**Chapter 26 Laboratories Using Chemicals**

26.1 General

26.1.1

The handling or storage of chemicals in laboratory buildings, laboratory units, and laboratory work areas whether located above or below grade shall comply with this chapter. Construction and protection of new laboratories shall also comply with NFPA 45.

26.1.2

Chapter 26 shall apply to laboratory buildings, laboratory units, and laboratory work areas whether located above or below grade in which chemicals, as defined in NFPA 704 with one or more of the following hazard ratings, are handled or stored: health — 2, 3, or 4; flammability — 2, 3, or 4; or instability— 2, 3, or 4. (See also Section B.2 of NFPA 45.) [45:1.1.1]

26.1.3

Chapter 26 shall apply to all educational laboratory units and instructional laboratory units in which any quantity of chemicals, as defined in NFPA 704 with one or more of the following hazard ratings, is handled or stored: health — 2, 3, or 4: flammability — 2, 3, or 4; or instability — 2, 3, or 4. (See also Section B.2 of NFPA 45). [45:1.1.2]

26.1.4

Diagram

With the exception of 26.1.3, Chapter 26 shall not apply to the following:

\* Laboratories for which the following conditions apply:

Laboratory units that contain less than or equal to 1 gal (4 L) of flammable or combustible liquid

Laboratory units that contain less than 75 scf (2.2 standard m3) of flammable gas, not including piped-in low-pressure utility gas installed in accordance with NFPA 54

\* Pilot plants

Laboratories that handle only chemicals with a hazard rating of 0 or 1 for all of the following: health, flammability, and instability, as defined by NFPA 704

Laboratories that are primarily manufacturing plants

Incidental testing facilities

Physical, electronic, instrument, laser, or similar laboratories that use chemicals only for incidental purposes, such as cleaning

\* Hazards associated with radioactive materials, as covered by NFPA 801

Laboratories that work only with explosive material, as covered by NFPA 495

A laboratory work area containing an explosion hazard great enough to cause property damage outside that laboratory work area or injury outside that laboratory work area requiring medical treatment beyond first aid

[45:1.1.3]

Upcodes Diagrams

26.1.5

Chapter 26 contains requirements, but not all-inclusive requirements, for handling and storage of chemicals where laboratory-scale operations are conducted and shall not cover the following:

The special fire protection required when handling explosive materials (See NFPA 495.)

The special fire protection required when handling radioactive materials

[45:1.1.6]

26.1.6 Plans and Procedures

26.1.6.1\*

Fire prevention, maintenance, and emergency action plans and procedures shall be established.

26.2 Permits

Permits, where required, shall comply with Section 1.12.