

TOP NEWS



01

2016

***RECLASSIFICATION OF
FORMALDEHYDE –
WHAT YOU HAVE TO OBSERVE NOW!***

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Achtung !

Adresse der Pathologie:



Formalin 4%

Since the 1st of June 2015, formalin filled vessels are to be labeled with the new hazard symbols. Additionally, a safety data sheet is to be enclosed when providing formalin filled vessels to senders of tissue samples!

As a result of the reclassification of formaldehyde to carcinogenic (cancer-causing) and germ cell mutagenic by the European Union, **the MAK (maximum concentration value at the workplace) value for work involving formaldehyde 0,3 ml/m³ or 0,37 mg/m³ and the short-term value for short-term peak contamination of 0,74 mg/m³** are to be observed by everyone in Germany from the 1st of January 2016 onwards. Please inform yourself as soon as possible about the maximum concentration values in your country.

These values were published in the **German Technical Rule for Hazardous Substances (TRGS 900)** in March 2015.

Additionally, like the German Federal Association of Pathologists e.V. wrote to its members on the 17th of August: "... the mixture of a 4% formalin solution of 37% stock solution for independent purposes or the provision of such solutions to senders of tissue samples should be strongly avoided. It makes sense in this connection to convert to ready for use formalin solution for own purposes and to provide ready-made formalin filled vessels from qualified chemical producers to senders. These measures reduce the formalin concentration in laboratories due to the fact that the employees do not have any contact with 37% stock solution..."

Currently, it is still under discussion what kind of legal consequences the non-compliance with the maximum permitted values may have. Nevertheless, please contact as soon as possible the manufacturer of your exhaust systems in order to clarify what limits are being complied in your facility.



Since we have received various inquiries in this connection, we have particularly designed a brochure that provides you an overview about the different exhaust units to help you finding the suitable exhaust system for your laboratory.

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