Acids That Deserve Special Attention

Description

Nitric acid is corrosive and its oxides are highly toxic. Because nitric acid is also an oxidizing agent, it may form flammable and explosive compounds with many materials (e.g., ethers, acetone and combustible materials).. Nitric acid should only be used in a fume hood and should be stored away from combustible materials.

Paper towels used to wipe up nitric acid spills may ignite spontaneously.

Perchloric acid may form unstable, and poten explosive compounds with many organic comp metals. Perchloric acid should be used with ex caution and only in a fume hood designed for Please contact EH&S prior to using perchloric fume hood. Perchloric acid container should b a glass tray that is deep enough to hold the co the bottle. Perchloric acid must be dated when into the lab and again when opened. It should disposed of one year from receipt or 6 months opening, whichever may come first.

Picric acid can form explosive compounds with many combustible materials, especially when dry. When the moisture content decreases to less than 10%, picric acid will become unstable and may explode from beingshaken, exposed to sudden changes of temperature, orfrom the friction created by opening the cap. Picric acidshould be dated, stored as a flammable solid and not keptfor extended periods.

Chromic acid and chromerge solutions– need handled with extreme care. If these are being cleaning solutions for glassware, it is recomme they be replaced by other non-chromic acid co such as “No-Chromix”. Their disposal is exper may be used with care if there are no other alt

Hydrofluoric acid (HF) is extremely corrosive and will weaken glass. All forms (dilute, concentrated, or va cause serious burns. Burns from HF may not be felt immediately, will potentially cause severe tissue necr slowly and can be very painful. Inhalation of HF mists or vapors can cause serious respiratory tract damag be fatal. Therefore, hydrofluoric acid should be used in a suitable fume hood with proper gloves, safety gla lab coat being worn. HF will damage glass so this compound may only be stored in compatible containers high or low-density polyethylene or Teflon.

For more information on Hydrofluoric Acid, please check our webpage here:
https://www.ehs.ufl.edu/departments/research-safety-services/chemical-and-lab-safety/hydrofluoric-acid/