

### SECTION 4 CHAPTER 2

### **HANDLING AND STORING DRUMS**

**Purpose** This section describes the safety precautions for using and storing

flammable and combustible liquids in drums. These precautions apply to

both operating and maintenance areas.

**Scope** This program applies to all Company facilities. Yard managers and

supervisors are responsible for following these policies in their areas.

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### Handling Drums with Flammable and Combustible Liquids

#### **Purpose**

This document describes the guidelines for:

- identifying flammable and combustible liquids
- labeling drums
- maintaining a reasonable number of drums
- storing drums
- transferring liquids between drums

# Identifying flammable and combustible liquids

#### Flammable liquids:

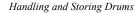
- have a flashpoint below 100°F
- are classified as flammable by their manufacturer

Combustible liquids include any liquid having a flashpoint greater than or equal to 140°F and below 200°F.

#### Labeling

The manufacturer's warning label must be visible on all drums, and be supplemented with a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). **IF** the manufacturer does not provide the MSDS for the chemical in the drum, **THEN** obtain one from the manufacturer or another source before using the chemical in that drum.

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#### **Storing drums**

Minimize the risk of explosion by storing drums:

- at the perimeter of the property
- outside of the building
- in the containment shed
- away from compressors or other confining areas
- away from spark-producing operations
- with drip pans when possible

Do **not** store drums in walkways or near exits.

**NEVER** store drums without bungs.

Only keep on hand the minimum amount required to complete necessary operations. Properly dispose of empty drums and **DO NOT** use empty drums for storage of other liquids.

# Transferring liquids

Do **not** transfer flammable and combustible liquids through air pressure on the drum. Instead, use a crank or electric means to transport flammable and combustible liquids.

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### Handling Drums with Flammable Liquids

#### **Purpose**

This document describes the procedures for:

- protecting drums from sources of ignition
- using grounding or bonding devices
- using pressure relief vents
- using and maintaining drip pans
- transporting drums

# Sources of ignition

Eliminate sources of ignition in the area where flammable liquids are used or dispensed. See the chapter on *Fire Protection* in this manual for more information.

# Grounding or bonding devices

Attach grounding and bonding devices to all drums of flammable liquids that are in service to prevent sparks that may cause a fire. When dispensing liquids, bond the container to the drum using the following:

• wire and clamps

<u>Exception</u>: Drums do **not** require grounding or bonding unless they contain liquids that are susceptible to static electricity.

### Pressure relief vents

Attach a pressure relief vent to the bunghole of any drum that is in service in areas classified as "hazardous" according to NFPA 30 regulations.

#### **Drip pans**

Use drip pans to catch drips or spills from drums. Empty drip pans regularly and dispose of contents properly.

### Transporting drums

Use forklifts to transport drums. Chain the drums to the forklift.

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