



Capacity Factors

OSHA limits the amount of liquid kept outside of a flammable storage cabinet or inside storage room. Local authorities or insurance companies may require the use of safety cabinets for quantities less than that of OSHA. It is simply a good safety practice to store even the smallest amount of flammables in cabinets rather than on or under benches or in other locations where carelessness could contribute to fire hazards and possible inspection citations.

When choosing a safety cabinet, identify how much chemical capacity is needed for both existing as well as future needs.

Justrite flammable liquid storage cabinets are available in sizes ranging from 4 to 120 gallons (15 to 454 Litres). It's important to note that OSHA states that not more than 60 gallons (227 Litres) of Class I and II flammable liquids, nor more than 120 gallons of Class III liquids may be stored in a single cabinet. However in the 2008 version of NFPA 30, it states that the volume of Class I, II, and IIIA liquids stored in an individual storage cabinet shall not exceed 120 gallons. Nuances between different codes underscore the importance of consulting with local jurisdictions to ensure compliance when handling and storing flammables.

NFPA 30 Section 9.6 further indicates that the total aggregate volume of Class I, II, and IIIA liquids in a group of cabinets shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantity (MAQ) per control area based on the occupancy where the cabinets are located. See Table on page 29. The MAQ for "general occupancies" is 120 gallons (454 Litres) of Class IB and IC flammables. Quantity may be doubled when stored in approved flammable liquid storage cabinets or safety cans. The 120 gallon maximum may also be doubled again in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13 *Installation of Sprinkler Systems*. The increase for both situations may be applied accumulatively. Therefore, in the above example, the MAQ of Class IB and IC liquids is 480 gallons (1816 Litres) as it relates to a general occupancy, meeting the sprinkler system requirements of NFPA 13, and where the liquids are stored in compliant safety cabinets or safety cans.

Because allowable quantities and other issues regarding flammable liquids can be different between a myriad of codes and regulations (i.e. OSHA, NFPA, and other Fire Codes), it is critical to always consult the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) for final determinations.

Beyond code issues, thought should be given to the type of containers being stored and location placement. There are a variety of sizes and shapes available, accommodating safety cans and smaller containers up to storage for large drums, stored either vertically or horizontally.

Security and other Safety Considerations

To secure hazardous contents from unauthorized use, all safety cabinets are lockable. Justrite cabinets include a double key set and are also designed to accept a padlock which also offers a clearly visible deterrent. A padlock allows security to be keyed differently for highly restrictive use, or master keyed or keyed alike for employee convenience. The padlockable feature eliminates the desire to drill into the cabinet to attach a padlock hasp which would violate its FM approval and the cabinet's fire protection property.

To identify flammable contents and alert employees, safety cabinets carry a large, "Flammable – Keep Fire Away" warning label. Trilingual warning labels on Justrite cabinets are reflective in nature. When illuminated with a flashlight during dark conditions, they burst with high visibility and can be seen at a great distance. Strategically placed in high and low zones, their firefighter friendly design allows emergency personnel to locate a cabinet during an investigative walk through, or when crawling in a smoke filled area.

Other things to look for in selecting a cabinet include shelves that meet ANSI standards for safe loading. The ability to direct spills and leaks into the leak proof cabinet sump is a plus. Lastly, choosing a cabinet with quality craftsmanship ensures cabinets will work properly for a long time. Justrite cabinets come with a 10-year limited warranty.