

Explosion-proof refrigerators are designed for use in an area where flammable vapors or gases may be present in the environment around the unit. They have sealed electrical equipment and junction boxes that eliminate ignition sources outside and inside the unit. They must also be hard-wired into the buildings electrical system using approved methods. These units are usually quite expensive. Typical laboratory operations would not warrant an explosion proof refrigerator.

Flammable-safe refrigerators have specially designed interior parts to prevent flammable vapors or gases from contacting internal ignition sources. They are not approved for use in an environment where flammable vapors or gases may be present, because ignition sources on the exterior of the refrigerator may not be vapor-tight. These units are connected to an electrical outlet using a standard cord and plug assembly.