

## HF Spill Clean-up Procedure

### HF Spill Kit

- **Isolate spill area:** caution tape, signage
- **Neutralization, containment and absorption:** liquid or powder HF neutralizer
- **Personal protective equipment:** goggles, face shield, nitrile gloves, neoprene gloves (22 mil), shoe cover, acid resistant lab coat
- **Clean-up waste collection:** plastic tong/tweezers, small dust pan, wide-mouthed plastic container with lid
- **Verify complete neutralization:** pH strip, neutralizer with pH indicator
- HF spill clean-up procedure

1. Alert supervisor and personnel in the immediate area. If possible, ask a co-worker to bring the spill kit.
2. Put on face shield over safety goggles, 22 mil neoprene gloves over nitrile gloves and an acid resistant lab coat. If shoes are contaminated, replace with another pair and put on shoe covers.
3. Contain spill by spreading HF neutralizing powder outside spill area, working inwards. Alternatively, lightly spray with liquid HF neutralizer starting around the edges working inwards.
4. Isolate spill area by delineating with caution tape and posting signage "Danger: HF spill"
5. Allow sufficient contact time as recommended by the manufacturer.
6. Verify that neutralization is complete by using pH strips or observing the color change needed for the specific neutralizer used.
7. Collect HF clean-up waste and all materials used in the clean-up in a sealed plastic container. Label "HF clean-up waste" using official USC waste tag. Call EH&S at 77-5269 for waste pick-up.
8. Rinse off all PPEs used during clean up with copious amount of water.



### DON'Ts

- ⊗ **Never** mop any chemical spill.
- ⊗ **Never** pour HF down a drain.
- ⊗ **Never** wash clothing or other items that have come in direct contact with HF in a washing machine.
- ⊗ **Never** walk around if your shoes might be contaminated with HF.

### NOTES:

- ❖ Spill volume larger 200 ml of >20% HF should be referred to USCPD at 777-4215.
- ❖ Neutralization of spills in hard to reach spaces will need liquid HF neutralizer.