

Flammable Storage



Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the Occupational Safety web page.

General Information

Flammable liquids are commonly found in shops or labs across campus. They are a necessity for many functions, but also come with potentially unrealized risks.



Precautions

- Flammable storage containers should be kept closed, labeled, and in good condition.
- Flammable liquids should only be used in well-ventilated areas.
- Do not store flammable liquids near an ignition or heat source.
- Ensure equipment and objects are grounded prior to using flammable liquids, including static electricity on yourself.

Storage Requirements

- If there are more than 10 gallons present, they need to be stored in an NFPA-approved flammable storage cabinet.
- Flammable liquids cannot be stored in a typical refrigerator.
 - If cool/cold storage is required, an explosion proof refrigerator/freezer should be used and labeled as such.
- Up to 5 gallons of flammable liquid can be stored in approved safety cans meeting the following requirements:
 - Constructed of steel
 - Contain spring-loaded caps
 - Equipped with a metal surface flame arresting screen
 - Received no modification from manufacturer's design

Resources

- EH&S Chemical Storage Guidelines
- EH&S Flammable Liquids

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