



## Flammable and Combustible Liquids Policy

*Responsible Office: Environmental Health & Safety, Chemical Safety*

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### 1.0 Purpose

To outline the policy and procedures which apply to the storage of flammable and combustible liquids.

### 2.0 Policy

Only certain specified amounts of flammable and combustible liquids are allowed to be in use, kept in certain containers within a workspace, and stored in approved cabinets or storage area as outlined by the National Fire Protection Association codes and standards (NFPA 30) as adopted and amended by the State of Georgia.

### 3.0 Flammable/Combustible Liquid Classification

The liquids are classified according to flashpoint and at times, boiling point.

#### 3.1 Flammable Liquids

Any liquid having a flash point below 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C.

##### 3.1.1 Class IA

Flash point below 73 degrees F/22.8 degrees C.

Boiling point below 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C.

##### 3.1.2 Class IB

Flash point below 73 degrees F/22.8 degrees C.

Boiling point at or above 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C.

##### 3.1.3 Class IC

Flash point of 73 degrees F/22.8 degrees C to 99 degrees F/37.8 degrees C.

#### 3.2 Combustible Liquids

Any liquid having a flash point above 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C.

##### 3.2.1 Class II

Flash point of 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C to 140 degrees F/60 degrees C.

##### 3.2.2 Class IIIA

Flash point of 140 degrees F/60 degrees C to 200 degrees F/93 degrees C.

##### 3.2.3 Class IIIB

Flash point of 200 degrees F/93 degrees C and above.

#### 4.0 Flammable/Combustible Liquid Containers

4.1 According to their classification, flammable and combustible liquids are required to be stored in the following maximum-allowable size of containers.

Container Type	Flammable			Combustible	
	IA	IB	IC	II	III
Glass	1pt	1qt	1gal	1gal	5gal
Approved Plastic	1gal	5gal	5gal	5gal	5gal
DOT Polyethylene	1gal	5gal	5gal	60gal	60gal
Safety Cans	2gal	5gal	5gal	5gal	5gal
DOT Drum	60gal	60gal	60gal	60gal	60gal

4.2 All flammable and combustible liquids shall be maintained in containers according to the chart above, with the exception of glass containers of no more than 1 gallon capacity; glass may be used for Class IA or Class IB flammable liquid if:

4.2.1 Such liquid would be either rendered unfit for its intended use by contact with metal or it would excessively corrode a metal container and create a leakage hazard.

4.2.2 The user's process requires that more than one pint of Class IA liquid or more than one quart of a Class IB liquid of a single assay lot to be used at one time.

#### 5.0 Flammable/Combustible Liquid Use

The use of flammable and combustible chemicals is restricted to locations that are properly designed for such use. Laboratories or groups of laboratories using these liquids are required to be a fire area. A fire area is defined as a structurally protected room or section of a building having at least a 1-hour fire rated construction in accordance with the codes adopted by the State of Georgia.

#### 6.0 Flammable/Combustible Liquid Storage

Storage of flammable and combustible liquids in fire areas shall not exceed the following amounts.

6.1 Ten (10) gallons in proper containers but not in safety cans.

6.2 Twenty-five (25) gallons in UL (Underwriters Laboratory) approved safety cans with automatic closures and flame arrestors.

6.3 Three Hundred and Sixty (360) gallons in safety cabinets (UL approved).

#### 7.0 Responsibility Of All Personnel

To ensure that each laboratory, fire area, and storage area housing flammable and combustible liquids is in compliance with these guidelines.

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