

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS CHECKLIST

Putting the lid on flames.

Flammable liquids, such as gasoline and paint, pose serious risk to your business. The vapor they give off forms an ignitable mixture with the air at low temperatures (below 100 degrees Fahrenheit). If flammable liquids are not properly stored, a nearby spark can set off a major explosion. That's why proper storage, along with other safety precautions, is essential to keep your work site safe.

Preventing accidents can be easy

Many fires can be prevented by properly storing flammable liquids. Here are some simple guidelines:

1. Use a special flammable storage room to store large amounts of flammable liquids.
2. Only allow one day or one shift's supply of flammable liquids to be kept near an industrial operation.
3. Clearly label flammable liquid containers. A red diamond with black lettering designates flammables.
4. Never store flammables in an open container.
5. Store liquid-soaked rags in a metal container with a closefitting lid.

The key is to control ignition sources around flammable liquids. Never allow smoking or the use of standard electric power tools near dangerous liquids. Nonsparking tools as well as explosion-proof electrical equipment may be necessary additions at your work site.

Checklist

1. Is a no-smoking policy strictly enforced around flammable liquids?
2. Are all flammable liquids stored in a self-closing safety can with a spark arrestor in the pouring spout?
3. Are self-closing valves used when dispensing flammable liquids to portable containers?
4. Are all bulk containers grounded and bonded during dispensing operations?
5. Are flammable liquid spills immediately cleaned up?

Remember, even a static spark can ignite some flammable liquids.

Thought Provokers

1. What flammable liquids can be found in our workplace?
2. What safety precautions do we already take when working with flammable liquids? What safety precautions do we need to start taking?
3. Are there any specific points or problems you wish to discuss?