HAZARD ALERT

Subject: Flammable Storage Cabinet Shelf Instability
Incident Date: May 2018

Incident summary
Three incidents involving chemical spills were reported in the last twelve months involving flammable storage cabinet shelf instability. The reported incidents all involved problems with the shelf clips. Investigations to determine the root cause are ongoing and involve several university departments and an external vendor.

Injuries and equipment damage
The reported incidents involved chemical spills and led to product loss and equipment damage. No injuries were reported.

Required immediate corrective actions for lab/workshop occupants
1. Temporarily relocate flammable materials from the upper shelf of each flammable storage cabinet.
2. Inspect the placement and number of clips underneath the shelves to determine shelf stability (Fig. 1).
   a. If the shelf is stable, no further action is required. Resume use of shelf.
   b. If the shelf is unstable, use an alternate location to store materials until the issue is resolved. Do not use the shelf.

What are the next steps?
Once the investigation is complete, there will be further communication regarding corrective actions and laboratory visits. EHS will be in contact with further details as soon as they are available.

Got questions?
Send an email to ucsafety@ucalgary.ca

Fig. 1. Ideal placement and number of clips underneath the shelf (inset photo: shelf clip)