## Appendix Q: Glossary

Accident An unforeseen happening resulting in damage to people or

property.

Accuracy The ability of a measurement to match the actual value of the

quantity being measured; correctness.

Acid Compounds that readily donate a proton (hydrogen) to a chemical

reaction. Substances with a pH < 7.

Acute effects Effects of exposure to chemical hazards in high concentrations for

a short duration.

**Adulterant** A substance used to increase the mass of a controlled substance.

These substances produce a physiological effect on the body and are used to give the illusion that there is more controlled substance

present than is actually there.

Alkaloid A class of substances readily formed in the tissues of plants and the

bodies of animals, e.g., morphine and codeine are alkaloids of

opium.

Anion A negatively charged group of atoms. e.g., OH-.

Aqueous Made from, or by means of, water.

**Associative evidence** Evidence that establishes a relationship between two items.

Base Compounds that readily accept a proton (hydrogen) in a chemical

reaction.

Beyond a reasonable The proof of guilt required for conviction of a criminal defendant.

A reasonable doubt exists when a fact finder cannot say with moral certainty that a person is guilty, or a particular fact exists. It must be more than an imaginary doubt, and it is often defined judicially as such doubt that would cause a reasonable person to hesitate

before acting in a matter of importance.

Birefringence The resolution or splitting of a light wave into two unequally

reflected or transmitted waves by an optically anisotropic medium

such as calcite or quartz. Also called double refraction.

doubt

BLEVE Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion — A type of mechanical

explosion in which the pressure from the expanding vapors of a boiling liquid compromise the structural integrity of the container

of a closed system.

Boiling plateau The temperature a mixture of boiling liquids maintains until an

individual component has evaporated.

Boiling point The temperature at which a liquid changes into a vapor.

Burden of proof The responsibility of proving a disputed charge or allegation.

Carcinogen A chemical agent capable of causing the development of cancerous

cells.

Cation A positively charged group of atoms. e.g., NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>.

Chronic effects Effects of exposure to chemical hazards in low concentrations for

a long duration or extended period of time.

Class characteristic A feature of an item that is unique to a group of items.

Combustible liquid A compound with a flash point above 100°C.

reacting.

**Confined space** A space with limited entry or exit openings and unfavorable

ventilation that is not intended for continuous occupancy.

Confirmatory test A documentable examination that provides data considered specific

to the compound under examination.

Controlled substance Any substance, commonly drugs, that when possessed or used is

regulated.

Conversion process Changing a raw material into the finished product by making minor

changes in the molecule or its salt form.

Corrosive Chemicals that can cause visible damage to metals, plastics, or other

materials (especially your skin).

**Deductive reasoning** Using nonspecific details to infer a specific fact.

Deflagration An explosion with a reaction rate of less than 1000 m/sec.

Depressant A drug that reduces excitability and calms a person.

Detonation An explosion with a reaction rate of greater than 1000 m/sec.

Diluent An inert substance used to increase the mass of the controlled substance. These substances have no physiological effect on the

body and are used to give the illusion that there is more controlled

substance present than actually is present.

**Distillation** The separation of a liquid from a solid or other liquid using

evaporation followed by condensation.

**Drug** A substance other than food that is intended to affect the structure

or function of the body.

Embryonic toxin A chemical agent that can cause fetal death.

**Explosion** A rapid chemical change that produces a large amount of heat and

gas.

**Explosive chemicals** Compounds that undergo a rapid chemical change that releases a

large amount of heat and gas.

Explosives (27 CFR Any chemical compound, mixture, or device, the primary or

55.11) common purpose of which is to function by explosion. Extraction The act of separating a constituent from the whole.

**Extraction process** Removes raw material from a mixture without chemically changing

the material being extracted.

Flammable A compound with a flash point below 100°F.

Flash point The lowest temperature at which a source of ignition will ignite the

vapors above a flammable liquid.

Fourier transform A technique for expressing a waveform as a weighted sum of sines

and cosines.

Explosive/flammable

The atmosphere's fuel and air mixture range that will support limits combustion. The flammable range refers to an unconfined

atmosphere. The explosive range refers to a confined atmosphere.

Fireworks (27 CFR

55.11)

Any composition or device designed to produce a visual or an audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation and that

meets the definition of "consumer fireworks" or "display

fireworks."

Gas chromatography The use of gas flowing through a coated tube to separate

compounds by their sizes, weights, and chemical reactivities with

the column coating.

Gravimetric Using the ratio of pre- and postextraction weights to determine

quantitation concentration.

Hallucinogen A psychoactive drug that induces hallucinations or alters sensory

experiences.

A chemical reaction that adds hydrogen to a substance through the Hydrogenation

direct use of gaseous hydrogen.

Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health **IDLH** 

Incompatible Chemicals that when combined generate heat and cause a fire or chemicals

explosion, form a toxic gas or vapor, form a substance that is more toxic than the original compounds, disperse a toxic mist or dust, produce a violent chemical reaction, or produce any combination

thereof.

Individual A feature that is unique to a specific item.

characteristic

explosive/flammable

Inductive reasoning Using specific facts to infer a general conclusion.

Infrared spectroscopy The use of the absorption of infrared radiation to produce a

chemical fingerprint of a substance.

LD50 The concentration at which a substance will be lethal to 50% of the

test population. It is usually expressed as weight of substance per

weight of test subject (e.g., 5 mg/kg rat).

The minimum atmospheric concentration of a substance that will Lower

explode (confined space) or ignite (unconfined space).

limit Concentrations below this level are said to be fuel poor and will

not explode or ignite.

Visual examination, generally performed with the unaided eye, Macroscopic

examination used to identify class characteristics.

Manufacture (21 CFR "... the producing, preparing, propagating, compounding or

processing of a drug or other substance or the packaging or 1300.01) repackaging of such substance or labeling or relabeling of the

commercial container of such..."

Manufacturer (27 CFR Any person engaged in the manufacturing of explosive materials

for purposes of sale or distribution or for his own use. 55.11)

The use of molecular fragment (ion) patterns to produce a chemical Mass spectroscopy

fingerprint of a substance.

The temperature at which a solid changes into a liquid. Melting point Visual examination, performed utilizing some type of Microscopic magnification, used to identify individual characteristics. examination Mutagen

A chemical agent that can cause mutations at a greater frequency than normally expected. The mutation can be a result of alteration

of the genetic code. Many mutagens are carcinogens.

Narcotic An addictive substance that reduces pain, alters mood and behavior,

and usually induces sleep or stupor.

Organic The class of chemical compounds having a carbon basis;

hydrocarbons are organic compounds.

Oxidizer Compounds that provide oxygen to a reaction.

PEL Permissible Exposure Limit.

Poison A substance that in low concentrations will cause death or injury

upon ingestion.

Polymorphism Crystallization of a compound in at least two distinct forms. Precision The ability to achieve the same result; reproducibility. Precursor chemical A raw material that becomes a part of the finished product. The least demanding standard of proof and is used for most civil Preponderance of evidence

actions and some criminal defenses (as insanity). Clear and convincing proof is a more demanding standard of proof and is used in certain civil actions (as a civil fraud suit). Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is the most demanding standard and the one

that must be met for a criminal conviction.

**Pyrophoric** Chemicals that react with the air and may spontaneously ignite. Pyrotechnic A chemical mixture, that upon burning and without explosion, compositions (27 produces visible brilliant displays, bright lights, or sounds.

CFR 55.11)

Qualitative analysis Analytical technique used to determine the composition of a

substance or mixture.

Analytical technique used to determine the concentration of one Quantitative analysis

or more of the components of a mixture.

Racemic mixture A combination of the different types of stereoisomers of the same

compound.

Reagent chemical A chemical that reacts with one or more of the precursor chemicals

but does not become part of the finished product.

Reducer A compound that can remove oxygen from or add hydrogen to a

Reflux A controlled boiling process in which the evaporated liquid is

condensed and returned to the reaction mixture.

Relative retention time The ratio of the retention time of the substance of interest divided

by the retention time of an internal standard run on the same

instrument at the same time.

Retention time The time required for a substance to travel from the injection port

to the detector.

An examination that provides information concerning the class Screening

(preliminary) test characteristics of the substance under examination.

Solvent A chemical that is used to dissolve solid precursors or reagents, to dilute reaction mixtures, and to separate or purify other chemicals.

They do not react with precursor or reagent chemicals.

Stereoisomers Compounds with identical structural formulas with differences that

are in the way the molecule is arranged in space.

Stimulant A drug that produces a temporary increase of the functional activity

or efficiency of an organism or any of its parts.

Structural isomers Compounds that contain the same number and type of atoms but

differ in the order in which the atoms are arranged. The types of structural isomers include chain, positional, and functional

groups.

Synthesis process A chemical reaction or series of chemical reactions in which

molecules or parts of molecules are combined to create a new

molecule.

**Tableting process** The act of placing the finished product into dosage forms or into

smaller salable units for distribution.

**Teratogen** A chemical agent that produces a system malfunction, generally in

the form of nonlethal mutations or tumors.

Thin-layer The use of a solvent traveling through a porous medium to separate

**chromatography** compounds by their chemical reactivity with the solvent.

TLV Threshold Limit Value — .

Ultraviolet The use of the absorption of ultraviolet radiation to classify a

spectroscopy substance.

Upper The maximum atmospheric concentration of a substance that will

explosive/flammable explode (confined space) or ignite (unconfined space).

limit Concentrations above this level are said to be fuel rich and will

not explode or ignite.

Vapor density The ratio of the density of a gas or vapor to the density of ambient

air.

Water reactive Chemicals that hydrolyze with water forming flammable, corrosive,

or toxic products.