course Overview

This full-day training course takes a more in-depth look at planning for (and responding to) foreseeable chemical emergencies of different types than the standard chemical emergencies course with a view to helping spill responders (or those likely to be called upon to manage incidents) to develop their knowledge of safe response tactics. . Group discussions and practical exercises are used to help delegates understand how to manage chemical emergencies and deploy common response equipment safely and effectively. The course instructor (Dr Philip Rodger) is a former emergency responder with 15 years of experience in tackling hazardous chemical spills in a range of environments.

The course begins by looking at how to identify foreseeable emergencies and take steps to reduce the likelihood of an accident occurring using prior risk assessment and effective pre-planning. This includes understanding how to find an interpret chemical hazard information, develop an effective prevention and control strategy and effectively communicate this to staff and students. The course then moves on to cover the common types of chemical incident (and a few less common ones) using examples from across the University of Glasgow and beyond to help illustrate the hazards and consequences that can arise. We follow this up with a discussion of how to respond to chemical incidents both in the emergency phase and beyond introducing the idea of the “five phase” approach to incident management and how this can be safely applied in the University environment. The theoretical section of the course ends with a discussion of commonly used emergency response equipment including some short demonstrations of how to effectively and safely use it in a laboratory.

The course then continues with a series of practical spill control exercises which take place in a suitable laboratory environment. Here course delegates will have the opportunity to use the equipment themselves to tackle some simulated spills under the guidance of an experienced instructor.

Learning Outcomes

- How to plan ahead for emergencies and include this in a prior risk assessment
- Develop a prevention and control strategy for chemical emergencies
- How to identify and interpret chemical hazard information
- Recognise common incident types and the risks they pose
- Respond appropriately to unexpected adverse chemical reactions
- What actions should be taken immediately upon discovering an emergency
- Apply the five phase approach to chemical incident management
- Practical advice on tackling chemical spills and releases
- How to use the various different types of spill control equipment.

Who Should Attend?

This course is aimed at members of staff (academic or technical) who have the responsibility for responding to chemical incidents anywhere in the University. A certain level of chemical knowledge will be assumed but for the most part it is suitable for anyone working in a laboratory or workshop environment. No prior knowledge of responding to chemical spills will be assumed and it is not necessary to have attended CHEM04 Chemical Emergencies. Delegates may benefit from having attended the CoSHH and Chemical Safety training course.

To book your place, please send an e-mail to safety@glasgow.ac.uk including your name, school / department and staff number. If the upcoming dates aren't suitable you can ask to be put on the waiting list for future courses.

The course is supported with some simple, practical exercises so it is recommended that all delegates wear comfortable laboratory clothing including closed-toe footwear.