# Laboratory Renovation Project Expecting the Unexpected



# **Key Elements to a Successful Laboratory Renovation**

- 1.) Get Involved in the Planning Stage
- 2.) Do your Homework Upfront on History of Lab Activities
- 3.) Identify the Use of the Newly Renovated Space 1+2+3=
- 4.) Completed Project on Time, Under Budget and Free of Any Hazards



#### **Definitions**

- Decommissioning those processes necessary to ensure a facility meets all applicable Environmental Health & Safety requirements (as specifically established by Agency policy or Federal, State or local law).
- <u>▶ Decontamination</u> the process to reduce risk from "known" hazardous substances to an acceptable level.



## **Key Decisions**

- What's staying and What's Going?
  - Complete Gut Renovation
  - Remodeling of Space
- Limitation of Decontamination Methods
  - Sink Traps (flush or remove)
  - Fume Hoods (test and surface wipe or total removal)



## **Key Decisions (continued)**

- → How Clean is Clean? (Internal, Agency or Regulatory Driven)
  - General Cleaning
  - ANSI Standards
  - OSHA Demolition Standard
  - Brookhaven National Laboratory BMP's

#### Site Logistics and Planning

- Access to Space and Utilities
- Night or Weekend Project
- Lead Time versus Completion Time
- Future Use of Space



#### **Common Areas of Concern**

- What is on the Laboratory Work Surfaces?
- What is in the Drains?
- What is in the Local Exhaust Ventilation?



#### Confirmation

#### ■ Confirmation Methods

- Visual Inspection
- Field Screening
- Wipe Sampling

#### Documentation

- Summary of Activities
- Certified Analytical
- C.I.H. Verification / Report



#### Other Areas of Concern

- WWT Tanks/Systems
  - Proper Closure of Permitted Systems
- Fluorescent Bulbs and Ballasts
- → Transformers
- PCB Caulking
- Asbestos / Lead
- **≥** Mold



# **Lessons Learned - flexibility**

- Initial Facility Assessment <u>should</u> be performed for all projects
- Need for additional steps depends on results of the Initial Facility Assessment
- Contamination assessment and remediation phases may be separate or concurrent with other construction activities
- Combining decontamination with demolition of laboratories may be more efficient than attempting to delineate and treat specific surfaces or features only to find "hidden" sources

