



Rutherford Laboratory

Technical Leaflet

E6

SAFETY SECTION

The section's main function is to promote a consciousness and interest in safety and accident prevention and to keep safety arrangements in the Laboratory under constant review.

Safety publicity is given by means of displays, films and lectures. Advice is given to scientists and engineers on the safety aspects in design, commissioning and use of experimental apparatus and installed plant in the Laboratory and formal recommendations and guidance appear in Safety Codes and Codes of Practice produced by the Section. The Section also provides the R.H.E.L. Safety Handbook which contains advice on all aspects of safety including mechanical, electrical, chemical, toxic, explosion and fire hazards.

All forms of lifting equipment and pressurised apparatus, some 2000 items, are registered and periodically examined to ensure their continued safety. High voltage experimental apparatus is also registered and advice given on safety, interlocks and "Permit to Work" systems. Safety Equipment, such as compressed air breathing apparatus, respirators, safety harness and lines is provided and maintained and training given in its use. Special footwear for flammable gas areas is also provided.

The Section is represented on the Laboratory Safety Committee, its Special Hazards section, Fire and Suggestions Awards Committees and is responsible for advising on the statutory requirements for safety and fire prevention, safe working conditions and means of access throughout the Laboratory.

The Laboratory has a low accident record, and all accidents and dangerous occurrences are fully investigated to prevent if possible their repetition and reduce still further the losses incurred by accident.

Close liaison is maintained with research laboratories both at home and abroad and with the A.E.R.E. Safety Group, Medical Division, Fire Brigade, the local fire authority, The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, The Fire Protection Association and with Her Majesty's Factories Inspectorate.