



Customer Focus on Loss Control

Innovative Safety and Health SolutionsSM

Safe Use of Flammable Liquids

- ❑ Prohibit all smoking, matches, lighters, or flame- or spark-producing equipment in any area where flammable liquids are used, handled, or stored. Post “No Smoking” signs, and enforce this rule rigorously.
- ❑ Equip drums that contain flammable materials with safety faucets to be used when drawing flammable and combustible liquids. Ensure that safety faucets are self-closing (to minimize spillage) and have built-in flame arresters (to prevent heat from a fire from reaching drum contents).
- ❑ Equip drums that contain flammable materials with pressure and vacuum relief devices in the drum bung openings. A pressure relief device provides large volume venting and maintains 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.
- ❑ Ensure that drums containing flammable and combustible liquids are grounded. In addition, when dispensing the liquid between the drum and another container, attach a bonding wire between the two containers. Grounding and bonding prevent the build-up of static electricity, which helps to prevent a fire or explosion caused by a spark.
- ❑ Position a safety drip can under each drum faucet to catch spills or any dripping from a worn or damaged faucet.
- ❑ Use a drum-pump when drawing flammable and combustible liquids from drums. Drum pumps:
 - Provide fewer opportunities for spills
 - Require no drip can or a separate pressure and vacuum vent in the drum
 - Are equipped with volume dials, making it easier to avoid overfilling safety containers
 - Dispense more quickly than a gravity flow through a faucet
 - Allow the drum to remain in the vertical position, which reduces handling time and effort

Safe Disposal

- ❑ Use approved containers to dispose of rags contaminated with flammables. Dispose of rags laden with flammable and combustible liquids only into U.L. listed or F.M. approved waste cans. These waste cans are designed to prevent ignition from outside sources or by spontaneous combustion.
- ❑ Ground all drums that contain waste flammable materials. Ensure that waste disposal drums of flammable and combustible liquids are grounded. In addition, when dispensing the liquid from the container into the drum, attach a bonding wire between the two containers. Grounding and bonding prevent the build up of static electricity. Place a safety fill vent and funnel into the bung opening. The vent provides automatic pressure and vacuum relief. The funnel minimizes spillage. Be sure that funnels have built-in flame arresters (to prevent heat from a fire from reaching drum contents).

