During chemical transport there is a higher likelihood of a chemical spill or leak. Here are eight tips for better chemical transport.

**KNOW THE CHEMICALS YOU ARE TRANSPORTING**
- Read the safety data sheet (SDS) to make sure that you understand the chemical hazards.
- Don’t transport incompatible chemicals together.
- Be prepared to manage a spill – carry the relevant spill response materials.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) – refer to the SDS.

**CHECK THE PACKAGING**
- Look for any signs of leakage before handling the package.
- Check that the container is sealed and in good condition - don’t transport the chemical is the packaging if damaged.
- Make sure the packages are labelled.

**USE SECONDARY CONTAINMENT**
- Use secondary containment when moving chemicals outside of the immediate work area, especially if moving a large volume of a liquid and/or the primary container is made of glass.
- Ensure the secondary containment is able to hold the contents of the largest individual chemical container.

**SECURE THE CHEMICAL**
- Firmly hold containers - ensure that your gloves are not wet.
- Do not hold larger acid or solvent containers by the neck alone - use two hands with one on the neck and the other supporting the container from underneath. Use a bottle carrier for transport outside of the immediate work area.
- Use a gas cylinder trolley to move gas cylinders – remember to always secure the cylinder to the trolley.
- Do not leave chemicals unattended during transport.

**BEWARE OF CONFINED SPACES**
- Never travel in a lift with a cryogenic liquid Dewar - a lift is considered to be a confined space with limited ventilation.
- Transporting chemicals by vehicle?
  - Do not use private vehicles or carry chemicals on public transport.
  - Use a vehicle with a separate cargo compartment - chemicals can give off vapours and fumes which may affect the driver and passengers. A spill in a moving vehicle can be extremely dangerous.
PLAN YOUR TRIP

- **Choose the route** to minimise distance and travel time.
- **Choose a time** to minimise interaction with the public i.e. definitely not when lectures start/finish.

TRANSPORT BY AIR, ROAD OR RAIL

- There are strict requirements in regards to the transport of dangerous goods by air, road or rail.
- Dangerous goods must be packed, labelled, documented and transported by road or rail in accordance the NSW Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Regulations. Refer to [EPA NSW](#) website.
- [IATA (International Air Transport Association)](#) and [CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority)](#) regulate similar requirements with the transport of dangerous goods by air.
- Be sure to discuss requirements with your supervisor or Safety Health and Wellbeing. It is also encouraged to contact commercial companies to package, document and dangerous goods by air, road or rail.

UPDATE YOUR CHEMICAL REGISTER

If a chemical has been permanently transferred to another location don't forget to **update your chemical register**.