

## Applying a control-focused risk management toolkit for chemical exposures

### CHAS 2

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Controlling occupational chemical exposures traditionally involves exposure assessment to ensure compliance with occupational exposure limits (OELs). While effective, this approach can be resource intensive (requiring sampling equipment and media, analysis, and technical expertise), and is reliant upon availability of appropriate science-based OELs. For many processes in laboratories and other workplaces, controls have documented effectiveness for maintaining airborne chemical concentrations within a certain range or band, and can be applied to different chemicals with similar hazard characteristics. This control-focused strategy, known as control banding, is a qualitative risk assessment and management tool receiving growing attention from occupational safety and health professionals. Current control banding research will be presented, including examples of hazard control guidance, demonstration projects, and communication forums exploring the utility of this approach. The origins of control banding and factors influencing its evolution, such as the global harmonization system for classification and labeling of chemicals, will also be described.

[Do You Know What You're Breathing? Exposure Assessment Strategies in Research Labs](#)

1:30 PM-2:55 PM, Sunday, 26 March 2006 Georgia World Congress Center -- C213, Oral

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