



SAFETY SHORT

What Every Researcher Should Know

ABOUT “TAX-FREE ETHANOL” USE

Each UAB department and laboratory that purchases “tax free” ethyl alcohol (200 or 190 proof) under the UAB Industrial Alcohol User Permit is required to comply with the federal regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 27, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. These regulations must be met if we are to maintain our permit for the purchase of ethyl alcohol void of federal and state taxes.

Authorized purchasers are subject to an audit at any time by officials of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) formerly the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) at any. Researchers and other users are urged to substitute reagent grade alcohol where possible to minimize the amount of recordkeeping and liability.

The following are requirements to purchase tax free alcohol under the current Industrial User Permit for UAB. If these requirements cannot be met we could lose our right to purchase “tax-free” ethanol in the future. Additional penalties and repayment of taxes may also be imposed on persons found in violation of existing regulations (CFR 27 Part 22.31-Persons Liable for the Tax)

- 1) The authorized purchaser or principal investigator must be identified along with the secure storage location. The secure storage location may be a lockable storage cabinet or room in a building and/or laboratory.
- 2) The alcohol when received must be secured in a locked cabinet and the amount recorded into an inventory log. The cabinet should remain locked except when removing an amount of alcohol from the inventory.
- 3) Each time alcohol is removed from inventory documentation in a log must identify the date and amount withdrawn, the person withdrawing the alcohol, the specific use for the alcohol and the remaining quantity in the inventory.
- 4) Maintain all records of purchase, receipt, use logs, or loss for a period of three (3) years. The inventory should be reconciled periodically, especially when new tax free alcohol is purchased and placed in inventory.
- 5) Tax free alcohol must not be removed from the premises or used for any other purpose at UAB other than; scientific research, educational purposes, analysis by pathology laboratories , blood banks or other medical laboratories, for medical purposes in hospitals or for prescription compounding.

Should you have any questions please review the Alcohol and Tobacco, Tax and Trade Bureau’s website at http://www.ttb.gov/industrial/taxfree_regs_laws.shtml or contact Occupational Health and Safety at 4-2487.