



Combustible  
Liquids

## eSafetyLine

### **Safety Containers**

Every worksite has some amount of flammable and combustible liquids on site for day to day use. The most common of these are gasoline and diesel fuel but also include lacquer thinner, alcohol, some paint thinners, kerosene and linseed oil. Because these classes of liquids are prone to catch fire or explode they present special storage and handling issues. The best way to reduce and even prevent fires and explosions is to keep only minimal quantities on site and to always use proper safety storage containers.

The basic reason to use a safety container is to control the vapors of both types of liquids while still providing an easy way to carry, dispense and store up to 5 gallons at a time. These containers are to be made to withstand moderate mechanical shocks with other safety features including: vapor control, emergency venting, leak tight self-closing covers and flame arrestor protected pour spouts.

These containers are typically made from rugged materials like terne plate, stainless steel or polyethylene. Several types of safety containers exist, depending on the specific needs that are present. All safety containers will have an independent testing laboratory listing or approval mark. They include:

- Type I Storage Containers- they are available up to a 5 gallon size. The larger containers are meant for pouring into tanks or other largemouth vessels. The pour opening is relatively large to allow for easy pouring.
- Type II Storage Containers- this type is made to allow for accurate pouring into fuel tanks and other small openings. These are also available up to a 5 gallon size.

- Plunger Can- this is used to dispense measured amounts of liquid into the upper pan of the can. This allows the worker to moisten a cloth or swab. Any excess liquid drains back into the base through a flash arrestor screen.
- Swab Pail- A swab pail is used instead of an open bucket when flammable solvents will be used for cleanup work and quick access and easy portability are needed. There is a manual hinged closing cover that minimizes vapors escaping. A flash arresting screen protects the surface of the liquid.
- Bench Can- this is used to immerse small parts in a cleaning solvent. It is often used with a small bucket to hold the parts for cleaning. A spring loaded screen holds the parts while draining the liquid. It also helps to protect the liquid's surface. A manually hinged cover reduces solvent loss.

By choosing the right safety container for the job, the risk of fire or explosion on your site will be greatly reduced.

### **Discussion Questions**

What are the main differences between Type I and Type II storage containers?

What are safety storage containers most commonly made of?

# MEETING / TRAINING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SAFETY MEETING

JOB/DEPT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SAFETY TRAINING

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

TOPICS ADDRESSED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ACTION TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Safety Coordinator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date