

FAST+TALK™

Flammable Liquids OSHA 1910.106

Don't get burned by what you can't see...

Flammable liquids can be found in almost every area of the work place. Invisible vapors released from these volatile liquids are what create fire & explosion hazards. Even in small amounts, these liquids can create an ignitable atmosphere with the right vapor and air mixture.

Flammable Liquids

Gasoline
Kerosene
Solvents
Strippers
Alcohol
Benzene



Sources of Ignition

Open Flames
Smoking
Static Electricity
Cutting & Welding
Hot Surfaces
Lightning
Electrical & Mechanical Sparks

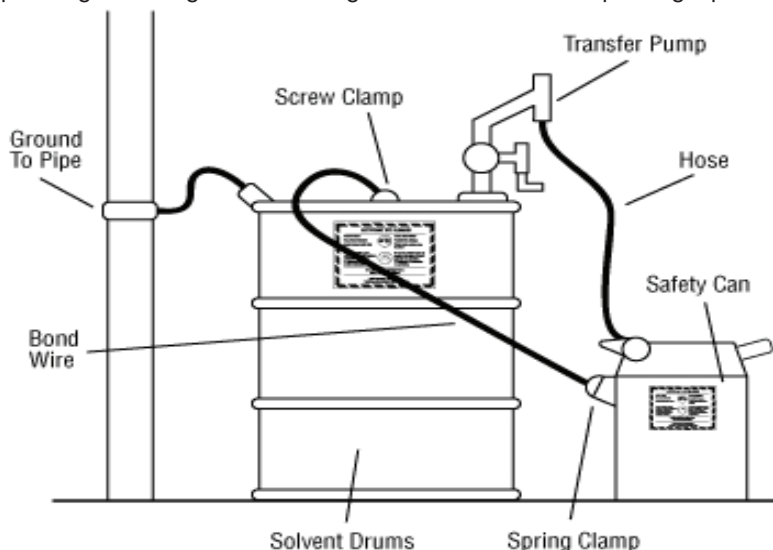


Flammable Liquids, Flash Points and Volatility

Simply put, liquids are rated as flammable because the vapors they give off can catch fire. Flash point refers to the temperature in which a liquid will form an ignitable mixture in the air. Volatility refers to liquids with a high vapor pressure - they evaporate quickly.

Transferring/Dispensing

When flammable liquids travel through a pipe or through the air, static charges are accumulated. Grounding and bonding is necessary during the transfer of flammable liquids that have a flashpoint below 100° F to prevent a static spark from igniting the flammable vapors. An example of grounding and bonding is illustrated in the photograph below.



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Safe Use

Don't...

- Allow open flame, sparks, heat-producing devices where flammable liquids are being used or stored.
- Use a rag in place of a lost container cap. Replace the container or get a new cap.
- Limit the use of exits, stairways, or areas normally used for the safe egress of people.
- Store more than the maximum quantity listed below inside or outside of a flammable storage cabinet or storage room:

Outside of a Flammable Cabinet or Storage Room

Category of Liquid	Max. Quantity
Category 1, 2, or 3	60 Gallons
Category 4	120 Gallons

Inside of a Flammable Cabinet or Storage Room

Category & Container Type	Max. Quantity
Category 1 Liquids in Containers	25 Gallons
Category 2, 3, or 4 Liquids in containers	120 Gallons
Category 2, 3, or 4 Liquids in single portable tank	120 Gallons

Do...

- Use flammable liquids only where there is plenty of ventilation.
- Clean up spills immediately, then place the cleanup rags in an approved, metal container.
- Separate groups of 3 cabinets by 100 feet where more than 3 cabinets are required.
- Keep the containers closed when not in use and store away from exits or passageways.

Flammable liquid vapors can ignite with explosive force. Always review the container label and SDS for safety and health information about the flammable liquids you work with!

See OSHA 1910.106 for full definition and details for safe handling and storage of flammable liquids.

What are some of the flammable liquids you work with on a daily basis, and how do you manage hazards?

Talk Date: _____

Supervisor/Facilitator: _____

Location: _____

Department: _____