**EPOXY SAFETY GUIDE**

**Introduction**

This guide is provided in order for members of the AFSL laboratory to use epoxy in a safe environment with lowered risk of injury.

**Potential hazards**

* Inhalation – inhalation of epoxy fumes can cause irritation in the throat. Although inhalation is not toxic in most cases, the odor is strong which can lead to irritation
* Touch – if epoxy is left on skin, it can cause irritation, burns, skin lesions, and eczema. If the epoxy gets on skin, immediately wash the area with cold water and soap. Seek medical attention if any symptoms persist.
* Ingestion – although the amount of toxic ingredients in most epoxies is small, ingestion should be avoided as if can cause damage to internal organs.

**Avoiding Hazards**

In order to use epoxy safely, the following precautions should be taken:

* Wear gloves and clothing that covers the skin to avoid the epoxy coming in contact with the skin
* Wear eye protection
* Use epoxy in a well-ventilated area, and if possible outside
* Wash hands thoroughly after use