

# Checklist

## Explosion Protection

*Innovative Approaches for the Sound  
Management of Chemicals and Chemical Waste*



UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Below you will find a list of questions related to the prevention of explosion hazards as illustrated in the “Explosion Protection” presentation. If a question does not apply to your company, go to the next question.

- If you have answered “☒ No” or “☒ Partially” to one of the questions, additional measures should be taken and recorded on page 8.

## Inventory of flammables liquids, gases and dusts

Please fill in the following table and checklist for each storage or working area.

### Storage premises or working area

Flammable substances, groups of flammable substances (e.g. highly flammable liquids)	Maximum quantity [kg]	Characteristics (e.g. flash point, minimum ignition temperature)

1	<p>Have you checked if it is possible to substitute flammable substances with less dangerous substances?</p> <p><i>For example: Non-flammable substances or non-flammable liquids with a flash point greater than 30 °C, pellets or pasty products</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
2	<p>Have you classified the areas presenting an explosion hazard in zones? (Figure 1)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No

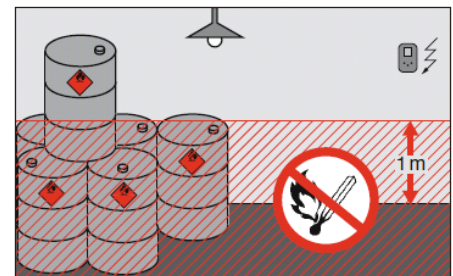


Figure 1: Zone 1 in a storage site  
Source: Suva

## Storage premises and working areas

<p><b>3</b></p>	<p>Are containers, installations, equipment, pipes, etc. protected against excessive thermal impact? (Figure 2)</p> <p><i>For example: premises built as fire compartments, observance of safety distances, construction with fire-proof materials, etc.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p>Have containment measures (safety sills, retention basins) been taken to prevent the spread of liquids in premises and pipes? (Figure 3)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p>Are installations and work equipment placed in such a way that gases and vapours cannot spread in dangerous quantities in cavities, pipes, etc.?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>Are storage premises for flammable gases and liquids appropriately ventilated? (Figure 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Artificial or natural ventilation (air renewed three to five times per hour)</li> <li>- Artificial ventilation mandatory for basement-level premises</li> <li>- Suction opening at floor level for gases with a greater density than the air</li> <li>- Suction opening at ceiling level for gases with a lower density than the air</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>Are working areas sufficiently ventilated? (Figure 5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At source ventilation</li> <li>- Air renewal about ten times per hour</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

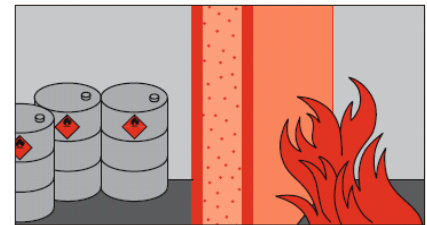


Figure 2: Protection of containers against thermal impact  
Source: Suva

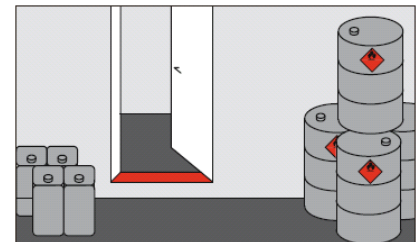


Figure 3: Containment measures (safety sills)  
Source: Suva

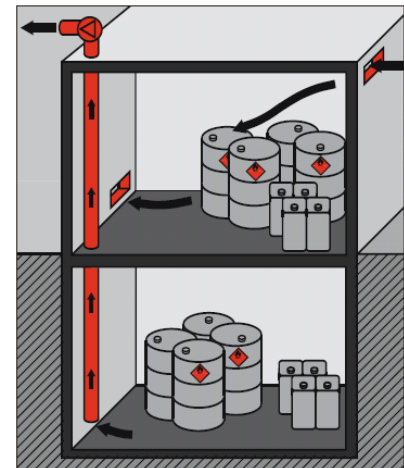


Figure 4: Ventilation of the storage premises  
Source: Suva

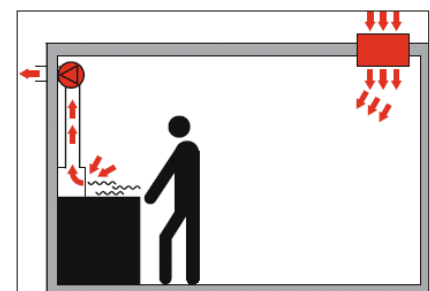


Figure 5: The efficiency of the ventilation system highly depends on the air circulation  
Source: Suva

<p><b>8</b></p>	<p>Are ventilators that are located in the airflow of the evacuated air designed and installed in such a way that they cannot become an ignition source?</p> <p><i>They should not produce any electric or mechanical sparks.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p>Does the location of the ventilation openings/outlets allow a safe evacuation of gases and vapours?</p> <p><i>For example: On roofs, no ignition sources should be located near the air outlets.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p>Are storage premises and tanks only accessible to authorized persons?</p> <p><i>For example: Non-authorized access is blocked by a fence.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p>Is an escape route ensured?</p> <p><i>For example: direct access to fresh air, corridors forming a fire compartment, doors opening in the direction of the escape route</i>  <i>Escape routes and emergency exits should be appropriately indicated and free of obstacles.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p>Are all effective ignition sources eliminated in zones presenting an explosion hazard? (Figure 6)</p> <p><i>Possible ignition sources: flames, hot surfaces, mechanical/electric sparks, static electricity, lighting, etc.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

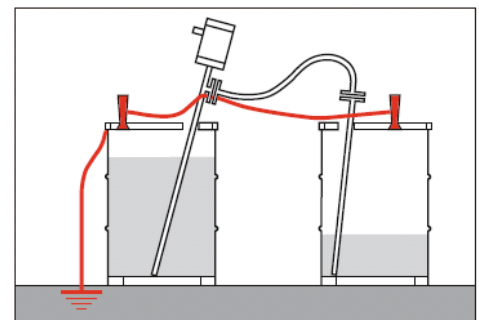


Figure 6: Ground all conductor elements to avoid the formation of static electricity  
Source: Suva

**Installations, equipment**

<p><b>13</b></p>	<p>Is equipment used in accordance with the classification of explosion hazard zones?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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<p><b>14</b></p>	<p>Are installations and equipment designed as closed systems? (Figure 7)</p> <p><i>For example: gas return line, sealed containers, etc.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>15</b></p>	<p>Are installations (containers, pipes, plumbing, control units, etc.) dimensioned to resist the expected overpressure under normal conditions of use?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p>Are construction measures taken when explosion prevention measures are ineffective or only partially effective?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>17</b></p>	<p>Are installations (containers, pipes, etc.) placed and protected in such a way that they resist the expected mechanical stress?</p> <p><i>For example: protection against shock</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p>Are containers, pipes, etc. clearly and permanently marked? (Figure 8)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>19</b></p>	<p>Are measures taken to avoid the accumulation of combustible dusts, remove dust accumulations and prevent their dispersion? (Figure 9)</p> <p><i>For example: Remove unnecessary horizontal surfaces, use movable or stationary extraction units for dust.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>20</b></p>	<p>Are small quantities of highly flammable liquids (up to 100 litres in total) stored in fire-proof cabinets when used in working areas?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p>Is personal protective equipment (PPE) available to workers?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

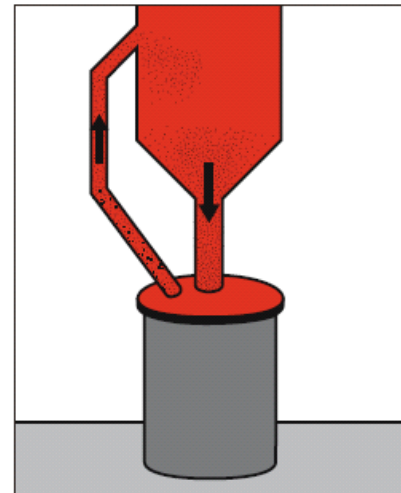


Figure 7: Closed systems prevent the release of flammable substances  
 Source: Suva

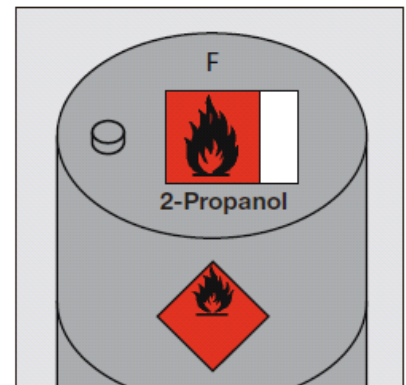


Figure 8: Correctly marked containers  
 Source: Suva



Figure 9: Dusts removed by aspiration  
 Source: Suva

## Organization

22	Are storage zones and working areas that are exposed to explosion hazards clearly indicated by safety signs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
23	In working areas, are flammable substances only stored in limited quantities (only quantities required for the daily work flow)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
24	Are containers with flammable substances (liquids or solids) closed when not in use?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
25	Is thermal impact in storage and working areas reduced to a minimum? Are flammable substances stored separately from oxidizing substances? (Figure 10)  <i>For example: storage of flammable substances separately from packaging materials</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
26	Is appropriate cooling and extinguishing equipment available? (Figure 11)  <i>For example: extinguishers, sprinklers, etc.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
27	Are safety instructions available?  <i>For example: safety instructions available in the vicinity of installations and equipment</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No
28	Is there an emergency plan for exceptional situations? The emergency plan should describe the appropriate measures to follow depending on the situation.  <i>For example: intervention plan, organization of the safe evacuation of workers, intervention of the rescue services</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input type="checkbox"/> No

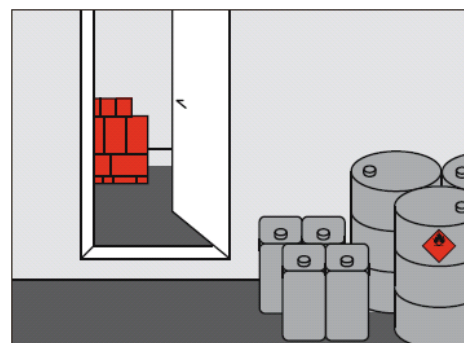


Figure 10: Storage of flammable substances in separate premises  
Source: Suva

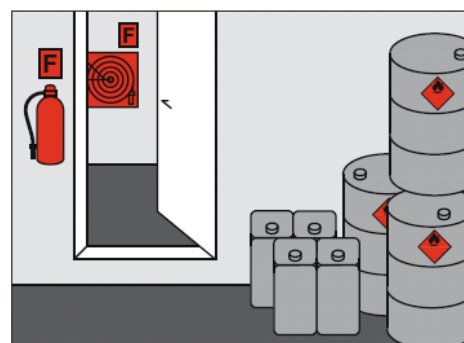


Figure 11: Cooling and extinguishing systems  
Source: Suva

## Instructions, maintenance and coordination

<p><b>29</b></p>	<p>Have (temporary and permanent) staff received training on the risks and safety measures at the beginning of their employment and at regular intervals?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>Are installations regularly maintained by experts?   <i>For example: maintenance instructions, recording of maintenance work</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Is the intervention of third-party companies coordinated so as to ensure the safety of the workers?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> Partially  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

Checklist filled in by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Measures planned:  
**Explosion prevention**

Checked premises: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

N°	Measure to implement	Deadline	Responsible	Measure implemented		Remarks	Checked	
				Date	Visa		Date	Visa

Next check on the:

(recommended every 6 months)



## Sources

CSD Engineers, Switzerland/ISSPPRO, Germany, 2015

Suva : Liste de contrôle – Risques d'explosion, 2013, Switzerland