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SAFETY ALERT

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PARTICULATE EMISSIONS FROM LASER PRINTERS

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Recent newspaper articles have raised concerns that under certain conditions some laser printers emit fine toner particulates into the air during the printing process. The following laser printers were identified in newspaper articles as those that emit higher levels of toner particulates:

HP Color LaserJet 4650dn
HP Color LaserJet 8550n
HP LaserJet 2420dn
HP LaserJet 4250n
HP LaserJet 8000dn
Toshiba Studio 450

HP Color LaserJet 5550dtn
HP LaserJet 1320n
HP LaserJet 4200dtn
HP LaserJet 5
HP LaserJet 8150n

Current studies have not identified any known health effects from inhaling toner particulate; however, research in this area continues. Pending further evaluation, we recommend the following actions if you have one of the printers listed above:

1. Relocate sensitive persons away from the printer.
2. Relocate the printer to a separate room or less occupied area.
3. Replace the laser printer with a different model or an inkjet printer.
4. If the printer is located on an employee's desk use a network printer located in another area.

Contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) at (213) 241-3199 if you have additional concerns regarding your laser printer.

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