

# SAFETY AND HYGIENE REGULATIONS



Servei de Prevenció de Riscos Laborals  
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA

## STORAGE OF CORROSIVE CHEMICALS IN MOVABLE CONTAINERS

CODE

**SHR 304**

Date:

**July 2003**

Revision:

**00**

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**CHEMICAL STORAGE ACCORDING TO ROYAL DECREE 379/2001 ON THE STORAGE OF CHEMICAL PRODUCTS, COMPLEMENTARY TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION (ITC):  
MIE APQ – 006 ON “STORAGE OF CORROSIVE LIQUIDS”**

### FIELD OF APPLICATION

Storage of corrosive liquids in movable containers, with a unit capacity of less than 3,000 litres.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

The movable containers must meet the construction criteria and pass the tests established in the legislation for the transport of dangerous goods. This aspect must be accredited by the manufacturer.

Storage areas inside buildings must have at least two independent entrances, indicated with signs. The length of the real route (around stacks of goods or other obstacles) to the outside of the building or to a safe evacuation route must be no more than 25 metres. In no case should the arrangement of containers block normal or emergency exits, or hinder access to equipment or areas set aside for safety purposes. One exit is sufficient when the storage area is 25 m<sup>2</sup> or the distance to the exit is less than 6 metres.

The electrical installation must meet the requirements of current legislation.

Products that may react dangerously if mixed together must not be stored in the same stack or set of shelves. If liquids of different classes are stored in the same stack or set of shelves, all of them should be considered together as a liquid of the most corrosive class.

Containers used for storing corrosive liquids must be palletised, packed or wrapped when required to ensure the stability of the stack, or to prevent excessive force on the container walls.

The maximum height of stacking containers directly on top of each other is determined by the strength of the containers and the density of the stored products. Containers must be protected against risks caused by them falling, breaking or spilling the liquid contents.

Interior storage area must have natural or forced ventilation, which should be channelled outside through tubes fitted for this purpose only.

The floor and the first 100 millimetres (from the floor) of the walls around the entire storage area, including doors and other openings, must be waterproof and watertight to prevent liquids from flowing into adjacent areas. Alternatively, the floor could drain into a safe place.

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### SAFETY MEASURES

#### **Signposting**

Standard signs must be put up and clearly visible in storage areas and particularly in handling areas, in accordance with Royal Decree 485/1997 on the minimum health and safety requirements in the workplace. The signs must clearly indicate the presence of corrosive liquids, in addition to any other hazard warning signs.



#### **Lighting**

The storage area must be lit properly when corrosive liquids are handled.

#### **Showers and eyewash stations**

Showers and eyewash stations must be installed in the proximity of workplaces, particularly in loading and unloading areas, in the area in which barrels are filled, in pumps and at sampling points.

Showers and eyewash stations must be no more than 10 metres from the aforementioned workplaces and must be free from obstacles and signposted properly.

Showers and eyewash stations must be inspected at least once a week. Any faults that are detected in these inspections must be communicated immediately to the person responsible for their maintenance, so that they can be repaired as quickly as possible.

