



SAFETY SHEET

Fractional distillation

Substance	Hazard	Comment
Universal Indicator Solution	 	H226 Flammable liquid and vapour H315 + H320 Causes skin and eye irritation H335 May cause respiratory irritation P261 Avoid breathing dust /fume /gas /mist /vapours /spray P305+P351+P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

Typical control measures to reduce risk

- Leave plenty of time for equipment to cool before packing away. Be aware sugars in conical flasks can remain hot for a long time.
- Operate under school procedures for Bunsen burners and heating. Make sure students stand for the duration of the experiment.
- Students may feel this experiment is less “serious” due to the use of food grade drinks. Impress on them the lab rules and that these still apply.

Assessing the risks

- What are the details of the activity to be undertaken? What are the hazards?
- What is the chance of something going wrong?
Eg, Is there the possibility of theft or foolish behaviour?
- How serious would it be if something did go wrong?
- How can the risk(s) be controlled for this activity?
Eg, Can it be done safely? Does the procedure need to be altered? Should goggles or safety spectacles be worn?

Emergency Action

- **In the eye** Flood with gently running tap water for 10 minutes. See a doctor.
- **Burns** Run burn under cool water for at least 10 minutes or until the pain is reduced. If serious, call 999 or 112 for medical assistance.