

LLNL Operating Experience

FIRST ALERT

CONTAINERS AT RISK OF RUPTURING

Event:

An old container of Sprayway 955 aerosol anti-static coating (static eliminator) catastrophically failed and dispersed a yellow liquid across the office it was in. There were no injuries. The container was properly disposed of and the office was cleaned to remove the dispersed contents.

Other containers have been located.



Figure 1 - Failed container.

What Have We Learned:

- The ruptured container is estimated to be 32-plus years old.
- 1,1,1-trichloroethane is a primary ingredient in the old formulation of this product.
- The current formulation of this product identifies ethyl alcohol and 1,1-difluoroethane as ingredients.
- Sprayway 955 static eliminator is used in many locations at LLNL.
- On-label uses include:
 - counteracting static electricity charges that attract dust, cause material misfeeds, or shock equipment operators.
 - preventing damage to computer memory.



Figure 2 - Current formulation's packaging.

Important Points:

- Sprayway 955 formulations that do not identify ethyl alcohol and 1,1-difluoroethane as ingredients likely are expired. To avoid the risk of additional ruptures, promptly contact your RHWM Field Technician or your ES&H Team to coordinate proper disposal.
- In general, aging or damaged containers, especially those that are pressurized, should be evaluated for need and disposal per ES&H requirements.

LLNL-POST-656012