



Biological Safety Cabinets: Selection, Installation and Field Certification

This information is provided by Biological Safety for assistance in compliance with federal regulations or standards, and in locating an appropriate vendor for these services.

Selection and Installation

Information on the selection, installation and use of Biological Safety Cabinets (BSCs or tissue culture hoods) is provided in the [NIH-CDC, Appendix A, Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories](#), in addition the applicable manufacturer's information. For questions about selection of the correct BSC for research, academic or clinical applications, consult with Biological Safety prior to purchase.

A link to a BSC Tutorial on the proper use of BSCs is included on the Biological Safety web page "Biosafety Training". It can only be accessed from on-campus IP addresses.

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/research/EHS/biosafety/Pages/Biosafety%20Training.aspx>

Field Certification

Per NIH and CDC, all BSCs are to be field certified to the current NSF/ANSI Standard 49, Annex F upon installation, and annually thereafter, and whenever they are moved or relocated. Environmental Health and Safety strongly recommends using vendor technicians who are accredited by NSF-49, and have been trained to perform field certifications to NSF/ANSI Standard 49, Annex F. The vendor must be able to provide documentation/verification of their technician's current NSF-49 accreditation.

The standard used to properly evaluate Class II biosafety cabinets, NSF/ANSI Standard 49 *Biosafety Cabinetry: Design, Construction, Performance, and Field Certification*, is designed to minimize hazards inherent in work with agents assigned to Biosafety Levels or Animal Biosafety Levels 1, 2, or 3 at this institution. It also defines the tests that cabinets must pass to meet this Standard.

Field Certification Performance reports must be forwarded to Environmental Health and Safety, Biological Safety at Mail Stop F484, or emailed to biosafety.program@ucdenver.edu

All BSCs in BSL3 or ABSL3 facilities will be field certified to meet the NSF/ANSI Standard 49, Annex F

Moving an Installed Biosafety Cabinet

Any time a BSC is moved, it must be certified according to applicable performance standards.

From NSF Standard 49, Appendix F:

“E.6.1 It is a common practice to move permanently installed BSCs to other locations within a laboratory or to other laboratories....there are certain conditions that must be met prior to moving this equipment. BSCs should not be moved without consultation with a biosafety officer or qualified safety professional.

“E.6.2 Existing BSCs and ancillary equipment, such as canopy connection exhaust ducting, gas, electric and vacuum connections, should be cleared for maintenance by a biosafety officer or qualified safety professional prior to disassembly. Depending on circumstances of the move, (i.e., cabinet use, new location, etc.), BSCs may be required to be decontaminated. After a BSC is moved, it should be certified according to applicable performance standards.”

Vendors

The following businesses provide the above services in the Denver metro area.

Below is the list of current (as of June, 2019) vendors approved to perform work on Biological Safety Cabinets on this campus. These vendors have provided the current certifications to meet national best practices and NSF standards.

Technical Safety Services (TSS)

Andrea Lauritzen

720-981-4965 | alauritzen@techsafety.com

Sercom

Serena Laubscher

970-482-8410 | info@sercom-usa.com

ENV Services

Caitlin Des Rosier

210-690-3368, ext. 1282

Cell: 210-279-8890 | cdesrosier@envservices.com

HSS

Stephanie Polk

303-603-3060 | stephanie.polk@hss-us.com

Current use of any vendor not listed above must be discontinued. However, other providers may contact [Biological Safety](#) to request approved status.