



# PURCHASING A FLAMMABLE STORAGE CABINET

## UNIVERSITY GUIDELINES

The design and construction of flammable liquid storage cabinets must adhere to compliance regulations set by organizations like OSHA and NFPA and shall meet all requirements of the most current NC State Fire Code. General requirements are outlined below:

## BUILD QUALITY

- Cabinets (including doors) must be UL-1275 listed **OR** constructed in an approved fashion—including using 18 gage steel, double-walled with 1.5" airspace between walls.
- Must have tight-fitting, welded joints (wood constructed cabinets are allowed but not recommended).
- Doors are required to be well-fitted, self-closing, and equipped with a three point latch.
- According to the NFPA 30, the door sill (lip) must be raised at least 2" above the bottom of the cabinet to retain spilled liquid and prevent it from leaking out.

## LABELING

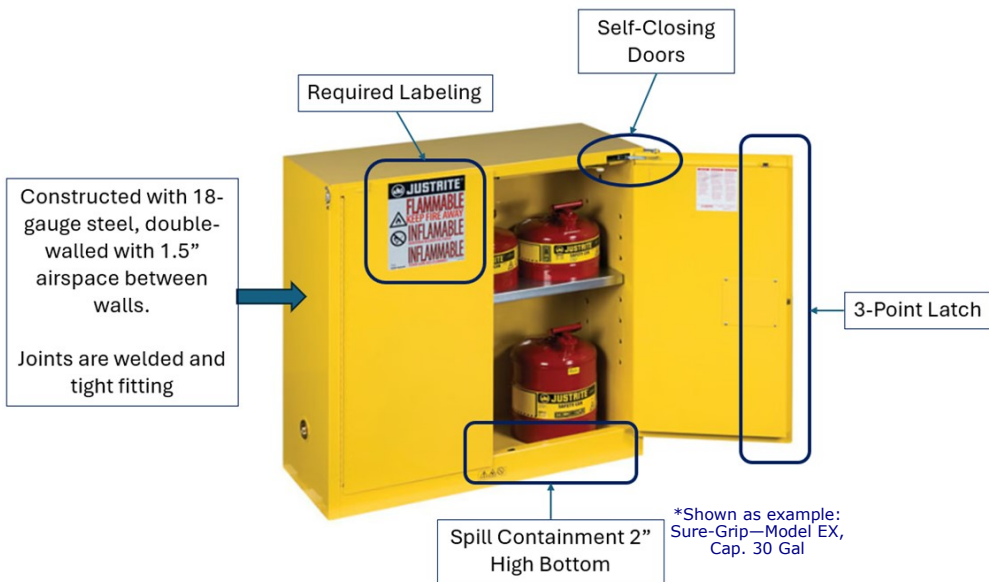
- Cabinets must have a conspicuous label in **red** lettering on contrasting background, reading: "**FLAMMABLE—KEEP FIRE AWAY**" or "**Flammable—Keep Away From Open Flames**".

## STORAGE LIMITS

- According to OSHA 29 CFR 1910.106, no more than 60 gallons of Cat. 1, 2, or 3 flammable liquids (or 120 gallons of Cat. 4 flammable liquids) shall be stored in a single cabinet.
- No more than three cabinets should be located in a single storage area.

## LOCATION RESTRICTIONS

- Flammable liquids must not be stored in areas used for exits, stairways, or normally used for the safe passage of people.



## FURTHER INFORMATION

- ⇒ OESO Fire & Life Safety Division & Laboratory Safety Division provide these guidelines as a courtesy for personnel when considering the purchase of new flammable liquid storage cabinets. **At no time are these offices endorsing a particular brand, product, size, or trademark.**
- ⇒ For more detailed information, particularly regarding use and application of these cabinets, please contact **OESO Fire & Life Safety (919-684-5609 or [firesafety@duke.edu](mailto:firesafety@duke.edu))** or **OESO Lab Safety Division (919-684-8822 or [labsafety@duke.edu](mailto:labsafety@duke.edu))** prior to purchasing to ensure all requirements are met.