



Standard/Safe Operating Procedures Administrative Controls for Flammables Container Size

Revision Date: June 17, 2022

Introduction

The Office of the State Fire Marshal requires the University to establish a container size control policy for occupants of the new Science Building. The California Mechanical Code (CMC) sections 505.1 and 506.8 specify conditions for flammable vapors, fumes, or dusts that are used in fume hoods and exhausted into building ductwork.

The University hired an outside consultant to calculate maximum container sizes for flammable liquids on our inventory that would keep the emissions below 25% of the lower flammability limit. This report is available upon request.

The administrative controls in this SOP include the various methods the University will implement to keep container sizes of flammable liquids at or below the sizes in the consultant report. These controls are examples of methods available. Some may be more suitable for a particular location than others.

1. Communication and Signs

1. Post signs in visible locations informing room occupants of maximum container sizes of commonly used flammable liquids.
2. Label flammable storage cabinets with maximum container sizes of each flammable liquid stored in it.
3. Faculty, staff and other laboratory workers will receive training on this policy before they occupy the building, before starting work and periodically as needed.

2. Inventory Control

1. Department stockroom staff must not deliver flammable liquids to individual labs in containers 4 L or larger.
2. Department stockrooms and research faculty will be encouraged to purchase the smaller containers whenever possible to avoid frequent transfer of flammable liquids to smaller containers.
3. The Principal Investigator, Staff Manager or other Responsible Person managing academic support and research spaces maintains the chemical inventory. They are responsible for ensuring that containers of flammable liquids are no larger than the size limit for that chemical.



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2.1 Operational Inventory Controls

1. Purchasers and stockroom staff must check the container sizes and compare them with the list of container size limits, posted signs or labels.
2. Department stockrooms must have suitable locations with grounding and bonding capabilities for transferring flammable liquids to the smaller containers allowed in the lab spaces.
3. EH&S will spot check flammable container sizes through inspections and reports using RSS Chemicals.