LLE Policy requires that all laboratory personnel employ the "Buddy System" whenever using potentially hazardous equipment or processes, e.g.,

- compressed gas systems,
- Class-3B or Class-4 lasers,
- machinery, or
- chemicals (other than cleaning an optic with alcohol wipe),

or in a potentially hazardous environment, e.g.,

- laser bay,
- target bay, or
- machine shop.

Limited exceptions will be permitted and require prior written authorization from the supervisor and appropriate Division Director.

Buddies are responsible for:

- remaining in the same area or in continuous communication (brief lapses, < 15 minutes, are permitted only if the activities underway pose minimal risk)
- verifying proper Personal Protective Equipment is used
- monitoring each others activities

Supervisors are responsible for knowing:

- when their staff are working off-hours,
- the nature of the activities being performed, and
- that the "Buddy System" is adhered to.