



Company _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

Maine Chapter

Weekly Tool Box Talk: **STORING FLAMMABLE PRODUCTS**

Many fires and explosions occur when improperly stored flammable products ignite. Sometimes it's because a worker is not aware of a potentially explosive condition on the jobsite or in the shop. Sometimes it's caused by a stray spark from a welder's torch, oily rags in an open drum, or fumes from oil, grease, or solvent spilled on the shop floor.

Watch for these things when considering the storage of flammable products:

- Uncapped containers
- Gas cans without OSHA required spring-loaded caps
- Fuel spills under storage drums/containers
- Fuel spills on top of containers (especially 55 gallon drums)
- Storage of flammable containers under stairways or near fire exits
- Flammable containers not stored in metal storage bins
- Discarded leaking containers
- Tanks of flammable/combustible liquids not stored in well-ventilated areas
- Containers not clearly labeled regarding their contents
- Batteries leaking or stored on their side
- Tires stored near heat-producing equipment/fuel
- Oily rags discarded in uncovered containers
- Major outdoor spillage of combustible products that do not have dikes to constrain spillage

Here are some questions you must answer:

- Do you know where the company's Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) are kept?
- Are you familiar with the data provided in an MSDS?
- Do you recognize the meaning of placarding on fuel trucks and vehicles carrying flammable, toxic, or caustic products?
- Is a no-smoking policy enforced on your jobsites?
- One fire extinguisher strategically located in these storage areas?

Faulty storage of flammable products leads to many fires, injuries, and even death. Do your part to prevent these dangerous conditions.

Safety Recommendations: _____

Job Specific Topics: _____

M.S.D.S. Reviewed: _____

Attended By:
