

Whenever possible hazardous materials should be substituted for a material that is non-hazardous or less hazardous. If you are unable to remove the hazardous material from the workplace you are required to put control measures in place to protect your workers. A primary focus for these control measures is proper storage.

### *General Requirements for Storage*

- Maintain an inventory of all hazardous materials used, produced, handled or stored in the workplace.
- Store hazardous materials in packages or containers:
  - that are compatible with the product they contain and
  - are of durable construction and designed to resist damage from normal material handling activities.
- Label all hazardous materials (WHMIS 2015, TDG etc.
- Limit the quantity of a hazardous materials, when feasible.
- Maintain access aisles to hazardous materials.
- Store hazardous materials away from ignition sources.
- Separate incompatible materials.
- Consider the ambient temperature for each material.

### *Emergency and Spill Response Controls Plan*

The emergency response plan and/or fire plan should include the following information in regarding the hazardous materials in the workplace:

- Location of hazardous material (storage room, southwest corner of warehouse etc.)
- Method of storage (racking, cabinet etc.)
- Classification of materials (flammable, corrosive etc.)
- Spill control measures (secondary containment, spill kits etc.)

### *Spill Containment*

Spill containment is used to stop the spread of a hazardous materials in the event of a spill. There are many different types of secondary containment but there are two categories, permanent or temporary:

- Permanent – Engineered Berms and Sumps (transport tanker pads)
- Temporary – Spill Trays (drum spill tray)

### *Spill Kits*

Not all spill kits are made the same! Make sure you have the right kind of spill kit for the volume and type of hazardous materials in the workplace.

### *Common Types of Spill Kits:*



- Oil Only Spill Kit
- Universal Spill Kit
- HazMat Spill Kit
- Specialty Spill Kits
- Acid Spill Kits
- Mercury Spill Kit

*(continued)*



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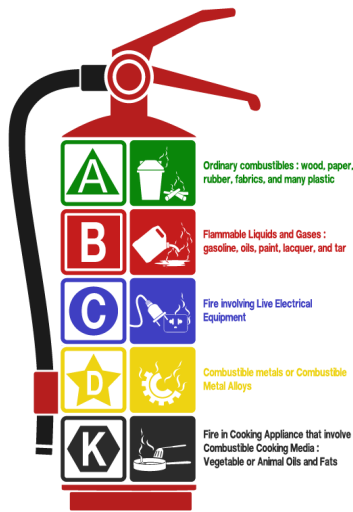
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## Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are designed to put out specific types of fires. Ensure you have the correct fire extinguishers available for the type of hazardous materials that are on your worksites.

Portable fire extinguisher typically use the following markings to indicate which class of fire they are designed to fight. These symbols are recommended by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in the USA. The symbols may be shown using colours.



## National Fire Code of Canada

- Division B Acceptable Solutions
  - Part 3 Indoor and Outdoor Storage

## Do you need more information? RPM can help!

We offer Safety for Supervisors, Hazard Identification and Risk Control, as well as Incident Reporting and Investigation Techniques as self-led eLearning courses, free to RPM program participants. Visit our website for more information about each of these courses.

Please note RPM courses are offered to RPM registered companies only. Your company must be registered with RPM and be in the process of working towards certification or must have achieved the SAFE Work Manitoba Trucking Certificate of Recognition. Not yet registered in the RPM program? Today is a great day to get started!

## Legislation

### Federal Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

- PART X Hazardous Substances

### Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulation

- PART 7 Storage of Materials, Equipment, Machines, and Tools
- PART 19 Fire and Explosive Hazards
- PART 35 Workplace Hazardous Products Information Systems
- PART 36 Chemical and Biological Substances

Please contact RPM by emailing [info@rpmsafety.ca](mailto:info@rpmsafety.ca) or calling

204-632-6600, or by visiting our website [www.rpmsafety.ca](http://www.rpmsafety.ca).

