

February 26, 2015

To: Biosafety Permit holders, Laboratory Supervisors, Biosafety Committee, Associate Deans (Research) for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Science, Engineering and Kinesiology

This message is being sent on behalf of Andre Buret, Associate Vice-President (Research)

In April of last year, I wrote to you about the steps we were taking to integrate the Biosafety Permit system ([BioLogistix](#)) into the existing software suite, [Chematix](#). We initiated this project primarily in response to an increasing demand on institutions across the country to provide new, enhanced biosafety permit managing systems.

Given the continual growth in permit handling, I was very clear about my expectations for this initiative – implement a system positioned to enable us to meet both the regulatory needs of today and tomorrow while consuming the least amount of time possible for you, the research community.

I have heard from many of you that your permit renewal took under five minutes - this is a testament to the project team who worked close to 1,500 hours in an effort to protect research time. Overall, this was a significant investment made by the university and I'd like to share with you some of the project highlights:

- Rather than making each of you or your lab managers validate the data transfer, the University Biosafety Officer confirmed each line item on the permit on your behalf.
- Additional resources were allocated during the annual renewal process: e.g. the Chair and the University Biosafety Officer were fiercely committed to expeditiously reviewing and authorizing permits. Also, multiple drop-in sessions were offered at Main and Foothills Campuses for one-on-one assistance.
- Within the first two days of the renewal process, we revised the instructions after some users experienced a stall in progress. The change ensured that the vast majority of researchers benefitted from a smoother renewal process.
- We solicited ideas from the research community that were critical to our success e.g. providing researchers with easy access to Biosafety Permits and automatically forwarding them to Research Services Office.

Last, a word of thanks to the project team and research community for your commitment and cooperation.

If you have further comments, please contact me at aburet@ucalgary.ca

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