

Talk 9: Flammable Liquids Control



Why This Matters

Petrol, diesel, thinners, and solvents produce vapors that can ignite from static electricity or tiny sparks. Correct storage protects people, plant, and the environment.

Storage & Segregation

- ✓ Keep flammables in rated cabinets or outdoor cages with ventilation
- ✓ Maintain segregation distances from oxidizers, LPG, and ignition sources
- ✓ Keep containers sealed, labeled, and within expiry dates
- ✓ Ground bulk tanks and keep bonding cables intact

Decanting & Transfer

- ✓ Use approved pumps or funnels—never mouth siphon
- ✓ Wear goggles and chemical-resistant gloves when decanting
- ✓ Work in well-ventilated areas away from hot works
- ✓ Clean drips immediately and dispose of contaminated rags in metal bins

If a Flammable Spill Occurs

1. Stop ignition sources—shut plant down and ban smoking in the area
2. Evacuate non-essential people and raise the alarm
3. Use spill kits rated for hydrocarbons; never hose to drain
4. Report immediately so waste can be disposed of as hazardous

Hot Work Coordination

- ✓ Check gas detectors before hot work near flammable storage
- ✓ Maintain fire watches for 60 minutes after work finishes
- ✓ Verify permits list all nearby flammable risks and controls

Discussion Points

- ✓ Where are today's flammable storage cabinets and keys?
- ✓ Do we have enough bonding leads and spill kits?
- ✓ Any decanting tasks scheduled—who is competent to do them?