

TECHNICAL INFORMATION PAPER SERIES: USING GASOLINE SAFELY



BE SENSIBLE AND SAFE AROUND GASOLINE WITH THESE PREVENTIVE GUIDELINES.

Because gasoline is an effective solvent and is readily available, it's often used for cleaning machine parts. However, many people are killed and maimed each year when they use gasoline for cleaning parts.

Gasoline is not a safe solvent. Its intended use is as a fuel, to burn or explode under controlled conditions. Would you use dynamite in a solution to wash parts? That's a no-brainer – of course you wouldn't! Yet, most people don't realize that one gallon of gasoline has the explosive energy of 30 sticks of dynamite.

Don't let the convenient availability of gasoline persuade you that its hazards can be ignored.



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GASOLINE

- Gasoline will give off explosive vapors at temperatures as low as -50°F (flash point).
- Gasoline vapors in the air will explode at a minimum concentration of 1.4%.
- As the temperature increases above the flash point, the rate of vaporization increases.



WHAT YOU NEED TO DO AROUND GASOLINE

- Remember that gasoline is highly flammable.
- Never use gasoline as a solvent. Use a commercial solvent for washing parts.
- Dispense gasoline only from an approved container.
- Never dispense gasoline in the presence of open flames, sparks, heat, or smokers.
- Store gasoline in a well ventilated area.

When you use gasoline, always think before you act!

LEARN MORE.

For more information, contact your Risk Engineering consultant from The Hartford today or visit us online at THEHARTFORD.COM/RISKENGINEERING.

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