



# Storage of Flammables

Flammable products, such as acetone, lacquer thinners, gasoline and alcohol, can fuel deadly fires and explosions. Proper use and storage will greatly reduce the chances of injury and property loss. This is an opportunity for you to have a direct impact on our safety record. Any time you work with or even near flammables, think about three things. Containers: what are the materials stored in? Location: where are they stored or used? And environment: what are the conditions like where the flammables are being stored or used?

**Containers:** Store flammable products in their original containers or in containers approved for flammable liquids. Never use glass jars or unapproved plastic jugs. Any container should be designed to properly handle vapor from the liquid inside. This usually means some type of vent which will automatically relieve excess pressure inside the container.

**Location:** Flammable or combustible liquids shall not be stored in areas used for exits, stairways or space normally used for the safe passage of people. No more than 25 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids can be stored in a room without a cabinet. Flammables should be stored out of direct sunlight whenever possible and away from heat sources. Never store gasoline in your car trunk.

**Environment:** Keep flammable liquids and vapors away from sources of ignition such as welding operations, open flames, pilot lights and motors. Remember that many containers automatically release vapors when pressure builds up. These vapors also present fire and explosion hazards. Work with flammable products outside or in well-ventilated areas to avoid high concentrations of vapors.

Flammable gases and vapors pose an additional challenge: they are usually invisible. Many fuel gases are heavier than air; that means that they will sink and can pool or collect in low spots and enclosed areas. Think twice when you enter a lower level, pit, stairwell, etc. at the beginning of a shift or even after lunch. Have flammable gases been used in the area? Could there be a pocket of gas waiting to be ignited?

Additional information and specific storage requirements can be found in OSHA standard 1926.152.

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**SAFETY REMINDER**  
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**If a flammable material or any chemical is ever swallowed, locate the label and/or the SDS, call 911 and the Poison Control Center.**

**NOTES:**

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

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S.A.F.E. CARDS\* PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

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REVIEWED SDS #

SUBJECT:

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**MEETING DOCUMENTATION:**

JOB NAME:

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MEETING DATE:

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SUPERVISOR:

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ATTENDEES:

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*These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.*