



**CONTAINMENT LABORATORY OPERATIONS:
FURTHER COMMENTS ON COMPETENCY
FROM OUTSIDE THE BOX**



Core Competencies for Facility Engineers and Maintenance Staff working in Biocontainment Laboratories



John R. Henneman, M.S., RBP
The Pennsylvania State University

Competency

- Difficult to gauge
- Difficult to measure
- What competencies are required for maintenance and engineering staff?



Competency

- Know the equipment
- Know how to maintain it
- Not that different from non-containment buildings



Competency

- Levels of responsibility
- Levels of decision making





Competency

- Documentation of training important
- Even experienced staff still require training



Core Competencies

- Facility Engineers
- Maintenance Staff



- We listed some of the most important competencies
- Turns out they are the same for both



Containment Lab Competencies

- Facility Engineers and Maintenance Staff
 - Years of experience
 - Training
 - Ability to work unsupervised
 - Education



Containment Lab Competencies

- Lab entry requirements
- Security and access control
- Contractor escort procedures
- How to enter the building
- Proper PPE for all tasks
- How to enter the containment area
- Restrictions when in laboratory



- Basic knowledge of organisms
- Ability to read and understand a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)
- To include signs and symptoms of exposure
- Knowledge of how facility works
- Clearance process for decontamination
- What not to touch
- Specific job tasks
- Operation of equipment
- Ergonomics



- Emergency response
- Spill response
- Universal precautions
- Signage
- Communication skills
- Ability to understand animal procedures
- Consequences of incorrect procedures for any given task
- Waste disposal procedures



Core Competencies for Facility Engineers and Maintenance Staff



Thank you!

