

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

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Week of 11/7/2022

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

PROPER STORAGE OF FUELS AND FLAMMABLES

The proper storage of fuels can mean the difference between working safely and going up in smoke. The same general rules apply to the storage of both fuel and other flammables like paints and solvents. As is the case with most safety rules, fuel storage can be handled the safe way and the wrong way. OSHA has specific rules regarding how much fuel can be stored in one location, and what types of containers must be used.

To begin with, only approved containers and portable tanks can be used for storing and handling flammable and combustible liquids. Always use containers approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory for storing fuel. These containers will have labels bearing the seal of the laboratory like "UL" or "FM". Safety containers hold up to five gallons and will have spring-closing lids that provide for vapor pressure relief. Make sure the contents of the containers are clearly labeled, for example: "Gasoline" or "Diesel."

No more than 25 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids can be stored in a room unless they are stored inside an approved storage cabinet. A maximum of three storage cabinets may be located in a single storage area, and no cabinet can contain more than 60 gallons of flammable liquids. A fire extinguisher rated at least 20-B must be kept outside of any room or storage area containing 60 gallons or more of flammable liquids. On the site, these requirements might not be an issue, but if you're working in a shop where some fuel and solvents are stored, you could quickly accumulate 25 gallons of flammables. These rules could be of particular concern to painting and flooring contractors.

No open flames or other sources of ignition are permitted within 25 feet of fuel storage tanks or within 50 feet of where flammable liquids are being used. One of the most important rules is observing **no smoking** signs. If you smoke don't do around flammables. No smoking signs must be posted around flammable liquid storage areas.

Always use approved containers. Keep labels clean and readable. Inspect storage containers and cabinets frequently. Clean up leaks and spills promptly and report them to your supervisor. One final note, never fill a portable fuel container while it is in your vehicle. Static electricity can cause a spark resulting in an explosion. Always put the container on the ground before filling it to prevent a build-up of static electricity.

SAFETY REMINDER

**If there is a flammable liquid fire, don't use water.
Use a fire extinguisher that is rated for class B fires.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____