

LOSS CONTROL DATA GUIDE

Commodity Storage Considerations

In warehouse occupancies, the method or arrangement of commodities in storage plays a major role in the severity of a fire. Typical storage arrangements found in warehouses include bin-box, bulk storage, solid-piled, palletized, shelf, and rack storage. This checklist can be used to assess factors that should be considered in developing a fire prevention plan for the storage of commodities.

	Yes	No	N/A
Has the local fire department visited, or been invited to visit, the facility to familiarize themselves with storage arrangements, hazards, and protection equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are commodities that are not fire hazards by themselves, such as oxygen, but are hazardous in combination with other materials, such as flammable liquids, stored so they cannot be exposed to each other?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the fire suppression system adequate for the commodities present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are commodities that are particularly susceptible to water damage stored on skids, pallets, or elevated platforms in order to maintain at least a 4-in (10-cm) clearance from the floor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the storage of commodities that expand with the absorption of water, such as roll paper, provided with at least a 24-in (61-cm) separation from walls?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are aisles free from the storage of commodities, as well as combustible materials, such as wood pallets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are commodities stored in stable configurations, with no loose boxes, damaged pallets, or torn wrappings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are storage racks on a level surface, not loaded beyond their design capacity, and free from physical damage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there accumulations of combustible materials, such as wood or plastic pallets, in storage areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are flammable liquids stored in a protected area that is separated from the rest of the facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are corrosive liquids stored separately from flammables, either in corrosive-liquids' cabinets or in a room specifically designed for that purpose?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are aerosols stored separately from flammable liquids?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are Level 2 and Level 3 aerosols, stored in accordance with NFPA 30B, Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products, published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is at least a 3-ft (0.9-m) clearance maintained between stored materials and unit heaters, radiant space heaters, duct furnaces, and flues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>