

Drum Venting

Drums of flammable liquids require venting to relieve pressure buildup due to heat and also to prevent creation of a vacuum when liquid is being removed or the drum is subjected to sudden cooling. Either pressure or vacuum can cause failure of the container. In event of fire, the hazards of drum leakage or explosion due to excessive pressure buildup are frightening to consider.

When a drum is equipped with a safety faucet, both pressure and vacuum relief must be provided by an approved vent installed in the drum bung opening. Relief begins when internal pressure reaches approximately 5 pounds per square inch (0.35 bar) and stops when pressure drops to a safe level below that.

In case of fire or other extreme temperature conditions, internal pressure may build up faster than the spring-loaded operating valve can relieve it. To meet such a condition, an emergency relief device in the vent body blows out to provide large-volume venting and maintain pressure below the bursting strength of the drum. Vacuum relief is necessary to permit smooth flow of liquid from the drum as well as to prevent possible drum collapse and leakage.

There are two types of Justrite drum vents, both FM approved. One provides automatic relief of both pressure and vacuum. The other provides automatic pressure relief with quick, easy manual operation of vacuum relief.

Antistatic wires in a variety of styles.



Above: Vent on a vertically stored drum provides automatic relief of both pressure and vacuum. A nonsparking drum wrench safely opens tight bungs.

Drum Accessories

Moving filled drums up to 600 lbs (272 kg) can be difficult and the use of powered handling equipment is often impossible due to space limitations. Effective solutions for easy drum portability include a steel drum cradle or a polyethylene spill containment caddy which offers the added protection of spill control.

Other types of drum accessories offer added convenience. To maximize drainage from a horizontally stored drum, a drum siphon adaptor is useful. To determine drum liquid levels, detectors are available, such as a polyethylene pop-up gauge for vertically stored drums or a cast-iron fill gauge for horizontally stored drums.



Drum caddy makes it easy to move heavy drums.



Handy accessories: drum cradle, siphon adaptor with faucet spill tray.



Pop-up gauge warns when drum is nearly full.

Fill gauge reveals remaining liquid left in drum.

