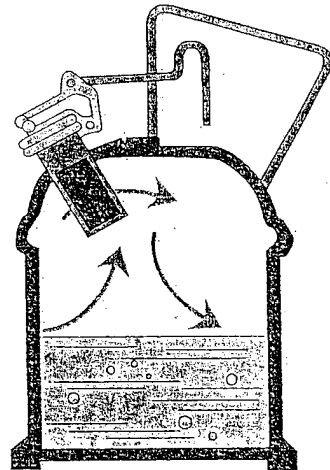




Flammable and Combustible Liquids

- ☛ In the construction industry, OSHA defines flammable liquids as having flashpoints below 140°F, and combustible liquids having flashpoints between 140°F and 200°F.
 - In the shop (according to the standards for industry, which are different from the construction standards) liquids with flashpoints above 100°F are considered to be combustible.
 - A flashpoint is the temperature at which a liquid will catch fire if exposed to a flame.
 - Gasoline has a flashpoint of -45°F and diesel fuel has a flashpoint of 125°F. They are both flammable liquids on the worksite, but diesel fuel is considered combustible in the shop.
- ☛ There are several rules regarding the storage of flammable and combustible liquids.
 - There has to be good ventilation in the storage area to keep vapors from accumulating.
 - Fire doors and walkways must be clear, and the liquids cannot be stored near stairways or exits.
 - Always keep these liquids away from any ignition source, such as heat, flames, or smoking materials.
 - The liquids must be stored in labeled safety cans, with spark arresters and self-closing lids except for extremely viscous liquids such as EPDM adhesive, which can be stored in their original containers.



- ☛ In order to prevent fires, there are some simple safety tips to follow.
 - Do not smoke around flammable or combustible liquids or materials.
 - When refueling a piece of equipment, turn it off and let it cool down first, if possible.
 - Use these fluids in well-ventilated areas to dissipate vapors.
 - Always keep a fire extinguisher on hand - with either a B or an ABC rating.

Flammable and Combustible Liquids Training Tips

- Show a safety can and explain the different features, such as the spark arrestor and spring loaded lid. Explain how durable the safety can is.
- Ask the following questions:
 - Why does there need to be good ventilation in areas where the liquids are stored?
 - Why is smoking always prohibited around flammable and combustible materials and liquids?