

Chemical Safety Incident

A squirt bottle containing 1N hydrochloric acid cracked due to plastic degradation from long-term storage, causing a small spill.



Cause

Chemical storage containers age and deteriorate over time. Storing chemicals for extended periods increases the risk of material breakdown, cracking, leaks and spills.

How to Prevent

● Inspect Before Use

Check containers for cracks, brittleness, or discoloration before handling.

● Act on Risks

Dispose of compromised containers and outdated chemicals promptly.

● Manage Inventory Regularly

Review chemical stock and identify aging or unused materials.

● Important Notes

Decanted containers **must be compatible** with the chemical being stored and **must have proper WHMIS labels** if used beyond a single shift.

Other Related Incidents

Glyoxal Bottle Failure

An old glass bottle of Glyoxal broke in a fridge due to polymerization over time. The chemical had not been used in years and the container integrity was never reassessed.

Brittle Plastic Bottle

An aged plastic bottle became brittle and broke during routine handling, causing chemical exposure. The container showed visible signs of degradation that went unnoticed.

Proper Storage Protects Everyone

Questions?
Get in touch with us!



Health & Safety

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