



FLAMMABLE MATERIALS HANDLING

TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – FIRE PREVENTION

October 2023

Introduction:

- **Flammable materials** are substances that can ignite and burn easily. Handling them safely is crucial to prevent fires and injuries.

What Are Flammable Materials?

Flammable materials include, but are not limited to:

- **Liquids:** Gasoline, paint thinner, alcohol, and solvents.
- **Gases:** Propane, acetylene, and hydrogen.
- **Solids:** Wood shavings, paper, and certain chemicals.

Safe Handling Guidelines:

1. Storage:

- Store flammable materials in approved containers and areas designated for their safekeeping.
- Keep them away from heat sources, open flames, and direct sunlight.
- Maintain proper ventilation in storage areas.

2. Labeling:

- Ensure all containers are labeled clearly to identify their contents.
- Use appropriate labels and warning signs to indicate flammable materials.





3. No Smoking:

- Prohibit smoking in areas where flammable materials are stored or used.
- Designate smoking areas away from these locations.

4. Fire Prevention:

- Implement fire prevention measures such as fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and sprinkler systems.
- Keep flammable materials away from electrical equipment and open circuits.

5. Proper Dispensing:

- Use the smallest amount of flammable material necessary for the task.
- Dispense materials in well-ventilated areas, preferably outdoors or in a designated area with explosion-proof fixtures.

6. Static Electricity:

- Ground containers and equipment to prevent static electricity buildup, which can ignite flammable vapors.
- Use proper grounding and bonding procedures when transferring flammable liquids.



7. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Wear appropriate PPE, such as safety glasses, gloves, and flame-resistant clothing, when handling flammable materials.

8. Emergency Procedures:

- Know the location of fire extinguishers, eyewash stations, and emergency showers in your workspace.
- Familiarize yourself with the emergency shutdown procedures for equipment involving flammable materials.



9. Training:

- Participate in training programs on flammable material handling.
- Know how to respond in case of a spill or accident involving flammable materials.

Reporting Concerns:

- Report any issues with flammable material storage or handling to your supervisor or Safety and Security immediately.
- Encourage a culture of reporting safety concerns to prevent accidents.

