

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

SAFETY TALK

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Flammable liquids, such as gasoline and paint, pose serious risks, giving off vapors that can form an ignitable mixture with air 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 and other safety precautions are essential.

SAFE STORAGE

1. Use a special 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 tight 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. Work sites may need to add non-sparking tools and explosion-proof electrical equipment.

CHECKLIST

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

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

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

ACCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE. LEARN MORE AT GRINNELLMUTUAL.COM.

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