

# RED BOOK

YOUR GUIDE TO  
HANDLING FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS SAFELY

# HOW TO HANDLE FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS SAFELY

Backed by a century of experience, Justrite Manufacturing Company has been providing workplaces with compliant, protective solutions for managing hazardous materials. Our expertise and equipment offers ways to safely **store**, **transfer**, **use**, and **dispose** of flammable liquids. The **S.T.U.D.** system has been recognized as a vital part of environmental, health, and safety programs worldwide. To learn more, visit us at [www.justritemfg.com](http://www.justritemfg.com).





## Be Safe

Except in rare cases of natural catastrophes, every fire is preventable. That's why there's RedBook.

Inside you'll find explanations of the equipment and methods you can use to help minimize the chance of fires caused or spread by ignition of flammable and combustible liquids. The information will help you prevent disastrous fires and crushing losses of lives and property.

There is a technical distinction between "flammable" and "combustible" liquids (see page 30). However, both classes burn readily and intensively, are explosive under certain conditions, and if not properly contained, can spread fire rapidly and uncontrollably. In this guide the term "flammable liquids" will be used to cover both flammable and combustible classes.

Safe handling and storage of these flammable liquids require the use of approved equipment and practices. These have been established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), FM Global (FM), Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL), state and local safety codes, and are what the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards require. (All the safety equipment featured in this guide is cataloged in Justrite® product literature available upon request.)

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**STORAGE**



Grounding Wire

Safety Vent

Safety Faucet

Faucet Extension

Drum Cradle

Bonding Wire

Safety Can

Spill Tray

## Safe Drum Storage and Dispensing



Indoor rooms for bulk storage of flammable liquids are subject to construction, arrangement, and outfitting requirements, as well as capacity limitations, which are beyond the scope of this publication. Specifications for acceptable storage rooms can be found in NFPA publications and local fire codes. OSHA Standards also refer to storage.

Assuming a properly constructed room, the following discussion covers recommended practices and equipment required for safe storage and withdrawal of liquids for in-plant use.

Two methods are acceptable for drawing off hazardous liquids from drums: Gravity Flow Method or Pump Method.

### The Gravity Flow Method

utilizes a safety faucet that requires the drum to be in a horizontal position for dispensing. A device such as a drum cradle or drum caddy provides an easy way to move drums into position and support them for storage. Gravity flow method requires the use of a safety vent in the drum, a spill tray under the faucet, bonding wire between the drum and the container being filled,

and a grounding wire between the drum and an earth ground such as a cold water pipe. In some jurisdictions, gravity flow dispensing is prohibited by code. Check regulations in your area.

The pump method, used for vertically stored drums, should also employ proper bonding and grounding practices. A variety of pumps are available in the market, some incorporating built in features such as a self-bonding hose to protect against ignition of liquids being transferred.

If a drum is to be stored temporarily prior to installing a faucet or pump, grounding and venting are recommended. In dispensing flammable or combustible liquids from one container to another, it is important to either bond or ground the containers to prevent static discharge which can ignite vapor. For complete information on recommended practices on static electricity, refer to NFPA 77, *Recommended Practice on Static Electricity*.

### Grounding and Bonding

Buildup of static electricity charges on containers and people is a dangerous source of sparks that can touch off flash fires wherever flammable liquids are being transferred or used.

In transferring liquids from drums to containers, static charges must be electrically bonded, in effect drained off, to prevent the discharge of vapor-igniting sparks.

**Grounding.** Grounding all containers to an earth source is the recommended method to prevent the build up of static electricity. Grounding cables should be attached to each drum to the earth source and left in place as long as the drum is in the room.

**Bonding** is simply connecting a bond wire between the dispensing container and the receiving container. This gives both containers the same static potential thus eliminating the chance of static discharge. Before a container is filled from a drum faucet, a bonding wire fastened to the drum must be attached to the container.

It is critical that a metal-to-metal connection be made between a container and the bonding and grounding cables. The area of connection should be clean from dirt, rust, and paint for proper bare metal contact.

### Spill Control

Whenever transferring liquids, the potential for leaks or spills exist. To prevent slip and fall injuries as well as protect against contamination to factory floors, drains, and outside groundwater, a variety of spill control devices help reduce risks. A safety spill tray should be positioned below each drum faucet to catch leaks from a worn or damaged faucet. These lidless cans have a perforated fire baffle over the opening to guard against outside ignition sources.

For protection against larger spills, EPA compliant pallets and caddies safely hold pails or drums in 30 or 55 gallon (110 or 200 Liter) capacities.





*Above: Approved safety faucets incorporate an internal flame arrester which prevents flashback of fire into the drum.*



*Above: Vacuum relief is manually controlled on a drum vent installed on a horizontally-positioned drum. Pressure relief is automatic.*

### **Drum Faucets**

Safety faucets for drawing flammable liquids from drums are self-closing and equipped with drip-proof, replaceable seals. Built-in flame arresters rapidly dissipate heat to prevent fire from reaching drum contents.

Several types of Justrite safety faucets are available. One is a standard rigid type made of brass. The other two are swivel-connection faucets of brass or stainless steel. These can be screwed into the drum tightly, then the spout adjusted independently to the required vertical position. This feature prevents the possibility of dangerous leakage due to overtightening and stripping threads or undertightening in order to position the faucet spout vertically. All 3/4" NPT Justrite faucets carry FM approval and can be padlocked to prevent unauthorized withdrawal of drum contents.

Flexible hose faucet extensions, brass or stainless steel, which screw into the faucet are available to reduce the possibility of spills and provide an electrical bonding path to the container being filled, providing metal to metal contact is made.

Viscous flammables too thick for standard 3/4" NPT safety faucets can be dispensed through the 2" bung opening using a safety drum gate valve. These brass valves are FM approved for non-corrosive liquids 2000 SSU or higher viscosity (about 30W motor oil).

**Antistatic wires** for drums reduce fire risks from static electricity. Available in flexible wire or insulated flexible wire, and end connection styles include alligator clips, hand clamps, C clamps, or pipe clamps.

### Drum Venting

Drums of flammable liquids require venting to relieve pressure buildup due to heat and also to prevent creation of a vacuum when liquid is being removed or the drum is subjected to sudden cooling. Either pressure or vacuum can cause failure of the container. In event of fire, the hazards of drum leakage or explosion due to excessive pressure buildup are frightening to consider.

When a drum is equipped with a safety faucet, both pressure and vacuum relief must be provided by an approved vent installed in the drum bung opening. Relief begins when internal pressure reaches approximately 5 pounds per square inch (0.35 bar) and stops when pressure drops to a safe level below that.

In case of fire or other extreme temperature conditions, internal pressure may build up faster than the spring-loaded operating valve can relieve it. To meet such a condition, an emergency relief device in the vent body blows out to provide large-volume venting and maintain 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.

There are two types of Justrite drum vents, both FM approved. One provides automatic relief of both pressure and vacuum. The other provides automatic pressure relief with quick, easy manual operation of vacuum relief.

Antistatic wires in a variety of styles.



Above: Vent on a vertically stored drum provides automatic relief of both pressure and vacuum. A nonsparking drum wrench safely opens tight bungs.

### Drum Accessories

Moving filled drums up to 600 lbs (272 kg) can be difficult and the use of powered handling equipment is often impossible due to space limitations. Effective solutions for easy drum portability include a steel drum cradle or a polyethylene spill containment caddy which offers the added protection of spill control.

Other types of drum accessories offer added convenience. To maximize drainage from a horizontally stored drum, a drum siphon adaptor is useful. To determine drum liquid levels, detectors are available, such as a polyethylene pop-up gauge for vertically stored drums or a cast-iron fill gauge for horizontally stored drums.



Drum caddy makes it easy to move heavy drums.



Handy accessories: drum cradle, siphon adaptor with faucet spill tray.



Pop-up gauge warns when drum is nearly full.

Fill gauge reveals remaining liquid left in drum.



# STORAGE



*Cabinets are designed and constructed to limit the internal temperature to not more than 325°F (163°C) when subjected to a 10-minute fire test using the standard time-temperature curve as set forth in the NFPA 251.*

To protect people and property from fire risks associated with volatile liquids, store flammable fuels, solvents, and chemicals in specially designed fire resistant safety cabinets. All Justrite safety cabinets meet OSHA and NFPA specifications, and most are independently tested and approved by FM Global.



## Safety Cabinets for Compliant Safekeeping of Hazardous Liquids

Virtually every place of business has occasion to use flammable or combustible liquids. Whether it is a manufacturing or processing plant, laboratory, or commercial institution, fire risks can be reduced by storing hazardous liquids in flammable liquid safety storage cabinets.

Safety Cabinets serve several critical functions. First and foremost, they provide heat resistant enclosure of flammable liquid containers which helps protect both personnel and property from devastating fires. Cabinets help identify, organize, and segregate dangerous liquids. Often times they can be located near points-of-use, saving time and effort by eliminating frequent trips to a central storage room.

To clearly identify contents, safety cabinets include a visible warning label: "Flammable – Keep Fire Away." Labels that are reflective in nature offer an extra measure of safety. When illuminated with a flashlight during power outages or under smoky conditions, the reflective warning label bursts with high visibility, alerting firefighters or employees to the location of hazardous materials.

Lastly, safety cabinets improve security against unauthorized use of their potentially destructive contents. Justrite cabinets can be padlocked allowing security to be keyed different, keyed alike, or master keyed for employee convenience.

### Safety Cabinet Design

Construction and design requirements for safety cabinets are spelled out in NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code* and various OSHA regulations. Cabinets must be made of double-walled, 18 gauge (1 mm) steel with 1-1/2" (38mm) of insulating air space in the bottom, top, doors, and sides of the cabinet.

Additional requirements are that joints shall be welded, riveted, or made tight by some equally effective means and that the door shall be provided with a three-point latching arrangement. Further, the door sill shall be raised at least 2" (51 mm) above the bottom of the cabinet and be labeled "Flammable – Keep Fire Away."

In response to the criteria set forth by NFPA and OSHA, independent testing agencies such as FM and UL have established procedures to test the effectiveness of a flammable liquid storage cabinet. A cabinet is considered acceptable if the internal temperature is limited to not more than 325°F (163°C) when subjected to a 10-minute fire test using the standard time temperature curve as set forth in

NFPA 251, Standard Methods of Fire Resistance of Building Construction and Materials.

### Venting

Safety cabinets include dual vents with built-in flame arresters with bungs, typically located on the sides of a cabinet: one high and one low. However, NFPA 30 does not require a cabinet be ventilated for fire protection purposes. Further, the code states that if not vented, the vent openings should be sealed with the bungs provided. It goes on to say that if the cabinet is ventilated for any reason, it should be ducted directly to the outdoors in a manner that will not compromise the performance of the cabinet and that it is done in a manner that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

To determine if a cabinet should be vented, it is critical the local Fire Marshal/Fire Inspector be contacted for a determination based upon local or state regulations. Additional contacts could be made with the local EHS (Environmental Health and Safety) Officer, an Industrial Hygienist, the covering insurance company, or a corporate manager who is responsible for a company's overall safety directives.

### Seismic Protection

For earthquake or hurricane-prone regions, or simply where an added measure of stability is needed, a seismic bracket kit allows for either floor or wall mounting. A mounting kit that does not involve drilling into the cabinet is required so as to not violate the double-walled design, maintaining the fire protection properties of the cabinet and FM approval.

### Grounding

Although not required by federal regulations, steel safety cabinets include a built-in grounding lug, generally located at the bottom right side. For safe storage of flammables, it makes good safety sense to ground a cabinet when possible. If dispensing or collection processes are taking place within the cabinet, such as pumping out of a drum or pouring waste into a drum funnel, it is critical the cabinet be connected to an earth ground and proper bonding techniques between containers are followed.



## What Makes a Safety Cabinet Safe?

**Complies with OSHA  
29 CFR 1910.106  
and NFPA Code 30,  
section 9.5**

**Fire tested and  
approved by  
FM Global.**



- 1 18-gauge (1mm) double wall steel with 1-1/2" (38mm) of insulating air space for fire resistance.
  - 2 Fully welded construction holds squareness for longer life, offering greater protection in a fire since air gaps are reduced.
  - 3 Highly reflective "Flammable – Keep Fire Away" label warns of contents and provides greater visibility when illuminated with a flashlight during fire conditions. Lower reflective label alerts firefighters when rising smoke might obscure higher points.
  - 4 Rounded corners on doors reduce accidental nicks.
  - 5 On self-close style of cabinet, doors are held open by means of a fusible link. If inadvertently left open, under fire conditions the link will melt at 165°F (74°C) and automatically close the doors to protect the contents. Two-door cabinets are designed to be self-indexing, so both doors close in the correct sequence.
  - 6 Stainless steel, 3-point bullet self-latching system provides fail-safe, positive door closure with increased heat resistance.
  - 7 Flush handle accepts padlock or keys to secure contents from unauthorized use; reduces "catches" from passing traffic.
  - 8 Shelves are slightly sloped to direct hazardous spills to back and bottom of leak proof sump. They meet ANSI standards with a 350 lb. (159kg) safe allowable load.
  - 9 Welded shelf hangers interlock for safe, "no-slip" stability and adjust on 3" (76 mm) centers.
  - 10 Built-in grounding lug accepts optional antistatic wire to safely ground cabinet to earth ground. Optional seismic brackets secure cabinet to floor or wall for an extra measure of security when increased stability is needed.
  - 11 Dual vents with built-in flame arresters sealed with bung caps.
  - 12 2" (51mm) liquid-tight sump safely contains dangerous leaks or spills.
  - 13 Adjustable leveling feet for stability on uneven surfaces.
- Indicates location of 3-point latching system.



## Important Considerations When Selecting a Safety Cabinet

Safety cabinets come in a wide selection of colors, sizes, shapes and door arrangements. Beyond choosing a cabinet that meets the requirements of NFPA, OSHA, and carries an FM approval, other factors must be considered.

### Chemical Characteristics

It is important to identify and inventory all chemicals to be stored. A review of the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) will determine characteristics and recommended storage practices. To avoid generating toxic explosions and to prevent fires, it is critical to segregate incompatible chemicals. Chemical labeling and training is covered under regulations and the Right-to-Know Act (or Hazard Communication Standard). For easy access to MSDS sheets, Document Storage Boxes are available which adhere directly on a safety cabinet for point-of-use availability.

One factor in choosing a cabinet is how the chemical relates to the construction material of the cabinet itself. For example, for non-flammable acids and corrosive liquids, the construction material should be polyethylene or wood laminate. However, for less aggressive corrosive liquids that

exhibit flammable characteristics, a chemically resistant steel cabinet with polyethylene lined shelves is recommended. Cabinets constructed of steel are suitable for flammable liquids, and choosing the correct color helps organize and segregate different types of liquids. While regulatory codes do not mandate the specific color, industry has customarily observed certain colors for defined liquids (see below).

### Regulatory and Safety Considerations

As covered earlier, construction criteria must conform to specifications set forth by NFPA and OSHA. In some areas of the country where either the International Fire Code (IFC) or NFPA 1 the Uniform Fire Code is followed, it is further required that the doors of a flammable liquid cabinet shall be well fitted and *self-closing*.

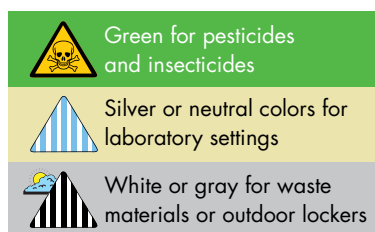
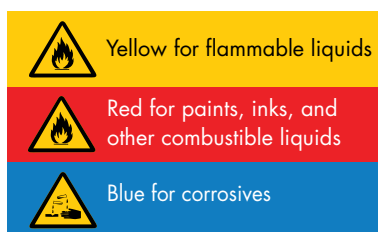
Safety cabinets come in single or two door closure styles: manual or self-closing. Economical manual close doors permit doors to open a full 180 degrees and require the user to physically shut the doors. Self-close, self-indexing doors incorporate a mechanism that automatically shuts doors upon release. Fusible links hold the doors open during use, but if

inadvertently left open, will melt at 165°F (74°C) in the event of a fire to automatically close the doors.

Whereas self-closing doors are required in states that adopt a specific fire code, it is recommended that local jurisdictions always be contacted for specific requirements. Self-closing doors ensure closure by taking away the "human element" of potentially forgetting to shut the doors. It is often, therefore, considered the preferred door choice for a good overall safety program. Additionally, self-close mechanisms that are concealed within the top wall of the cabinet are an added benefit, maximizing available storage space.

Whether manual or self-closing, a self-latching door and handle is critical as it does not require the user to manually rotate a handle to ensure the mandatory three-point latch is properly engaged. A stainless steel bullet-type latching system offers positive closure and optimum longevity with increased heat resistance.

All Justrite cabinets have a 3-pt. stainless steel bullet self-latching system, meet OSHA and NFPA, and most are FM approved.



THE SELF-CLOSING STYLE OF DOORS IS REQUIRED IN CERTAIN STATES WHICH FOLLOW AN ADOPTED FIRE CODE SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE (IFC) OR NFPA 1, UNIFORM FIRE CODE.

Contact local jurisdictions for specific requirements.

Below are samples. List is not all inclusive.

**100% adopted** throughout the state: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, California, Montana, Utah, Hawaii, Nevada, Washington.

**10% to 90% adopted** throughout the state: Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, South Dakota, Colorado, Missouri, North Dakota, Texas, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming



### Capacity Factors

OSHA limits the amount of liquid kept outside of a flammable storage cabinet or inside storage room. Local authorities or insurance companies may require the use of safety cabinets for quantities less than that of OSHA. It is simply a good safety practice to store even the smallest amount of flammables in cabinets rather than on or under benches or in other locations where carelessness could contribute to fire hazards and possible inspection citations.

When choosing a safety cabinet, identify how much chemical capacity is needed for both existing as well as future needs.

Justrite flammable liquid storage cabinets are available in sizes ranging from 4 to 120 gallons (15 to 454 Litres). It's important to note that OSHA states that not more than 60 gallons (227 Litres) of Class I and II flammable liquids, nor more than 120 gallons of Class III liquids may be stored in a single cabinet. However in the 2008 version of NFPA 30, it states that the volume of Class I, II, and IIIA liquids stored in an individual storage cabinet shall not exceed 120 gallons. Nuances between different codes underscore the importance of consulting with local jurisdictions to ensure compliance when handling and storing flammables.

NFPA 30 Section 9.6 further indicates that the total aggregate volume of Class I, II, and IIIA liquids in a group of cabinets shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantity (MAQ) per control area based on the occupancy where the cabinets are located. See Table on page 29. The MAQ for "general occupancies" is 120 gallons (454 Litres) of Class IB and IC flammables. Quantity may be doubled when stored in approved flammable liquid storage cabinets or safety cans. The 120 gallon maximum may also be doubled again in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13 *Installation of Sprinkler Systems*. The increase for both situations may be applied accumulatively. Therefore, in the above example, the MAQ of Class IB and IC liquids is 480 gallons (1816 Litres) as it relates to a general occupancy, meeting the sprinkler system requirements of NFPA 13, and where the liquids are stored in compliant safety cabinets or safety cans.

Because allowable quantities and other issues regarding flammable liquids can be different between a myriad of codes and regulations (i.e. OSHA, NFPA, and other Fire Codes), it is critical to always consult the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) for final determinations.

Beyond code issues, thought should be given to the type of containers being stored and location placement. There are a variety of sizes and shapes available, accommodating safety cans and smaller containers up to storage for large drums, stored either vertically or horizontally.

### Security and other Safety Considerations

To secure hazardous contents from unauthorized use, all safety cabinets are lockable. Justrite cabinets include a double key set and are also designed to accept a padlock which also offers a clearly visible deterrent. A padlock allows security to be keyed differently for highly restrictive use, or master keyed or keyed alike for employee convenience. The padlockable feature eliminates the desire to drill into the cabinet to attach a padlock hasp which would violate its FM approval and the cabinet's fire protection property.

To identify flammable contents and alert employees, safety cabinets carry a large, "Flammable – Keep Fire Away" warning label. Trilingual warning labels on Justrite cabinets are reflective in nature. When illuminated with a flashlight during dark conditions, they burst with high visibility and can be seen at a great distance. Strategically placed in high and low zones, their firefighter friendly design allows emergency personnel to locate a cabinet during an investigative walk through, or when crawling in a smoke filled area.

Other things to look for in selecting a cabinet include shelves that meet ANSI standards for safe loading. The ability to direct spills and leaks into the leak proof cabinet sump is a plus. Lastly, choosing a cabinet with quality craftsmanship ensures cabinets will work properly for a long time. Justrite cabinets come with a 10-year limited warranty.

## Transfer – Safety Cans for Liquid Transfer

### Safety Cans for Storage and Transfer

Approved safety cans (required by OSHA) are the most familiar safety equipment seen in many plants and probably among the least understood as to what they are and what they must do.

The basic purpose of a safety can is to control flammable vapors, while providing a safe and convenient means of carrying, dispensing and storing up to 5 gallons (19 Litres) of flammable liquid.

This requires that the can must:

1. Be leak tight;
2. Automatically vent vapor between 3 and 5 psig (0.2 and 0.35 bar) internal pressure to prevent rupture (or explosion in event of fire);
3. Prevent flame from reaching the flammable liquid contents through the spout;
4. Automatically close after filling or pouring.

Beyond guarding against possible fire and explosion, safety cans must be able to resist damage and wear in normal usage, permit ready, convenient use in pouring, filling and carrying and be properly marked to identify their contents. OSHA standards for portable safety containers for flammable liquids having a flashpoint at or below 80°F (27°C) require the safety can be red with a yellow band around the container or stenciling of identification of the can contents. All Justrite safety cans carry a yellow band with a large area on the band for the user to identify contents to

reduce misuse. Justrite safety cans offer a 10-year limited warranty.

Several different types of safety cans as well as a full range of can capacities are needed for most convenient, efficient service in various use situations. These include Type I and Type II safety cans, galvanized steel and nonmetallic can bodies, faucet and tilt-rack laboratory cans and wide-mouth disposal cans. All Justrite safety cans are UL listed and/or FM approved.

To provide information necessary to put the right safety cans to their best uses, brief design and application data for each type follows.

**Cap operating mechanisms** on safety cans are spring-loaded and self-closing to provide a leakproof spout seal, and pressure relief venting. Either attached to or integral with the cap operating mechanism is a can carrying handle. Design of the handle will greatly affect the convenience of carrying and using safety cans. The best design will swing to distribute weight evenly and protect the cap when not in use. It will also enable the user to open the cap without any awkward secondary linkages.

Spring pressure is applied to the self-aligning cap and its sealing gasket to make a leakproof seal with the rim of the can spout. The spring tension that seals the cap is also designed to allow the cap to lift to relieve excessive internal pressures.

**Flame arrester screens** inside the cap spout are essential to prevent fire flashback to the can contents. Flame arresters in Justrite safety cans are

long length and stainless steel construction with large surface area to permit full-flow filling and pouring.

A flame arrester works because it provides such rapid dissipation of heat from fire that vapor temperature on the inside of the can remains below the ignition point. Employees must be instructed not to remove or damage flame arrester screens. Any holes punched in the screens change the heat-absorption characteristics of the area involved and may nullify the effectiveness of the unit.

**Capacity ratings.** Safety cans must not be filled above their rated capacity, which is up to the seam that joins a metal can top to the body or to a fill level mark on a nonmetallic can. Overfilling can result in dangerous liquid overflow from the spout if high external temperatures occur.

**Approvals.** Safety cans are designed to meet specifications set forth by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Additionally, most have earned certification from third parties such as FM Global (FM), Underwriters Laboratories (UL/ULC), and the Technical Inspection Association (TÜV).



ACCEPTED UNDER CARB TITLE 13

**Styles of safety.** The various types of safety cans are often defined by the lid design and methods of filling and pouring.



**Type I Safety Can** One opening from which to fill and pour into larger receiving vessels.

**Type I and Type II Safety Cans** are required by OSHA when used by any business or commercial enterprise.



**Type II Safety Can** Two openings: top opening with lift lever for filling, and a second one with flexible metal hose attached for controlled, plug-free dispensing into smaller openings.



**Type II D.O.T. Safety Can** Two openings: top opening with lift lever for filling, and a second one with flexible metal hose attached for accurate, plug-free dispensing into smaller openings. Additional safety features include roll-bar construction and a fusible-link protected hold-down bracket for protection during over-the-road transport.

**Type II D.O.T. Safety Cans** are required by the Department of Transportation and OSHA for use in any commercial vehicle when transporting flammables on public roads and highways (some exceptions may apply).



**Colors.** When working with flammable or combustible liquids, using the wrong fluid could result in equipment damage or even present a potential disaster. Using color in your storage practices helps identify, organize and segregate liquids to avoid accidents.

OSHA requires flammables with a flashpoint below 80°F (27°C) be in a red can with yellow band. Typical industry convention is red = gasoline, yellow = diesel, blue = kerosene, and green = oil.

**Type I safety cans** are the typical, single-spout safety cans in widest use for transfer, storage and dispensing of flammable liquids in capacities from 1 pint (.5 Litre) to 5 gallons (19 Litres). Justrite manufactures Type I cans with galvanized steel bodies in many sizes and with nonmetallic bodies in the most commonly used sizes.

Type I safety cans are designed primarily for filling of containers having large receiving openings, such as rinse or cleaning tanks. However they can be equipped with accessory funnel attachments for filling containers with smaller openings.



The fire triangle demonstrates the three basic elements that must be present simultaneously to support a fire. These elements are the "legs" of a fire triangle. A safety can is designed to specifically eliminate one or more of the elements needed for a fire to start: heat, oxygen and fuel.

### What makes a safety can safe?

Leaktight, gasketed lid controls vapors and guards against dangerous spillage. Spring loaded, it closes automatically after filling or pouring.

Free swinging, rounded carry handle pulls back to open lid

Positive pressure relief cap

Flame Arrester

Yellow belly band with warning and large content identification area

Approved container: FM, UL/ULC Listed, TÜV Certified



Cutaway view of a Type I safety can.

Proper grounding and bonding techniques safely prevent static discharge and the potential for explosion and fire.



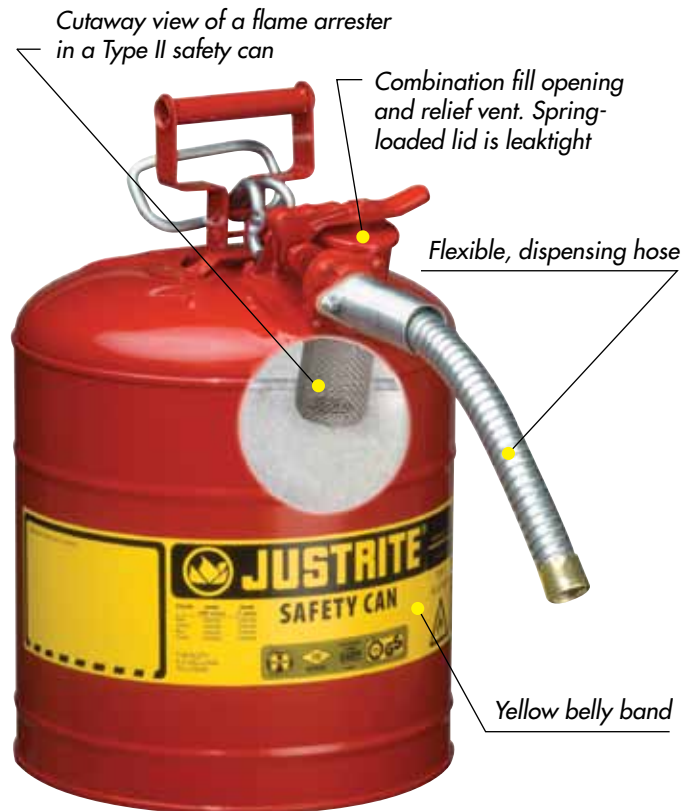
Grounding wire connected to an electrical ground, such as a water pipe or ground strip.

Bonding wire connects dispensing can to receiving containers.

**Type II safety cans** offer additional convenience with two openings; top opening with lift lever for filling, and a second opening equipped with a flexible metal hose for accurate, controlled pouring into small apertures. A special manifold design incorporates an air displacement vent for smooth, slug-free liquid flow. A leakproof, self-closing lid controls spills and auto vents to prevent pressure build-up. Like the Type I can, an internal stainless steel flame arrester stops flashback ignition to reduce fire risks.

Justrite metal body Type II safety cans are manufactured in a variety of capacities. They meet OSHA and NFPA and are FM approved, UL/ULC listed and TÜV certified. All models are well suited for controlled pouring of fuel or other flammable liquids into containers with small openings, such as small motor fuel tanks and dispenser cans.

**Metal laboratory cans** are safety cans with self-closing faucets, designed for dispensing flammable liquids into smaller containers. Justrite models are available in both shelf and tilt-rack types. The shelf dispensing can has a safety faucet near its base for gravity flow draining and a top spout for filling and pressure relief. The tilt-rack laboratory can is mounted in a sturdy tilt frame with the pouring spout on the can top opposite the fill and pressure-relief spout. Where test tubes, small flasks and other small-opening containers are to be filled, these cans are recommended. Shelf models are manufactured in 1, 3 and 5 gallon (4, 11, 19 Litre) sizes; the tilt-rack lab can has a 5 gallon (19 Litre) capacity. Flexible metal safety hoses may be threaded into the faucets for complete control.



*Antistatic wires with alligator clips are a popular choice when grounding containers. Clips with their sharp teeth can be "wiggled" to ensure metal to metal contact on painted surfaces.*



### Nonmetallic Safety Cans

Nonmetallic safety cans are an original Justrite development in safety containment for flammable liquids. They have special applications and advantages over metal safety cans that fill important gaps in the overall flammable liquids handling picture. They also meet OSHA requirements for an approved container.

The can bodies are molded from dense, thick polyethylene that is highly resistant to corrosive chemicals. Justrite nonmetallic cans have a unique current-carrying carbon insert embedded in the ribbing which facilitates proper bonding or grounding.

Nonmetallic safety cans also are much more resistant to rough usage than conventional metal cans. They have higher dent, puncture and drop resistance than metal and retain good appearance longer because their bright red color is molded into the can material instead of painted on. Their durability has made them ideal on construction sites as well as in manufacturing plants. Because they can accommodate corrosive or high-purity liquids, they are a popular choice among laboratory professionals.



*To properly ground when using nonmetallic containers, an antistatic wire connects the poly can's cover assembly (with special internal insert) to the receiving vessel. A second antistatic wire connects the receiving vessel to a ground pipe.*



*The conductive, current-carrying carbon insert is embedded in the rib of the container creating a grounding path between the cover assembly and the flame arrester in the spout to aid in proper grounding.*

Nonmetallic safety cans include internal stainless steel flame arresters to stop flashback ignition. External hardware is also stainless steel for optimum protection against corrosives.

Under extreme fire exposure, the top of a nonmetallic can will soften, melt and collapse inward. The vapor released from the surface of the exposed liquid then burns off, just as vapor escaping from any safety can spout will burn off in the presence of flame. However, the nonmetallic can body does not melt nor rupture below the level of the contained liquid. Thus, no liquid escapes to spread fire.

For corrosive liquid applications in the laboratory or plant, the nonmetallic safety cans are an ideal replacement for more expensive stainless steel safety cans or relatively fragile porcelain and glass bottles.

Justrite Type I nonmetallic safety cans are available in capacities of 2-1/2 and 5 gallons (9 and 19 Litre) in the round shape, and in 1/2-gallon and 1-gallon (2 and 4 Litre) oval shape. The latter are popular for laboratory use, with five oval cans occupying no more space than three round cans of the same capacity.

Nonmetallic waste disposal cans in 2-gallon and 5-gallon (8 and 19 Litre) sizes, designed with wide mouth openings for collection of flammable wastes, are discussed on page 23 of this handbook.

*Nonmetallic oval-shaped safety cans require less storage space and are a popular choice in laboratories where high-purity liquids are used.*



## Justrite Safety Can Compatibility Chart

Chemical	Can Material	Galvanized Steel	Polyethylene	Stainless Steel
Acetic Acid		NR	Good	Good
Acetone		Poor	Fair	Good
Acetonitrile		Fair	Good	Fair
Aniline		Good	Good	Good
Benzene		Fair	Fair	Good
Cyclohexane		Good	Fair	Poor
Cyclohexanone		Good	NR	Poor
Ethanol		Good	Good	Good
Ethyl Acetate		Good	Fair	Good
Ethyl Ether		Good	Fair	Good
Ethylene Glycol		Good	Good	Good
Fuel Oil		Good	NR	Good
Gasoline		Good	Fair	Good
Heptane		Good	Poor	Good
Hexane		Good	NR	Good
Hydrochloric Acid 37%		NR	Good	NR
Isopropyl Alcohol 70%		NR	Good	Good
Kerosene		Good	NR	Good
Methanol		Good	Good	Good
Methyl Ethyl Ketone		Good	Fair	Good
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone		Good	Fair	Poor
Methylene Chloride		NR	NR	Good
Pentane		Good	NR	Good
Petroleum Ether		Good	Poor	Good
Toluene		Good	Fair	Good
Trichloroethylene		NR	NR	Good
Turpentine		Poor	Poor	Good
Xylene		Good	Fair	Good

NR = Not Recommended



**Warning:** This chart is offered as a guide for convenience and is not a substitute for the user clearly understanding the nature and proper use of the chemicals being used, area hygiene and environmental conditions, and the laws governing use. Check with the chemical manufacturer for more information. Mixing of different chemicals and chemical concentrations may impact suitability and compatibility. This chart is not a guarantee, express or implied, of fitness of use and Justrite assumes no responsibility for the use or misuse of this information.

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# USE



The dispensing tray top of a plunger can incorporates a perforated metal flame arrester. Pressing down pumps liquid up from the can for safe moistening of cleaning rags.



Round bench-style wash tank has fusible link device to close lid in case of fire.



Perforated, spring-loaded dasher tray covers the opening of a bench can. Accessory basket holds small parts for immersing into cleaning solvent.



Self-closing, foot-operated lid on a Justrite rinse tank contains flammable vapors, snuffs out flash fire.