



## COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

5 County Complex Court, Suite 160, Prince William, Virginia 22192  
(703) 792-6360 Metro 631-1703, Ext. 6360, Fax (703) 792-6492

DEPARTMENT OF  
FIRE & RESCUE

Kevin J McGee  
Chief

### APPLICATION OF FLAMMABLE FINISHES IN BUILDINGS

1. Where applicable, smoke detectors in the area of refinishing shall be bagged. Refinisher will remind engineer or responsible party at the building to notify the local fire department.
2. Doors that are blocked open for ventilation purposes shall have "DO NOT ENTER" signs posted. Signs will be posted or caution tape used to keep the general public out of the work area.
3. When people are present within a tenant area near a spray area and another exit is available, the nearby entrance will be taped sealed to prevent fumes from entering the tenant space.
4. Proper ventilation shall be provided and maintained. Ventilation may be either natural or mechanical. Mechanical ventilation shall be done with explosion proof fans.
5. Spray area shall be ventilated until the finish is dry and no longer emitting flammable vapors.
6. Smoking and open flame shall be absolutely prohibited in any spray finishing area. "NO SMOKING" signs shall be conspicuously posted.
7. Approved metal waste cans equipped with self-closing lids shall be provided wherever rags or waste are impregnated with finishing materials. All such impregnated rags or waste shall be deposited therein immediately after use.
8. Only approved safety cans shall be used for bringing flammable liquids into spray finishing areas. Open or glass containers shall not be used.
9. Whenever flammable liquids are transferred from one container to another, both containers shall be bonded or effectively grounded.
10. Portable fire extinguishers suitable for flammable liquids shall be provided at all times during the finishing process. As a minimum, one fire extinguisher rated at

least 20 BC shall be present and not more than 50 feet from the work area, located in the means of egress.

11. Flammable liquids shall be stored and handled in accordance with NFPA 30 - Flammable and Combustible Liquid Code, and NFPA 33 - Spray Application Using Flammable and Combustible Materials, except as provided by these guidelines.
12. Space heating appliances or other appliances which have or produce hot surfaces shall not be operated in the vicinity of spray operations.
13. Whenever physical dimensions permit, spark-generating equipment shall not be operated within a safety zone of 20 feet (horizontal) by 10 feet (vertical).
14. Employee clothing contaminated with flammable materials shall be sorted in metal containers if left on site.
15. All personnel shall be trained in the everyday handling of flammable and hazardous materials, in accordance with applicable OSHA regulations. In addition, local fire departments will establish programs for providing fire extinguisher training.
16. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) materials shall be available at job sites.
17. Copies of all licenses, permits, or other documentation as specified by each local jurisdiction shall be available at the job site.

November 2005

w:\forms\handouts\flammable finishes