

MARTIN® Flammable Storage Cabinet Guidelines

Aerosols and Flammable Liquids

Aerosols should be stored separate from other flammable liquids as a **best practice**. *Also refer to compatibilities.*

Cabinet Integrity

Any alteration to the integrity of a flammable cabinet will void the FM approval and become a violation. Most commonly are rivets, screws, dents, and rust or deterioration. **Removing self closing mechanism is also both an FM and state fire code violation.** *Refer to your state's requirements.*

Absorbent Materials

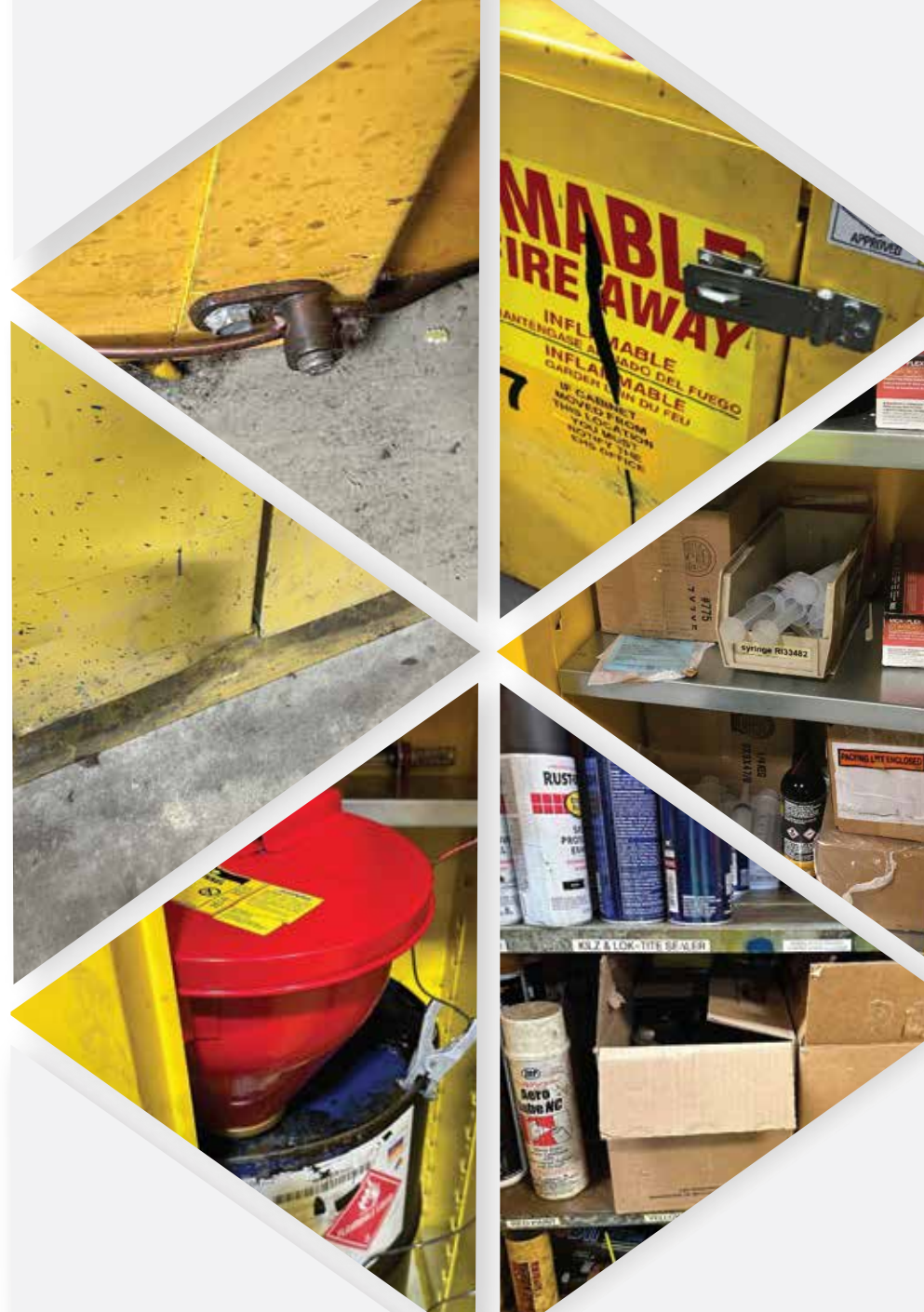
Absorbent material inside flammable cabinets is a serious safety issue. All spills should be cleaned up as they happen. Absorbent material is combustible and should not be left inside cabinets. Corrective action should be taken to minimize and prevent flammable material spillage.

Combustible Materials

Combustible materials such as cardboard and absorbent pads, should not be stored in flammable cabinets. **Don't add fuel to the fire! Keep unnecessary flammable materials put away.** When storing chemical containers in a flammable safety cabinet, it might seem more organized to keep them in their original cardboard outer packaging. However, this approach creates unintended safety risks. A spark near the safety cabinet may ignite the cardboard. When the cardboard burns, it creates heat. This may cause any vapors in the air to ignite or explode.

Extraneous Items

Foreign items such as buckets, tools, funnels, caulk guns, should not be stored in flammable cabinets.



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Top of Cabinets

Never place or store items on top of flammable cabinets. Items on top of cabinets can create additional heat sources reducing egress time. Liquid items on top can seep into cabinet creating conduit for heat to enter reducing egress time. **Do not use top of cabinets as a work space**, it can damage the cabinet. They are not intended to bear weight.

Cabinet Placement

Cinder Block Riser

There are no explicit OSHA or NFPA standards that specifically prohibit the placement of flammable storage cabinets on cinder blocks. However, the standards require that flammable storage cabinets be placed on a stable, level, and non-combustible surface. Cinder blocks are non-combustible and, if arranged to provide a stable and level base, generally meet the intent of these requirements.

Wooden Pallets

Wooden pallets are combustible and not allowed for flammable safety cabinet foundation.

Non-Combustible Requirement: OSHA and NFPA require flammable cabinets to be placed on a non-combustible surface to reduce fire risk. Cinder blocks are non-combustible and thus satisfy this requirement.

Key Points: The surface must be stable and level to ensure the cabinet does not tip and to allow proper operation of doors and spill containment features. If cinder blocks are used in a way that meets this criterion, it is acceptable.