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Storage Cabinets for Flammable & Combustible Liquids

Flammable liquid fires start small, but burn with great intensity and are difficult to extinguish. Fires of this type can be avoided by storing flammable liquids that are not in use, in ULC listed storage cabinets.

Advantages:

Storage Cabinets for flammable liquid containers serve a number of important functions:

- Prevent excessive internal temperature in the presence of a fire.
- Contain spilled flammable liquids to prevent the spread of a fire.
- Protect flammable liquids against fires.
- Permit the storage of flammable liquids near points of operation.

Capacity of Storage:

A small amount of flammable/combustible liquids needed to supply an incidental operation for one continuous 24-hour period can be stored outside of a storage cabinet, an inside-storage room, or a cut-off room, however this amount, is limited to the sum of the following:

- 1) 95 L (25 gal) of Class IA liquids in containers
- 2) 454 L (120 gal) of Class IB, Class IC, Class II, or Class III liquids in containers
- 3) 2 portable tanks each not exceeding 2498 L (660 gal) of Class IB, Class IC, Class II, or Class IIIA liquids
- 4) 20 portable tanks each not exceeding 2498 L (660 gal) of Class IIIB liquids

When these quantities are exceeded a storage cabinet is required. Storage cabinets should not contain more than 60 gallons of flammable liquids or 120 gallons combined flammable and

combustible liquids. A separate storage room is required when the quantities exceed an amount considered incidental to the daily operations and exceed the quantities permitted in safety containers and storage cabinets.

In addition, the number of storage cabinets located in any fire area cannot exceed three. A fire area is an area within a building that is separated from the rest of the building and is constructed with a fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour. All openings to the fire area are also protected with assemblies having a fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour.

Ventilation:

It is not recommended to vent storage cabinets. However, it is recognized that some jurisdictions can require storage cabinets to be vented and that venting can also be desirable for other reasons, such as health and safety. In such cases, the venting system should be installed so that it does not substantially affect the desired performance of the cabinet during a fire. If not vented, vent openings must be sealed with the bungs supplied with the cabinet or with bungs specified by the cabinet manufacturer.



Knowing your business matters.

**Good Practices for Storing
Flammable/Combustible Liquids in Cabinets**

- Containers stored in the cabinet must be closed and well-sealed;
- Do not exceed the permissible storage capacity for the flammable storage cabinet or for the fire compartment in which the cabinet(s) is/are located;
- Do not store flammable and combustible materials with non-compatible materials;
- Always purchase and store the smallest quantity of flammable liquid necessary for the work to be done;
- Do not store cabinets near exits.

Partners In Prevention

At Federated Insurance, we believe Loss Prevention is a critical component of your Risk Management Program. Your Risk Services Coordinator, together with our Loss Prevention Team, is available to assist you in developing security measures appropriate for your business. Working together to reduce your loss exposures protects your bottom line!

For more information, contact your Risk Services Coordinator, our Loss Prevention Department at 1-800-665-1934, or visit our website at www.federated.ca

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