

## Mercury Spills

Estimated time to complete: 15 min.

### Course Description

Incidents involving mercury spills in schools are not as rare as you may think. They can also be dangerous. Mercury can be found in many places in a typical school building including thermostats, wall switches, fluorescent lights, and batteries. It's important for all school staff members to be aware of the dangers caused by mercury spills. The goal of this course is to increase the awareness of school staff members regarding mercury dangers in schools as well as to familiarize you with appropriate procedures in case of a mercury spill.

### Common Themes

- Understanding Basic Mercury Facts and Dangers
- Identifying Common Sources of Mercury in schools
- Safe Responses in the Event of a Mercury Spill

### Author

Kirt Poulsen is the Safety and Industrial Hygiene Manager, BSO/RO, at Utah State University and has significant experience as an expert trainer. His certifications include IAQ (Certified Indoor Environmentalist), CERT Trainer, EPA Asbestos Inspector, EPA Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor, MSHA surface and underground instructor, OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER, and more. His areas of expertise include Industrial Hygiene, Laboratory Safety and Emergency Response. He has also served as a Biological Safety Officer overseeing the biosafety and select agent programs.

### Training Environments

*SafeColleges* is ideal for a blended learning environment, complementing in-service or video training, or as a stand-alone training course. The *SafeColleges* approach engages the learner in an e-learning environment; while a Compliance Management System automatically tracks his/her progress through the courses. This assists the campus administrator or training coordinator in demonstrating compliance.

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