

Safe storage of flammables on Board

According to the new MSC Guideline SOLAS-05

Over the last years ocean cruises are becoming increasingly popular. More and more vessels are being introduced and the sizes and passenger capacities are permanently on the increase.

On these floating cities bigger quantities of flammable liquids and aerosols become necessary whether in spa areas and saunas or workshops etc.

The central paint lockers or category 14 spaces are no longer sufficient and practical for daily used quantities and many unsafe local stores start to exist throughout the vessels.

Today the incorrect storage of flammable liquids is one of the top 10 breaches found during regular inspections on cruise ships and a severe accident is possible.

So far there has been no specific guidance on how to maintain a high level of safety without compromising on practicability.

The new MSC Guideline for the Use of Flammable Liquid & Gas Storage Cabinets finally puts an end to the uncertainty of how to safely store flammable liquids in spaces other than category 14.

Excerpt from the the new MSC Guideline:

...Spaces other than category 14 spaces do not typically have the protections (for example: classified electrical fittings, ventilation and insulation) required for storing flammable liquids. However, the practical utility of certain spaces may necessitate the

need for storage of a small quantity of ready-use flammable liquid or gas. This would include materials used frequently during operation where it is impractical for crew to travel to a centralized category 14 store room each time the materials are needed.

In spaces where a limited supply of flammable liquids or gases is necessary for the practical utility of the space, it may be permissible to install an approved flammable liquid cabinet to stow small quantities of items for daily use.

Cabinets manufactured and approved to EN 14470-1, Type 60 or Type 90 are acceptable. Cabinets meeting NFPA 30 or UL 1275, only provide protection for 10 minutes and should only be used in category 11, 12 or 14 spaces.

Conclusion:

Quantities for the daily use can now be stored outside cat 11,12 or 14 in fire rated cabinets acc. to EN 14470-1 without violating safety protocols.

Safety storage cabinets according to EN 14470-1 are available in various sizes and with different interior equipment. This makes it possible to choose for each individual application on board the suitable safety storage cabinet. asecos is Europe's leading manufacturer of EN type-tested safety storage cabinets and offers a wide product range including underbench cabinets, which are the optimal solution, for the storage of small quantities of flammables. Larger quantities of these hazardous substances can be conveniently stored in the asecos Q-LINE cabinets. Independent from their size, both safety storage cabinets provide the same high level of protection: In the event fire the stored flammable substances are protected for 90 minutes from heat and flames - enough time for rescue forces to extinguish the fire.

Further information about safety storage cabinets are available on the website of asecos: www.asecos.com.



Type- 90 Underbench Cabinet, optimal for storing small quantities of flammable liquids



Safety Storage Cabinet according to EN14470- 1(model: Q-CLASSIC-90) with open doors.



Safety Storage Cabinet according to EN14470- 1(model: Q-CLASSIC-90) with closed doors.