

## CHAPTER 57

# FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS

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**User note:**

**About this chapter:** Chapter 57 provides requirements that are intended to reduce the likelihood of fires involving the storage, handling, use or transportation of flammable and combustible liquids. Adherence to these practices may also limit damage in the event of an accidental fire involving these materials. These liquids are used for fuel, lubricants, cleaners, solvents, medicine and even drinking. The danger associated with flammable and combustible liquids is that the vapors from these liquids, when combined with air in their flammable range, will burn or explode at temperatures near normal living and working environments. The regulations herein are intended to prevent the flammable and combustible liquids from being ignited and provide mitigating requirements for when a fire does occur.

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### SECTION 5701 GENERAL

**5701.1 Scope and application.** Prevention, control and mitigation of dangerous conditions related to storage, use, dispensing, mixing and handling of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be in accordance with Chapter 50 and this chapter.

**5701.2 Nonapplicability.** This chapter shall not apply to liquids as otherwise provided in other laws or regulations or chapters of this code, including:

1. Specific provisions for *flammable liquids* in motor fuel-dispensing facilities, repair garages, airports and marinas in Chapter 23.
2. Medicines, foodstuffs, cosmetics and commercial or institutional products containing not more than 50 percent by volume of water-miscible liquids and with the remainder of the solution not being flammable, provided that such materials are packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons (5 L).
3. Quantities of alcoholic beverages in retail or wholesale sales or storage occupancies, provided that the liquids are packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons (5 L).
4. Storage and use of fuel oil in tanks and containers connected to oil-burning equipment. Such storage and use shall be in accordance with Section 605. For abandonment of fuel oil tanks, this chapter applies.
5. [Refrigeration](#) systems (see Section 608).
6. Storage and display of aerosol products complying with Chapter 51.
7. Storage and use of liquids that do not have a fire point when tested in accordance with ASTM D92.
8. Liquids with a *flash point* greater than 95°F (35°C) in a water-miscible solution or dispersion with a water and inert (noncombustible) solids content of more than 80 percent by weight, which do not sustain combustion.
9. Liquids without *flash points* that can be flammable under some conditions, such as certain halogenated hydrocarbons and mixtures containing halogenated hydrocarbons.
10. The storage of [beer](#), distilled spirits and wines in [barrels](#) and casks.
11. Commercial cooking oil storage tank systems located within a building and designed and installed in accordance with Section 607 and NFPA 30.
12. [Application and release of pesticide and agricultural products and materials intended for use in weed abatement, erosion control, soil amendment or similar applications where applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and label directions.](#)
13. [The off-site transportation of flammable or combustible liquids where in accordance with Department of Transportation \(DOTn\) regulation.](#)

**5701.3 Referenced documents.** The applicable requirements of Chapter 50, other chapters of this code, the *International Building Code* and the *International Mechanical Code* pertaining to *flammable liquids* shall apply.

**[S] 5701.4 Permits.** Permits (~~(shall be)~~) are required as set forth in Sections 105.5 and 105.6, [unless a permit has been issued by the Department of Ecology to install an underground tank.](#)

**5701.5 Material classification.** *Flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be classified in accordance with the definitions in Chapter 2.

When mixed with lower flash-point liquids, Class II or III liquids are capable of assuming the characteristics of the lower flash-point liquids. Under such conditions, the appropriate provisions of this chapter for the actual *flash point* of the mixed liquid shall apply.

When heated above their *flash points*, Class II and III liquids assume the characteristics of Class I liquids. Under such conditions, the appropriate provisions of this chapter for *flammable liquids* shall apply.

## SECTION 5702 DEFINITIONS

**5702.1 Definitions.** The following terms are defined in Chapter 2:

**ALCOHOL-BASED HAND RUB.**

**BULK PLANT OR TERMINAL.**

**BULK TRANSFER.**

**COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID.**

Class II.

Class IIIA.

Class IIIB.

**FIRE POINT.**

**FLAMMABLE LIQUID.**

Class IA.

Class IB.

Class IC.

**FLASH POINT.**

**FUEL LIMIT SWITCH.**

**LIQUID STORAGE ROOM.**

**LIQUID STORAGE WAREHOUSE.**

**MOBILE FUELING.**

**PROCESS TRANSFER.**

**REFINERY.**

**REMOTE EMERGENCY SHUTOFF DEVICE.**

**REMOTE SOLVENT RESERVOIR.**

**SOLVENT DISTILLATION UNIT.**

**TANK, PRIMARY.**

## SECTION 5703 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**5703.1 Electrical.** Electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with Section 603 and NFPA 70.

**5703.1.1 Classified locations for flammable liquids.** Areas where *flammable liquids* are stored, handled, dispensed or mixed shall be in accordance with Table 5703.1.1. A classified area shall not extend beyond an unpierced floor, roof or other solid partition.

The extent of the classified area is allowed to be reduced, or eliminated, where sufficient technical justification is provided to the *fire code official* that a concentration in the area in excess of 25 percent of the lower flammable limit (LFL) cannot be generated.

**TABLE 5703.1.1  
CLASS I ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT LOCATIONS<sup>a</sup>**

LOCATION	GROUP D DIVISION	EXTENT OF CLASSIFIED AREA
<b>Underground tank fill opening</b>	1	Pits, boxes or spaces below grade level, any part of which is within the Division 1 or 2 classified area.
	2	Up to 18 inches above grade level within a horizontal radius of 10 feet from a loose-fill connection and within a horizontal radius of 5 feet from a tight-fill connection.
<b>Vent—Discharging upward</b>	1	Within 3 feet of open end of vent, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 5 feet of open end of vent, extending in all directions.
<b>Drum and container filling</b>		
Outdoor or indoor with adequate ventilation	1	Within 3 feet of vent and fill opening, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 5 feet from vent of fill opening, extending in all directions. Also up to 18 inches above floor or grade level within a horizontal radius of 10 feet from vent or fill opening.
<b>Pumps, bleeders, withdrawal fittings, meters and similar devices</b>		
Indoor	2	Within 5 feet of any edge of such devices, extending in all directions, and up to 3 feet above floor or grade level within 25 feet horizontally from any edge of such devices.
Outdoor	2	Within 3 feet of any edge of such devices, extending in all directions, and up to 18 inches above floor or grade level within 10 feet horizontally from an edge of such devices.
<b>Pits</b>		
Without mechanical ventilation	1	Entire area within pit if any part is within a Division 1 or 2 classified area.
With mechanical ventilation	2	Entire area within pit if any part is within a Division 1 or 2 classified area.
Containing valves, fittings or piping, and not within a Division 1 or 2 classified area	2	Entire pit.
<b>Drainage ditches, separators, impounding basins</b>		
Indoor	1 or 2	Same as pits.
Outdoor	2	Area up to 18 inches above ditch, separator or basin, and up to 18 inches above grade within 15 feet horizontal from any edge.
<b>Tank vehicle and tank car<sup>b</sup></b>		
Loading through open dome	1	Within 3 feet of edge of dome, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 15 feet from edge of dome, extending in all directions.
Loading through bottom connections with atmospheric venting	1	Within 3 feet of point of venting to atmosphere, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 15 feet from point of venting to atmosphere, extending in all directions. Also up to 18 inches above grade within a horizontal radius of 10 feet from point of loading connection.
Loading through closed dome with atmospheric venting	1	Within 3 feet of open end of vent, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 15 feet from open end of vent, extending in all directions, and within 3 feet of edge of dome, extending in all directions.
Loading through closed dome with vapor control	2	Within 3 feet of point of connection of both fill and vapor lines, extending in all directions.

LOCATION	GROUP D DIVISION	EXTENT OF CLASSIFIED AREA
Bottom loading with vapor control or any bottom unloading	2	Within 3 feet of point of connection, extending in all directions, and up to 18 inches above grade within a horizontal radius of 10 feet from point of connection.
Storage and repair garage for tank vehicles	1	Pits or spaces below floor level.
	2	Area up to 18 inches above floor or grade level for entire storage or repair garage.
Garages for other than tank vehicles	Ordinary	Where there is an opening to these rooms within the extent of an outdoor classified area, the entire room shall be classified the same as the area classification at the point of the opening.
Outdoor drum storage	Ordinary	—
Indoor warehousing where there is no flammable liquid transfer	Ordinary	Where there is an opening to these rooms within the extent of an indoor classified area, the room shall be classified the same as if the wall, curb or partition did not exist.
Indoor equipment where flammable vapor/air mixtures could exist under normal operations	1	Area within 5 feet of any edge of such equipment, extending in all directions.
	2	Area within 5 feet of any edge of such equipment, extending in all directions. Area between 5 feet and 8 feet of any edge of such equipment, extending in all directions, and the area up to 3 feet above floor or grade level within 5 feet to 25 feet horizontally from any edge of such equipment. <sup>c</sup>
Outdoor equipment where flammable vapor/air mixtures could exist under normal operations	1	Area within 3 feet of any edge of such equipment, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 3 feet and 8 feet of any edge of such equipment extending in all directions, and the area up to 3 feet above floor or grade level within 3 feet to 10 feet horizontally from any edge of such equipment.
<b>Tank—Above ground</b>		
Shell, ends or roof and dike area	1	Area inside dike where dike height is greater than the distance from the tank to the dike for more than 50 percent of the tank circumference.
	2	Area within 10 feet from shell, ends or roof of tank. Area inside dikes to level of top of dike.
Vent	1	Area within 5 feet of open end of vent, extending in all directions.
	2	Area between 5 feet and 10 feet from open end of vent, extending in all directions.
Floating roof	1	Area above the roof and within the shell.
Office and restrooms	Ordinary	Where there is an opening to these rooms within the extent of an indoor classified location, the room shall be classified the same as if the wall, curb or partition did not exist.

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- Locations as classified in NFPA 70.
- When classifying extent of area, consideration shall be given to the fact that tank cars or tank vehicles can be spotted at varying points. Therefore, the extremities of the loading or unloading positions shall be used.
- The release of Class I liquids can generate vapors to the extent that the entire building, and possibly a zone surrounding it, are considered a Class I, Division 2, location.

**5703.1.2 Classified locations for combustible liquids.** Areas where Class II or III liquids are heated above their *flash points* shall have electrical installations in accordance with Section 5703.1.1.

**Exception:** Solvent distillation units in accordance with Section 5705.4.

**5703.1.3 Other applications.** The *fire code official* is authorized to determine the extent of the Class I electrical equipment and wiring location where a condition is not specifically covered by these requirements or NFPA 70.

**5703.2 Fire protection.** Fire protection for the storage, use, dispensing, mixing, handling and on-site transportation of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be in accordance with this chapter and applicable sections of Chapter 9.

**5703.2.1 Portable fire extinguishers and hose lines.** Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with Section 906. Hose lines shall be provided in accordance with Section 905.

**5703.3 Site assessment.** In the event of a spill, leak or discharge from a tank system, a site assessment shall be completed by the *owner* or operator of such tank system if the *fire code official* determines that a potential fire or explosion hazard exists. Such site assessments shall be conducted to ascertain potential fire hazards and shall be completed and submitted to the fire department within a time period established by the *fire code official*, not to exceed 60 days.

**5703.4 Spill control and secondary containment.** Where the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* is exceeded, and where required by Section 5004.2, rooms, buildings or areas used for storage, dispensing, use, mixing or handling of Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Section 5004.2.

**5703.5 Labeling and signage.** The *fire code official* is authorized to require warning signs for the purpose of identifying the hazards of storing or using *flammable liquids*. Signage for identification and warning such as for the inherent hazard of flammable liquids or smoking shall be provided in accordance with this chapter and Sections 5003.5 and 5003.6.

**5703.5.1 Style.** Warning signs shall be of a durable material. Signs warning of the hazard of *flammable liquids* shall have white lettering on a red background and shall read: “DANGER—FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS.” Letters shall be not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in height and 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) in stroke.

**5703.5.2 Location.** Signs shall be posted in locations as required by the *fire code official*. Piping containing *flammable liquids* shall be identified in accordance with ASME A13.1.

**5703.5.3 Warning labels.** Individual containers, packages and cartons shall be identified, marked, labeled and placarded in accordance with federal regulations and applicable state laws.

**5703.5.4 Identification.** Color coding or other *approved* identification means shall be provided on each loading and unloading riser for *flammable* or *combustible liquids* to identify the contents of the tank served by the riser.

**5703.6 Piping systems.** Piping systems, and their component parts, for *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be in accordance with Sections 5703.6.1 through 5703.6.11.

**5703.6.1 Nonapplicability.** The provisions of Section 5703.6 shall not apply to gas or oil well installations; piping that is integral to stationary or portable engines, including aircraft, watercraft and motor vehicles; and piping in connection with boilers and pressure vessels regulated by the *International Mechanical Code*.

**5703.6.2 Design and fabrication of piping systems and components.** Piping system components shall be designed and fabricated in accordance with the applicable standard listed in Table 5703.6.2 and Chapter 27 of NFPA 30, except as modified by Section 5703.6.2.1.

**TABLE 5703.6.2  
PIPING STANDARDS**

PIPING USE	STANDARD
Power piping	ASME B31.1
Process piping	ASME B31.3
Pipeline transportation systems for liquid hydrocarbons and other liquids	ASME B31.4
Building services piping	ASME B31.9
Double containment piping	UL 971A, UL 1369

**5703.6.2.1 Special materials.** Low-melting-point materials (such as aluminum, copper or brass), materials that soften on fire exposure (such as nonmetallic materials) and nonductile material (such as cast iron) shall be acceptable for use underground in accordance with the applicable standard listed in Table 5703.6.2. Where such materials are used outdoors in above-ground piping systems or within buildings, they shall be in accordance with the applicable standard listed in Table 5703.6.2 and one of the following:

1. Suitably protected against fire exposure.
2. Located where leakage from failure would not unduly expose people or structures.
3. Located where leakage can be readily controlled by operation of remotely located valves in a location provided with *ready access*.

In all cases, nonmetallic piping shall be used in accordance with Section 27.4.6 of NFPA 30.

**5703.6.3 Testing.** Unless tested in accordance with the applicable section of ASME B31.9, piping, before being covered, enclosed or placed in use, shall be hydrostatically tested to 150 percent of the maximum anticipated pressure of the system, or pneumatically tested to 110 percent of the maximum anticipated pressure of the system, but not less than 5 pounds per

square inch gauge (psig) (34.47 kPa) at the highest point of the system. This test shall be maintained for a sufficient time period to complete visual inspection of joints and connections. For not less than 10 minutes, there shall be no leakage or permanent distortion. Care shall be exercised to ensure that these pressures are not applied to vented storage tanks. Such storage tanks shall be tested independently from the piping.

**5703.6.3.1 Existing piping.** Existing piping shall be tested in accordance with this section where the *fire code official* has reasonable cause to believe that a leak exists. Piping that could contain flammable or *combustible liquids* shall not be tested pneumatically. Such tests shall be at the expense of the *owner* or operator.

**Exception:** Vapor-recovery piping is allowed to be tested using an inert gas.

**5703.6.4 Protection from vehicles.** Guard posts or other *approved* means shall be provided to protect piping, valves or fittings subject to vehicular damage in accordance with Section 312.

**5703.6.5 Protection from external corrosion and galvanic action.** Where subject to external corrosion, piping, related fluid-handling components and supports for both underground and above-ground applications shall be fabricated from noncorrosive materials, and coated or provided with corrosion protection. Dissimilar metallic parts that promote galvanic action shall not be joined.

**5703.6.6 Valves.** Piping systems shall contain a sufficient number of manual control valves and check valves to operate the system properly and to protect the plant under both normal and emergency conditions. Piping systems in connection with pumps shall contain a sufficient number of such valves to control properly the flow of liquids in normal operation and in the event of physical damage or fire exposure.

**5703.6.6.1 Backflow protections.** Connections to pipelines or piping by which equipment (such as tank cars, tank vehicles or marine vessels) discharges liquids into storage tanks shall be provided with check valves or block valves for automatic protection against backflow where the piping arrangement is such that backflow from the system is possible. Where loading and unloading is done through a common pipe system, a check valve is not required. However, a block valve, located in an area where it is provided with *ready access* or remotely operable, shall be provided.

**5703.6.6.2 Manual drainage.** Manual drainage-control valves shall be located at *approved* locations remote from the tanks, diked area, drainage system and impounding basin to ensure their operation in a fire condition.

**5703.6.7 Connections.** Above-ground tanks with connections located below normal liquid level shall be provided with internal or external isolation valves located as close as practical to the shell of the tank. Except for liquids whose chemical characteristics are incompatible with steel, such valves, where external, and their connections to the tank shall be of steel.

**5703.6.8 Piping supports.** Piping systems shall be substantially supported and protected against physical damage and excessive stresses arising from settlement, vibration, expansion, contraction or exposure to fire. The supports shall be protected against exposure to fire by one of the following:

1. Draining liquid away from the piping system at a minimum slope of not less than 1 percent.
2. Providing protection with a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours.
3. Other *approved* methods.

**5703.6.9 Flexible joints.** Flexible joints shall be *listed* and *approved* and shall be installed on underground liquid, vapor and vent piping at all of the following locations:

1. Where piping connects to underground tanks.
2. Where piping ends at pump islands and vent risers.
3. At points where differential movement in the piping can occur.

**5703.6.9.1 Fiberglass-reinforced plastic piping.** Fiberglass-reinforced plastic (FRP) piping is not required to be provided with flexible joints in locations where both of the following conditions are present:

1. Piping does not exceed 4 inches (102 mm) in diameter.
2. Piping has a straight run of not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) on one side of the connection where such connections result in a change of direction.

In lieu of the minimum 4-foot (1219 mm) straight run length, *approved* and *listed* flexible joints are allowed to be used under dispensers and suction pumps, at submerged pumps and tanks, and where vents extend above ground.

**5703.6.10 Pipe joints.** Joints shall be liquid tight and shall be welded, flanged or threaded except that *listed* flexible connectors are allowed in accordance with Section 5703.6.9. Threaded or flanged joints shall fit tightly by using *approved*

methods and materials for the type of joint. Joints in piping systems used for Class I liquids shall be welded where located in concealed spaces within buildings.

Nonmetallic joints shall be *approved* and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Pipe joints that are dependent on the friction characteristics or resiliency of combustible materials for liquid tightness of piping shall not be used in buildings. Piping shall be secured to prevent disengagement at the fitting.

**5703.6.11 Bends.** Pipe and tubing shall be bent in accordance with ASME B31.9.

## SECTION 5704 STORAGE

**5704.1 General.** The storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in containers and tanks shall be in accordance with this section and the applicable sections of Chapter 50.

**5704.2 Tank storage.** The provisions of this section shall apply to:

1. The storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in fixed above-ground and underground tanks.
2. The storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in fixed above-ground tanks inside of buildings.
3. The storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in portable tanks whose capacity exceeds 660 gallons (2498 L).
4. The installation of such tanks and portable tanks.

**5704.2.1 Change of tank contents.** Tanks subject to change in contents shall be in accordance with Section 5704.2.7. Prior to a change in contents, the *fire code official* is authorized to require testing of a tank.

Tanks that have previously contained Class I liquids shall not be loaded with Class II or Class III liquids until such tanks and all piping, pumps, hoses and meters connected thereto have been completely drained and flushed.

**5704.2.2 Use of tank vehicles and tank cars as storage tanks.** Tank cars and tank vehicles shall not be used as storage tanks.

**5704.2.3 Labeling and signs.** Labeling and signs for storage tanks and storage tank areas shall comply with Sections 5704.2.3.1 and 5704.2.3.2.

**5704.2.3.1 Smoking and open flame.** Signs shall be posted in storage areas prohibiting open flames and smoking. Signs shall comply with Section 5703.5.

**5704.2.3.2 Label or placard.** Tanks more than 100 gallons (379 L) in capacity, which are permanently installed or mounted and used for the storage of Class I, II or III liquids, shall bear a label and placard identifying the material therein. Placards shall be in accordance with NFPA 704.

### Exceptions:

1. Tanks of 300-gallon (1136 L) capacity or less located on private property and used for heating and cooking fuels in single-family *dwelling*s.
2. Tanks located underground.

**5704.2.4 Sources of ignition.** Smoking and open flames are prohibited in storage areas in accordance with Section 5003.7.

**Exception:** Areas designated as smoking and hot work areas, and areas where hot work permits have been issued in accordance with this code.

**5704.2.5 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided in accordance with Section 911 for indoor tanks.

**5704.2.6 Separation from incompatible materials.** Storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be separated from *incompatible materials* in accordance with Section 5003.9.8.

Grass, weeds, combustible materials and waste Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall not be accumulated in an unsafe manner at a storage site.

**5704.2.7 Design, fabrication and construction requirements for tanks.** The design, fabrication and construction of tanks shall comply with NFPA 30. Each tank shall bear a permanent nameplate or marking indicating the standard used as the basis of design.

**5704.2.7.1 Materials used in tank construction.** The materials used in tank construction shall be in accordance with NFPA 30. The materials of construction for tanks and their appurtenances shall be compatible with the liquids to be stored.

**5704.2.7.2 Pressure limitations for tanks.** Tanks shall be designed for the pressures to which they will be subjected in accordance with NFPA 30.

**5704.2.7.3 Tank vents for normal venting.** Tank vents for normal venting shall be installed and maintained in accordance with Sections 5704.2.7.3.1 through 5704.2.7.3.5.3.

**5704.2.7.3.1 Vent lines.** Vent lines from tanks shall not be used for purposes other than venting unless *approved*.

**5704.2.7.3.2 Vent-line flame arresters and pressure-vacuum vents.** *Listed* or *approved* flame arresters or pressure-vacuum (PV) vents that remain closed unless venting under pressure or vacuum conditions shall be installed in normal vents of tanks containing Class IB and IC liquids.

Vent-line flame arresters shall be installed in accordance with their listing or API 2000 and maintained in accordance with Section 21.8.6 of NFPA 30 or API 2000. In-line flame arresters in piping systems shall be installed and maintained in accordance with their listing or API 2028. Pressure-vacuum vents shall be installed in accordance with Section 21.4.3 of NFPA 30 or API 2000 and maintained in accordance with Section 21.8.6 of NFPA 30 or API 2000.

**Exception:** Where determined by the *fire code official* that the use of these devices can result in damage to the tank.

**5704.2.7.3.3 Vent pipe outlets.** Vent pipe outlets for tanks storing Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall be located such that the vapors are released at a safe point outside of buildings and not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) above the finished ground level. Vapors shall be discharged upward or horizontally away from adjacent walls to assist in vapor dispersion. Vent outlets shall be located such that flammable vapors will not be trapped by eaves or other obstructions and shall be not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) from building openings or *lot lines* of properties that can be built on. Vent outlets on atmospheric tanks storing Class IIIB liquids are allowed to discharge inside a building where the vent is a normally closed vent.

**Exception:** Vent pipe outlets on tanks storing Class IIIB liquid inside buildings and connected to fuel-burning equipment shall be located such that the vapors are released to a safe location outside of buildings.

**5704.2.7.3.4 Installation of vent piping.** Vent piping shall be designed, sized, constructed and installed in accordance with Section 5703.6. Vent pipes shall be installed such that they will drain toward the tank without sags or traps in which liquid can collect. Vent pipes shall be installed in such a manner so as not to be subject to physical damage or vibration.

**5704.2.7.3.5 Manifolding.** Tank vent piping shall not be manifolded unless required for special purposes such as vapor recovery, vapor conservation or air pollution control.

**5704.2.7.3.5.1 Above-ground tanks.** For above-ground tanks, manifolded vent pipes shall be adequately sized to prevent system pressure limits from being exceeded where manifolded tanks are subject to the same fire exposure.

**5704.2.7.3.5.2 Underground tanks.** For underground tanks, manifolded vent pipes shall be sized to prevent system pressure limits from being exceeded when manifolded tanks are filled simultaneously.

**5704.2.7.3.5.3 Tanks storing Class I liquids.** Vent piping for tanks storing Class I liquids shall not be manifolded with vent piping for tanks storing Class II and III liquids unless positive means are provided to prevent the vapors from Class I liquids from entering tanks storing Class II and III liquids, to prevent contamination and possible change in classification of less volatile liquid.

**[S] 5704.2.7.4 Emergency venting.** Stationary, above-ground tanks shall be equipped with additional venting that will relieve excessive internal pressure caused by exposure to fires. Emergency vents for Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall ~~((not discharge inside buildings))~~ **terminate outside buildings in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.3.3**. The venting shall be installed and maintained in accordance with Section 22.7 of NFPA 30.

**Exceptions:**

1. Tanks larger than 12,000 gallons (45 420 L) in capacity storing Class IIIB liquids that are not within the diked area or the drainage path of Class I or II liquids do not require emergency relief venting.
2. Emergency vents on protected above-ground tanks complying with UL 2085 containing Class II or IIIA liquids are allowed to discharge inside the building.



**5704.2.7.5 Tank openings other than vents.** Tank openings for other than vents shall comply with Sections 5704.2.7.5.1 through 5704.2.7.5.8.

**5704.2.7.5.1 Connections below liquid level.** Connections for tank openings below the liquid level shall be liquid tight.

**5704.2.7.5.2 Filling, emptying and vapor recovery connections.** Filling, emptying and vapor recovery connections to tanks containing Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall be located outside of buildings in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.5.6 at a location free from sources of ignition and not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) away from building openings or *lot lines* of property that can be built on. Such openings shall be properly identified and provided with a liquid-tight cap that shall be closed when not in use.

Filling and emptying connections to indoor tanks containing Class IIIB liquids and connected to fuel-burning equipment shall be located at a finished ground level location outside of buildings. Such openings shall be provided with a liquid-tight cap that shall be closed when not in use. A sign in accordance with Section 5003.6 that displays the following warning shall be permanently attached at the filling location:

TRANSFERRING FUEL OTHER THAN CLASS IIIB COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID TO  
THIS TANK CONNECTION IS A VIOLATION OF THE FIRE CODE AND IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

**5704.2.7.5.3 Piping, connections and fittings.** Piping, connections, fittings and other appurtenances shall be installed in accordance with Section 5703.6.

**5704.2.7.5.4 Manual gauging.** Openings for manual gauging, if independent of the fill pipe, shall be provided with a liquid-tight cap or cover. Covers shall be kept closed when not gauging. If inside a building, such openings shall be protected against liquid overflow and possible vapor release by means of a spring-loaded check valve or other *approved* device.

**5704.2.7.5.5 Fill pipes and discharge lines.** For top-loaded tanks, a metallic fill pipe shall be designed and installed to minimize the generation of static electricity by terminating the pipe within 6 inches (152 mm) of the bottom of the tank, and it shall be installed in a manner that avoids excessive vibration.

**5704.2.7.5.5.1 Class I liquids.** For Class I liquids other than crude oil, gasoline and asphalt, the fill pipe shall be designed and installed in a manner that will minimize the possibility of generating static electricity by terminating within 6 inches (152 mm) of the bottom of the tank.

**5704.2.7.5.5.2 Underground tanks.** For underground tanks, fill pipe and discharge lines shall enter only through the top. Fill lines shall be sloped toward the tank. Underground tanks for Class I liquids having a capacity greater than 1,000 gallons (3785 L) shall be equipped with a tight fill device for connecting the fill hose to the tank.

**[S] 5704.2.7.5.6 Location of connections that are made or broken.** Filling, withdrawal and vapor-recovery connections for Class I, II and IIIA liquids that are made and broken shall be located outside of buildings, not more than 5 feet (1524 mm) above the finished ground level, in an *approved* location in close proximity to the parked delivery vehicle. Such location shall be away from sources of ignition and not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) away from building openings. Such connections shall be closed and liquid tight when not in use and shall be properly identified.

**Exception: Fill connections for diesel fuel tanks attached to emergency generators may be located within dedicated loading docks of buildings if installed within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the exterior opening of the loading dock and if the loading dock entrance doors have openings comprising at least 50 percent of the door area.**

**5704.2.7.5.7 Protection against vapor release.** Tank openings provided for purposes of vapor recovery shall be protected against possible vapor release by means of a spring-loaded check valve or dry-break connections, or other *approved* device, unless the opening is a pipe connected to a vapor processing system. Openings designed for combined fill and vapor recovery shall be protected against vapor release unless connection of the liquid delivery line to the fill pipe simultaneously connects the vapor recovery line. Connections shall be vapor tight.

**5704.2.7.5.8 Overfill prevention.** An *approved* means or method in accordance with Section 5704.2.9.7.5 shall be provided to prevent the overfill of all Class I, II and IIIA liquid storage tanks. Storage tanks in refineries, bulk plants or terminals regulated by Section 5706.4 or 5706.7 shall have overfill protection in accordance with API 2350.

An *approved* means or method in accordance with Section 5704.2.9.7.5 shall be provided to prevent the overfilling of Class IIIB liquid storage tanks connected to fuel-burning equipment inside buildings.

**Exception:** Outside above-ground tanks with a capacity of 1,320 gallons (5000 L) or less.

**5704.2.7.6 Repair, alteration or reconstruction of tanks and piping.** The repair, alteration or reconstruction, including welding, cutting and hot tapping of storage tanks and piping that have been placed in service, shall be in accordance with NFPA 30. Hot work, as defined in Section 202, on such tanks shall be conducted in accordance with Section 3510.

**5704.2.7.7 Design of supports.** The design of the supporting structure for tanks shall be in accordance with the *International Building Code* and NFPA 30.

**5704.2.7.8 Locations subject to flooding.** Where a tank is located in an area where it is subject to buoyancy because of a rise in the water table, flooding or accumulation of water from fire suppression operations, uplift protection shall be provided in accordance with Sections 22.14 and 23.14 of NFPA 30.

**5704.2.7.9 Corrosion protection.** Where subject to external corrosion, tanks shall be fabricated from corrosion-resistant materials, coated or provided with corrosion protection in accordance with Section 23.3.5 of NFPA 30.

**5704.2.7.10 Leak reporting.** A consistent or accidental loss of liquid, or other indication of a leak from a tank system, shall be reported immediately to the fire department, the *fire code official* and other authorities having jurisdiction.

**5704.2.7.10.1 Leaking tank disposition.** Leaking tanks shall be promptly emptied, repaired and returned to service, abandoned or removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.13 or 5704.2.14.

**5704.2.7.11 Tank lining.** Steel tanks are allowed to be lined only for the purpose of protecting the interior from corrosion or providing compatibility with a material to be stored. Only those liquids tested for compatibility with the lining material are allowed to be stored in lined tanks.

**5704.2.8 Vaults.** Vaults shall be allowed to be either above or below grade and shall comply with Sections 5704.2.8.1 through 5704.2.8.18.

**5704.2.8.1 Listing required.** Vaults shall be *listed* in accordance with UL 2245.

**Exception:** Where *approved* by the *fire code official*, below-grade vaults are allowed to be constructed on site, provided that the design is in accordance with the *International Building Code* and that special inspections are conducted to verify structural strength and compliance of the installation with the *approved* design in accordance with Section 1707 of the *International Building Code*. Installation plans for below-grade vaults that are constructed on site shall be prepared by, and the design shall bear the stamp of, a professional engineer. Consideration shall be given to soil and hydrostatic loading on the floors, walls and lid; anticipated seismic forces; uplifting by groundwater or flooding; and to loads imposed from above such as traffic and equipment loading on the vault lid.

**5704.2.8.2 Design and construction.** The vault shall completely enclose each tank. There shall not be openings in the vault enclosure except those necessary for access to, inspection of, and filling, emptying and venting of the tank. The walls and floor of the vault shall be constructed of reinforced concrete not less than 6 inches (152 mm) thick. The top of an above-grade vault shall be constructed of noncombustible material and shall be designed to be weaker than the walls of the vault, to ensure that the thrust of an explosion occurring inside the vault is directed upward before significantly high pressure can develop within the vault.

The top of an at-grade or below-grade vault shall be designed to relieve safely or contain the force of an explosion occurring inside the vault. The top and floor of the vault and the tank foundation shall be designed to withstand the anticipated loading, including loading from vehicular traffic, where applicable. The walls and floor of a vault installed below grade shall be designed to withstand anticipated soil and hydrostatic loading.

Vaults shall be designed to be wind and earthquake resistant, in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**5704.2.8.3 Secondary containment.** Vaults shall be substantially liquid tight and there shall not be backfill around the tank or within the vault. The vault floor shall drain to a sump. For premanufactured vaults, liquid tightness shall be certified as part of the listing provided by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. For field-erected vaults, liquid tightness shall be certified in an *approved* manner.

**5704.2.8.4 Internal clearance.** There shall be sufficient clearance between the tank and the vault to allow for visual inspection and maintenance of the tank and its appurtenances. Dispensing devices are allowed to be installed on tops of vaults.

**5704.2.8.5 Anchoring.** Vaults and their tanks shall be suitably anchored to withstand uplifting by ground water or flooding, including when the tank is empty.

**5704.2.8.6 Vehicle impact protection.** Vaults shall be resistant to damage from the impact of a motor vehicle, or vehicle impact protection shall be provided in accordance with Section 312.

**5704.2.8.7 Arrangement.** Tanks shall be *listed* for above-ground use, and each tank shall be in its own vault. Compartmentalized tanks shall be allowed and shall be considered as a single tank. Adjacent vaults shall be allowed to share a common wall. The common wall shall be liquid and vapor tight and shall be designed to withstand the load imposed when the vault on either side of the wall is filled with water.

**5704.2.8.8 Connections.** Connections shall be provided to permit venting of each vault to dilute, disperse and remove vapors prior to personnel entering the vault.

**5704.2.8.9 Ventilation.** Vaults that contain tanks of Class I liquids shall be provided with an exhaust ventilation system installed in accordance with Section 5004.3. The ventilation system shall operate continuously or be designed to operate upon activation of the vapor or liquid detection system. The system shall provide ventilation at a rate of not less than 1 cubic foot per minute (cfm) per square foot of floor area [ $0.00508 \text{ m}^3/(\text{s} \times \text{m}^2)$ ], but not less than 150 cfm (4  $\text{m}^3/\text{min}$ ). The exhaust system shall be designed to provide air movement across all parts of the vault floor. Supply and exhaust ducts shall extend to within 3 inches (76 mm), but not more than 12 inches (305 mm), of the floor. The exhaust system shall be installed in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*.

**5704.2.8.10 Liquid detection.** Vaults shall be equipped with a detection system capable of detecting liquids, including water, and activating an alarm.

**5704.2.8.11 Monitoring and detection.** Vaults shall be provided with *approved* vapor and liquid detection systems and equipped with on-site audible and visual warning devices with battery backup. Vapor detection systems shall sound an alarm when the system detects vapors that reach or exceed 25 percent of the lower explosive limit (LEL) of the liquid stored. Vapor detectors shall be located not higher than 12 inches (305 mm) above the lowest point in the vault. Liquid detection systems shall sound an alarm upon detection of any liquid, including water. Liquid detectors shall be located in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Activation of either vapor or liquid detection systems shall cause a signal to be sounded at an *approved*, constantly attended location within the facility serving the tanks or at an *approved* location. Activation of vapor detection systems shall shut off dispenser pumps.

**5704.2.8.12 Liquid removal.** Means shall be provided to recover liquid from the vault. Where a pump is used to meet this requirement, the pump shall not be permanently installed in the vault. Electric-powered portable pumps shall be suitable for use in Class I, Division 1, or Zone 0 locations, as defined in NFPA 70.

**5704.2.8.13 Normal vents.** Vent pipes that are provided for normal tank venting shall terminate not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) above ground level.

**5704.2.8.14 Emergency vents.** Emergency vents shall be vapor tight and shall be allowed to discharge inside the vault. Long-bolt manhole covers shall not be allowed for this purpose.

**5704.2.8.15 Accessway.** Vaults shall be provided with an *approved* personnel accessway with a minimum dimension of 30 inches (762 mm) and with a permanently affixed, nonferrous ladder. Accessways shall be designed to be nonsparking. Travel distance from any point inside a vault to an accessway shall not exceed 20 feet (6096 mm). At each entry point, a warning sign indicating the need for procedures for safe entry into confined spaces shall be posted. Entry points shall be secured against unauthorized entry and vandalism.

**5704.2.8.16 Fire protection.** Vaults shall be provided with a suitable means to admit a fire suppression agent.

**5704.2.8.17 Classified area.** The interior of a vault containing a tank that stores a Class I liquid shall be designated a Class I, Division 1, or Zone 0 location, as defined in NFPA 70.

**5704.2.8.18 Overfill protection.** Overfill protection shall be provided in accordance with Section 5704.2.9.7.5. The use of a float vent valve shall be prohibited.

**5704.2.9 Above-ground tanks.** Above-ground storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in tanks shall comply with Section 5704.2 and Sections 5704.2.9.1 through 5704.2.9.7.9.

**5704.2.9.1 Existing noncompliant installations.** Existing above-ground tanks shall be maintained in accordance with the code requirements that were applicable at the time of installation. Above-ground tanks that were installed in violation of code requirements applicable at the time of installation shall be made code compliant or shall be removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.14, regardless of whether such tank has been previously inspected (see Section 108.4).

**5704.2.9.2 Fire protection.** Fire protection for above-ground tanks shall comply with Sections 5704.2.9.2.1 through 5704.2.9.2.4.

**5704.2.9.2.1 Required foam fire protection systems.** Where required by the *fire code official*, foam fire protection shall be provided for above-ground tanks, other than pressure tanks operating at or above 1 pound per square inch gauge (psig)

(6.89 kPa) where such tank, or group of tanks spaced less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) apart measured shell to shell, has a liquid surface area in excess of 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>), and is in accordance with one of the following:

1. Used for the storage of Class I or II liquids.
2. Used for the storage of crude oil.
3. Used for in-process products and is located within 100 feet (30 480 mm) of a fired still, heater, related fractioning or processing apparatus or similar device at a processing plant or petroleum refinery as herein defined.
4. Considered by the *fire code official* as posing an unusual exposure hazard because of topographical conditions; nature of occupancy, proximity on the same or adjoining property, and height and character of liquids to be stored; degree of private fire protection to be provided; and facilities of the fire department to cope with *flammable liquid* fires.

**5704.2.9.2.2 Foam fire protection system installation.** Where foam fire protection is required, it shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 11.

**5704.2.9.2.2.1 Foam storage.** Where foam fire protection is required, foam-producing materials shall be stored on the premises.

**Exception:** Storage of foam-producing materials off the premises is allowed as follows:

1. Such materials stored off the premises shall be of the proper type suitable for use with the equipment at the installation where required.
2. Such materials shall be readily available at the storage location at all times.
3. Adequate loading and transportation facilities shall be provided.
4. The time required to deliver such materials to the required location in the event of fire shall be consistent with the hazards and fire scenarios for which the foam supply is intended.
5. At the time of a fire, these off-premises supplies shall be accumulated in sufficient quantities before placing the equipment in operation to ensure foam production at an adequate rate without interruption until extinguishment is accomplished.

**5704.2.9.2.3 Fire protection of supports.** Supports or pilings for above-ground tanks storing Class I, II or IIIA liquids elevated more than 12 inches (305 mm) above grade shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours in accordance with the fire exposure criteria specified in ASTM E1529.

**Exceptions:**

1. Structural supports tested as part of a protected above-ground tank in accordance with UL 2085.
2. Stationary tanks located outside of buildings where protected by an *approved* water-spray system designed in accordance with Chapter 9 and NFPA 15.
3. Stationary tanks located inside of buildings equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* designed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

**5704.2.9.2.4 Inerting of tanks storing boilover liquids.** Liquids with boilover characteristics shall not be stored in fixed roof tanks larger than 150 feet (45 720 mm) in diameter unless an *approved* gas enrichment or inerting system is provided on the tank.

**Exception:** Crude oil storage tanks in production fields with no other exposures adjacent to the storage tank.

**5704.2.9.3 Supports, foundations and anchorage.** Supports, foundations and anchorages for above-ground tanks shall be designed and constructed in accordance with NFPA 30 and the *International Building Code*.

**5704.2.9.4 Stairways, platforms and walkways.** *Stairways*, platforms and walkways shall be of noncombustible construction and shall be designed and constructed in accordance with NFPA 30 and the *International Building Code*.

**5704.2.9.5 Above-ground tanks inside of buildings.** Above-ground tanks inside of buildings shall comply with Sections 5704.2.9.5.1 and 5704.2.9.5.2.

**5704.2.9.5.1 Overfill prevention.** Above-ground tanks storing Class I, II and IIIA liquids inside buildings shall be equipped with a device or other means to prevent overflow into the building including, but not limited to: a float valve; a preset meter on the fill line; a valve actuated by the weight of the tank's contents; a low-head pump that is incapable of producing overflow; or a liquid-tight overflow pipe not less than one pipe size larger than the fill pipe and

discharging by gravity back to the outside source of liquid or to an *approved* location. Tanks containing Class IIIB liquids and connected to fuel-burning equipment shall be provided with a means to prevent overflow into buildings in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.5.8.

**5704.2.9.5.2 Fill pipe connections.** Fill pipe connections for tanks storing Class I, II and IIIA liquids and Class IIIB liquids connected to fuel-burning equipment shall be in accordance with Section 5704.2.9.7.6.

**5704.2.9.6 Above-ground tanks outside of buildings.** Above-ground tanks outside of buildings shall comply with Sections 5704.2.9.6.1 through 5704.2.9.6.3.

**5704.2.9.6.1 Locations where above-ground tanks are prohibited.** Storage of Class I and II liquids in above-ground tanks outside of buildings is prohibited within the limits established by law as the limits of districts in which such storage is prohibited [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY].

**5704.2.9.6.1.1 Location of tanks with pressures 2.5 psig or less.** Above-ground tanks operating at pressures not exceeding 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa) for storage of Class I, II or IIIA liquids, which are designed with a floating roof, a weak roof-to-shell seam or equipped with emergency venting devices limiting pressure to 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa), shall be located in accordance with Table 22.4.1.1(a) of NFPA 30.

**Exceptions:**

1. Vertical tanks having a weak roof-to-shell seam and storing Class IIIA liquids are allowed to be located at one-half the distances specified in Table 22.4.1.1(a) of NFPA 30, provided that the tanks are not within a diked area or drainage path for a tank storing Class I or II liquids.
2. Liquids with boilover characteristics and unstable liquids in accordance with Sections 5704.2.9.6.1.3 and 5704.2.9.6.1.4.
3. For protected above-ground tanks in accordance with Section 5704.2.9.7 and tanks in at-grade or above-grade vaults in accordance with Section 5704.2.8, the distances in Table 22.4.1.1(b) of NFPA 30 shall apply and shall be reduced by one-half, but not to less than 5 feet (1524 mm).

**5704.2.9.6.1.2 Location of tanks with pressures exceeding 2.5 psig.** Above-ground tanks for the storage of Class I, II or IIIA liquids operating at pressures exceeding 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa) or equipped with emergency venting allowing pressures to exceed 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa) shall be located in accordance with Table 22.4.1.3 of NFPA 30.

**Exception:** Liquids with boilover characteristics and unstable liquids in accordance with Sections 5704.2.9.6.1.3 and 5704.2.9.6.1.4.

**5704.2.9.6.1.3 Location of tanks storing boilover liquids.** Above-ground tanks for storage of liquids with boilover characteristics shall be located in accordance with Table 22.4.1.4 of NFPA 30.

**5704.2.9.6.1.4 Location of tanks storing unstable liquids.** Above-ground tanks for the storage of unstable liquids shall be located in accordance with Table 22.4.1.5 of NFPA 30.

**5704.2.9.6.1.5 Location of tanks storing Class IIIB liquids.** Above-ground tanks for the storage of Class IIIB liquids, excluding unstable liquids, shall be located in accordance with Table 22.4.1.6 of NFPA 30, except where located within a diked area or drainage path for a tank or tanks storing Class I or II liquids. Where a Class IIIB liquid storage tank is within the diked area or drainage path for a Class I or II liquid, distances required by Section 5704.2.9.6.1.1 shall apply.

**5704.2.9.6.1.6 Reduction of separation distances to adjacent property.** Where two tank properties of diverse ownership have a common boundary, the *fire code official* is authorized to, with the written consent of the *owners* of the two properties, apply the distances in Sections 5704.2.9.6.1.2 through 5704.2.9.6.1.5 assuming a single property.

**5704.2.9.6.2 Separation between adjacent stable or unstable liquid tanks.** The separation between tanks containing stable liquids shall be in accordance with Table 22.4.2.1 of NFPA 30. Where tanks are in a diked area containing Class I or II liquids, or in the drainage path of Class I or II liquids, and are compacted in three or more rows or in an irregular pattern, the *fire code official* is authorized to require greater separation than specified in Table 22.4.2.1 of NFPA 30 or other means to make tanks in the interior of the pattern open for fire-fighting purposes.

The separation between tanks containing unstable liquids shall be not less than one-half the sum of their diameters.

**Exception:** Tanks used for storing Class IIIB liquids are allowed to be spaced 3 feet (914 mm) apart unless within a diked area or drainage path for a tank storing Class I or II liquids.

**5704.2.9.6.3 Separation between adjacent tanks containing flammable or combustible liquids and LP-gas.** The minimum horizontal separation between an LP-gas container and a Class I, II or IIIA liquid storage tank shall be 20 feet (6096 mm) except in the case of Class I, II or IIIA liquid tanks operating at pressures exceeding 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa) or equipped with emergency venting allowing pressures to exceed 2.5 psig (17.2 kPa), in which case the provisions of Section 5704.2.9.6.2 shall apply.

An *approved* means shall be provided to prevent the accumulation of Class I, II or IIIA liquids under adjacent LP-gas containers such as by dikes, diversion curbs or grading. Where *flammable* or *combustible liquid* storage tanks are within a diked area, the LP-gas containers shall be outside the diked area and not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) away from the centerline of the wall of the diked area.

**Exceptions:**

1. Liquefied petroleum gas containers of 125 gallons (473 L) or less in capacity installed adjacent to fuel-oil supply tanks of 660 gallons (2498 L) or less in capacity.
2. Horizontal separation is not required between above-ground LP-gas containers and underground *flammable* and *combustible liquid* tanks.

**5704.2.9.7 Additional requirements for protected above-ground tanks.** In addition to the requirements of this chapter for above-ground tanks, the installation of protected above-ground tanks shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.2.9.7.1 through 5704.2.9.7.9.

**5704.2.9.7.1 Tank construction.** The construction of a protected above-ground tank and its primary tank shall be in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.

**5704.2.9.7.2 Normal and emergency venting.** Normal and emergency venting for protected above-ground tanks shall be provided in accordance with Sections 5704.2.7.3 and 5704.2.7.4. The vent capacity reduction factor shall not be allowed.

**[S] 5704.2.9.7.3 Secondary containment.** Protected above-ground tanks shall be provided with secondary containment, drainage control or diking in accordance with Section 5004.2. A means shall be provided to establish the integrity of the secondary containment in accordance with NFPA 30.

**Exception: Double wall tanks where all piping connections to the tank are located above the maximum liquid level, and a means is provided to prevent the release of liquids from the tank by siphon.**

**5704.2.9.7.4 Vehicle impact protection.** Where protected above-ground tanks, piping, electrical conduit or dispensers are subject to vehicular impact, they shall be protected therefrom, either by having the impact protection incorporated into the system design in compliance with the impact test protocol of UL 2085, or by meeting the provisions of Section 312, or where necessary, a combination of both. Where guard posts or other *approved* barriers are provided, they shall be independent of each above-ground tank.

**5704.2.9.7.5 Overfill prevention.** Protected above-ground tanks shall not be filled in excess of 95 percent of their capacity. An overfill prevention system shall be provided for each tank. During tank-filling operations, the system shall comply with one of the following:

1. The overfill prevention system shall include the following:
  - 1.1. An independent means of notifying the person filling the tank that the fluid level has reached 90 percent of tank capacity by providing an audible or visual alarm signal, providing a tank level gauge marked at 90 percent of tank capacity, or other *approved* means.
  - 1.2. Automatic shut off of the flow of fuel to the tank when the quantity of liquid in the tank reaches 95 percent of tank capacity. For rigid hose fuel-delivery systems, an *approved* means shall be provided to empty the fill hose into the tank after the automatic shutoff device is activated.
2. The system shall reduce the flow rate to not more than 15 gallons per minute (0.95 L/s) so that at the reduced flow rate, the tank will not overfill for 30 minutes, and automatically shut off flow into the tank so that none of the fittings on the top of the tank are exposed to product because of overfilling.

**5704.2.9.7.5.1 Information signs.** A permanent sign shall be provided at the fill point for the tank, documenting the filling procedure and the tank calibration chart.

**Exception:** Where climatic conditions are such that the sign may be obscured by ice or snow, or weathered beyond readability or otherwise impaired, said procedures and chart shall be located in the office window, lock box or other area available to the person filling the tank.

**5704.2.9.7.5.2 Determination of available tank capacity.** The filling procedure shall require the person filling the tank to determine the gallonage (literage) required to fill it to 90 percent of capacity before commencing the fill operation.

**5704.2.9.7.6 Fill pipe connections.** The fill pipe shall be provided with a means for making a direct connection to the tank vehicle's fuel delivery hose so that the delivery of fuel is not exposed to the open air during the filling operation. Where any portion of the fill pipe exterior to the tank extends below the level of the top of the tank, a check valve shall be installed in the fill pipe not more than 12 inches (305 mm) from the fill hose connection.

**5704.2.9.7.7 Spill containers.** A spill container having a capacity of not less than 5 gallons (19 L) shall be provided for each fill connection. For tanks with a top fill connection, spill containers shall be noncombustible and shall be fixed to the tank and equipped with a manual drain valve that drains into the primary tank. For tanks with a remote fill connection, a portable spill container shall be allowed.

**5704.2.9.7.8 Tank openings.** Tank openings in protected above-ground tanks shall be through the top only.

**5704.2.9.7.9 Antisiphon devices.** *Approved* antisiphon devices shall be installed in each external pipe connected to the protected above-ground tank where the pipe extends below the level of the top of the tank.

**5704.2.10 Drainage and diking.** The area surrounding a tank or group of tanks shall be provided with drainage control or shall be diked to prevent accidental discharge of liquid from endangering adjacent tanks, adjoining property or reaching waterways.

**Exceptions:**

1. The *fire code official* is authorized to alter or waive these requirements based on a technical report that demonstrates that such tank or group of tanks does not constitute a hazard to other tanks, waterways or adjoining property, after consideration of special features such as topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings on the same or adjacent property, capacity, and construction of proposed tanks and character of liquids to be stored, and nature and quantity of private and public fire protection provided.
2. Drainage control and diking is not required for *listed* secondary containment tanks.

**5704.2.10.1 Volumetric capacity.** The volumetric capacity of the diked area shall be not less than the greatest amount of liquid that can be released from the largest tank within the diked area. The capacity of the diked area enclosing more than one tank shall be calculated by deducting the volume of the tanks other than the largest tank below the height of the dike.

**5704.2.10.2 Diked areas containing two or more tanks.** Diked areas containing two or more tanks shall be subdivided in accordance with NFPA 30.

**5704.2.10.3 Protection of piping from exposure fires.** Piping shall not pass through adjacent diked areas or impounding basins, unless provided with a sealed sleeve or otherwise protected from exposure to fire.

**5704.2.10.4 Combustible materials in diked areas.** Diked areas shall be kept free from combustible materials, drums and barrels.

**5704.2.10.5 Equipment, controls and piping in diked areas.** Pumps, manifolds and fire protection equipment or controls shall not be located within diked areas or drainage basins or in a location where such equipment and controls would be endangered by fire in the diked area or drainage basin. Piping above ground shall be minimized and located as close as practical to the shell of the tank in diked areas or drainage basins.

**Exceptions:**

1. Pumps, manifolds and piping integral to the tanks or equipment being served, which is protected by intermediate diking, berms, drainage or fire protection such as water spray, monitors or resistive coating.
2. Fire protection equipment or controls that are appurtenances to the tanks or equipment being protected, such as foam chambers or foam piping and water or foam monitors and hydrants, or hand and wheeled extinguishers.

**[W]5704.2.11 Underground tanks.** Underground storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in tanks shall comply with Section 5704.2 and Sections 5704.2.11.1 through 5704.2.11.4.2.1. [Corrosion protection shall comply with WAC 173-360-305.](#)

**5704.2.11.1 Location.** *Flammable* and *combustible liquid* storage tanks located underground, either outside or under buildings, shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Tanks shall be located with respect to existing foundations and supports such that the loads carried by the latter cannot be transmitted to the tank.
2. The distance from any part of a tank storing liquids to the nearest wall of a *basement*, pit, cellar or *lot line* shall be not less than 3 feet (914 mm).
3. A minimum distance of 1 foot (305 mm), shell to shell, shall be maintained between underground tanks.

**5704.2.11.2 Depth and cover.** Excavation for underground storage tanks shall be made with due care to avoid undermining of foundations of existing structures. Underground tanks shall be set on firm foundations and surrounded with not less than 6 inches (152 mm) of noncorrosive inert material, such as clean sand.

**5704.2.11.3 Overfill protection and prevention systems.** Fill pipes shall be equipped with a spill container and an overfill prevention system in accordance with NFPA 30.

**5704.2.11.4 Leak prevention.** Leak prevention for underground tanks shall comply with Sections 5704.2.11.4.1 and 5704.2.11.4.2.

**5704.2.11.4.1 Inventory control.** Daily inventory records for underground storage tank systems shall be maintained.

**5704.2.11.4.2 Leak detection.** Underground storage tank systems shall be provided with an *approved* method of leak detection from any component of the system that is designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 30.

**5704.2.11.4.2.1 Location.** The leak detection panel status shall be annunciated at an *approved* on-site location.

**5704.2.12 Testing.** Tank testing shall comply with Sections 5704.2.12.1 and 5704.2.12.2.

**5704.2.12.1 Acceptance testing.** Prior to being placed into service, tanks shall be tested in accordance with Section 21.5 of NFPA 30.

**5704.2.12.2 Testing of underground tanks.** Before being covered or placed in use, tanks and piping connected to underground tanks shall be tested for tightness in the presence of the *fire code official*. Piping shall be tested in accordance with Section 5703.6.3. The system shall not be covered until it has been *approved*.

**[S] 5704.2.13 Abandonment and status of tanks.** Tanks taken out of service shall be removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.14, or safeguarded in accordance with Sections 5704.2.13.1 through 5704.2.13.2.3 and API 1604.

Residential heating oil tanks required by this code to be removed or decommissioned shall also comply with Administrative Rule 34.02.07, Decommissioning Residential Heating Oil Tanks, and any future revisions of this rule adopted by the fire code official.

**5704.2.13.1 Underground tanks.** Underground tanks taken out of service shall comply with Sections 5704.2.13.1.1 through 5704.2.13.1.5.

**5704.2.13.1.1 Temporarily out of service.** Underground tanks temporarily out of service shall have the fill line, gauge opening, vapor return and pump connection secure against tampering. Vent lines shall remain open and be maintained in accordance with Sections 5704.2.7.3 and 5704.2.7.4.

**5704.2.13.1.2 Out of service for 90 days.** Underground tanks not used for a period of 90 days shall be safeguarded in accordance with all the following or be removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.14:

1. *Flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall be removed from the tank.
2. All piping, including fill line, gauge opening, vapor return and pump connection, shall be capped or plugged and secured from tampering.
3. Vent lines shall remain open and be maintained in accordance with Sections 5704.2.7.3 and 5704.2.7.4.

**5704.2.13.1.3 Out of service for one year.** Underground tanks that have been out of service for a period of one year shall be removed from the ground in accordance with Section 5704.2.14 or abandoned in place in accordance with Section 5704.2.13.1.4.

**5704.2.13.1.4 Tanks abandoned in place.** Tanks abandoned in place shall be as follows:

1. *Flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be removed from the tank and connected piping.
2. The suction, inlet, gauge, vapor return and vapor lines shall be disconnected.
3. The tank shall be filled completely with an *approved* inert solid material.
4. Remaining underground piping shall be capped or plugged.



5. A record of tank size, location and date of abandonment shall be retained.
6. All exterior above-grade fill piping shall be permanently removed when tanks are abandoned or removed.

**5704.2.13.1.5 Reinstallation of underground tanks.** Tanks that are to be reinstalled for *flammable* or *combustible liquid* service shall be in accordance with this chapter, *ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code* (Section VIII), *API 1615*, UL 58 and UL 1316.

**5704.2.13.2 Above-ground tanks.** Above-ground tanks taken out of service shall comply with Sections 5704.2.13.2.1 through 5704.2.13.2.3.

**5704.2.13.2.1 Temporarily out of service.** Above-ground tanks temporarily out of service shall have all connecting lines isolated from the tank and be secured against tampering.

**Exception:** In-place fire protection (foam) system lines.

**5704.2.13.2.2 Out of service for 90 days.** Above-ground tanks not used for a period of 90 days shall be safeguarded in accordance with Section 5704.2.13.1.2 or removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.14.

**Exceptions:**

1. Tanks and containers connected to oil burners that are not in use during the warm season of the year or are used as a backup heating system to gas.
2. In-place, active fire protection (foam) system lines.

**5704.2.13.2.3 Out of service for one year.** Above-ground tanks that have been out of service for a period of one year shall be removed in accordance with Section 5704.2.14.

**Exception:** Tanks within operating facilities.

**5704.2.14 Removal and disposal of tanks.** Removal and disposal of tanks shall comply with Sections 5704.2.14.1 and 5704.2.14.2.

**5704.2.14.1 Removal.** Removal of above-ground and underground tanks shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. *Flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be removed from the tank and connected piping.
2. Piping at tank openings that is not to be used further shall be disconnected.
3. Piping shall be removed from the ground.

**Exception:** Piping is allowed to be abandoned in place where the *fire code official* determines that removal is not practical. Abandoned piping shall be capped and safeguarded as required by the *fire code official*.

4. Tank openings shall be capped or plugged, leaving a 1/8-inch to 1/4-inch-diameter (3.2 mm to 6.4 mm) opening for pressure equalization.
5. Tanks shall be purged of vapor and inerted prior to removal.
6. All exterior above-grade fill and vent piping shall be permanently removed.

**Exception:** Piping associated with bulk plants, terminal facilities and refineries.

**5704.2.14.2 Disposal.** Tanks shall be disposed of in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

**5704.2.15 Maintenance.** Above-ground tanks, connected piping and ancillary equipment shall be maintained in a safe operating condition. Tanks shall be maintained in accordance with their listings. Damage to above-ground tanks, connected piping or ancillary equipment shall be repaired using materials having equal or greater strength and *fire resistance* or the equipment shall be replaced or taken out of service.

**5704.3 Container and portable tank storage.** Storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in closed containers that do not exceed 60 gallons (227 L) in individual capacity and portable tanks that do not exceed 660 gallons (2498 L) in individual capacity, and limited transfers incidental thereto, shall comply with Sections 5704.3.1 through 5704.3.8.5.

**5704.3.1 Design, construction and capacity of containers and portable tanks.** The design, construction and capacity of containers for the storage of Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall be in accordance with this section and Section 9.4 of NFPA 30.

**5704.3.1.1 Approved containers.** Only *approved* containers and portable tanks shall be used.

**5704.3.2 Liquid storage cabinets.** Where other sections of this code require that liquid containers be stored in storage cabinets, such cabinets and storage shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.3.2.1 through 5704.3.2.2.

**5704.3.2.1 Design and construction of storage cabinets.** Design and construction of liquid storage cabinets shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.3.2.1.1 through 5704.3.2.1.4.

**5704.3.2.1.1 Materials.** Cabinets shall be *listed* in accordance with UL 1275, or constructed of *approved* wood or metal in accordance with the following:

1. Unlisted metal cabinets shall be constructed of steel having a thickness of not less than 0.044 inch (1.12 mm) (18 gage). The cabinet, including the door, shall be double walled with 1-1/2-inch (38 mm) airspace between the walls. Joints shall be riveted or welded and shall be tight fitting.
2. Unlisted wooden cabinets, including doors, shall be constructed of not less than 1-inch (25 mm) exterior grade plywood. Joints shall be rabbeted and shall be fastened in two directions with wood screws. Door hinges shall be of steel or brass. Cabinets shall be painted with an intumescent-type paint.

**5704.3.2.1.2 Labeling.** Cabinets shall be provided with a conspicuous label in red letters on contrasting background that reads: "FLAMMABLE—KEEP FIRE AWAY."

**5704.3.2.1.3 Doors.** Doors shall be well fitted, self-closing and equipped with a three-point latch.

**5704.3.2.1.4 Bottom.** The bottom of the cabinet shall be liquid tight to a height of not less than 2 inches (51 mm).

**5704.3.2.2 Capacity.** The combined total quantity of liquids in a cabinet shall not exceed 120 gallons (454 L).

**5704.3.3 Indoor storage.** Storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* inside buildings in containers and portable tanks shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.3.3.1 through 5704.3.3.10.

**Exceptions:**

1. Liquids in the fuel tanks of motor vehicles, aircraft, boats or portable or stationary engines.
2. The storage of distilled spirits and wines in wooden barrels or casks.

**5704.3.3.1 Portable fire extinguishers.** *Approved* portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with specific sections of this chapter and Section 906.

**5704.3.3.2 Incompatible materials.** Materials that will react with water or other liquids to produce a hazard shall not be stored in the same room with *flammable* and *combustible liquids* except where stored in accordance with Section 5003.9.8.

**5704.3.3.3 Clear means of egress.** Storage of any liquids, including stock for sale, shall not be stored near or be allowed to obstruct physically the route of egress.

**5704.3.3.4 Empty containers or portable tank storage.** The storage of empty tanks and containers previously used for the storage of *flammable* or *combustible liquids*, unless free from explosive vapors, shall be stored as required for filled containers and portable tanks. Portable tanks and containers, when emptied, shall have the covers or plugs immediately replaced in openings.

**5704.3.3.5 Shelf storage.** Shelving shall be of *approved* construction, adequately braced and anchored. Seismic requirements shall be in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**5704.3.3.5.1 Use of wood.** Wood of not less than 1 inch (25 mm) nominal thickness is allowed to be used as shelving, racks, dunnage, scuffboards, floor overlay and similar installations.

**5704.3.3.5.2 Displacement protection.** Shelves shall be of sufficient depth and provided with a lip or guard to prevent individual containers from being displaced.

**Exception:** Shelves in storage cabinets or on laboratory furniture specifically designed for such use.

**5704.3.3.5.3 Orderly storage.** Shelf storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be maintained in an orderly manner.

**5704.3.3.6 Rack storage.** Where storage on racks is allowed elsewhere in this code, a minimum 4-foot-wide (1219 mm) aisle shall be provided between adjacent rack sections and any adjacent storage of liquids. Main aisles shall be not less than 8 feet (2438 mm) wide.

**5704.3.3.7 Pile or palletized storage.** Solid pile and palletized storage in liquid warehouses shall be arranged so that piles are separated from each other by not less than 4 feet (1219 mm). Aisles shall be provided and arranged so that containers or portable tanks are not more than 20 feet (6096 mm) from an aisle. Main aisles shall be not less than 8 feet (2438 mm) wide.

**5704.3.3.8 Limited combustible storage.** Limited quantities of combustible commodities are allowed to be stored in liquid storage areas where the ordinary combustibles, other than those used for packaging the liquids, are separated from the liquids in storage by not less than 8 feet (2438 mm) horizontally, either by open aisles or by open racks, and where protection is provided in accordance with Chapter 9.

**5704.3.3.9 Idle combustible pallets.** Storage of empty or idle combustible pallets inside an unprotected liquid storage area shall be limited to a maximum pile size of 2,500 square feet (232 m<sup>2</sup>) and to a maximum storage height of 6 feet (1829 mm). Storage of empty or idle combustible pallets inside a protected liquid storage area shall comply with NFPA 13. Pallet storage shall be separated from liquid storage by aisles that are not less than 8 feet (2438 mm) wide.

**5704.3.3.10 Containers in piles.** Containers in piles shall be stacked in such a manner as to provide stability and to prevent excessive stress on container walls. Portable tanks stored more than one tier high shall be designed to nest securely, without dunnage. Material-handling equipment shall be suitable to handle containers and tanks safely at the upper tier level.

**5704.3.4 Quantity limits for storage.** Liquid storage quantity limitations shall comply with Sections 5704.3.4.1 through 5704.3.4.4.

**[S] 5704.3.4.1 Maximum allowable quantity per control area.** For occupancies other than Group M wholesale and retail sales uses and Group B non-production laboratories, indoor storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall not exceed the *maximum allowable quantities per control area* indicated in Table 5003.1.1(1) and shall not exceed the additional limitations set forth in this section.

For Group M occupancy wholesale and retail sales uses, indoor storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall not exceed the *maximum allowable quantities per control area* indicated in Table 5704.3.4.1. For Group B non-production laboratories, indoor storage of flammable and combustible liquids is allowed to be in accordance with Table 5003.13 and Section 5003.13.

Storage of hazardous production material *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in Group H-5 occupancies shall be in accordance with Chapter 27.

**TABLE 5704.3.4.1  
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITY PER CONTROL AREA OF  
FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS IN WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SALES OCCUPANCIES<sup>a</sup>**

TYPE OF LIQUID	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITY PER CONTROL AREA (gallons)		
	Sprinklered <sup>b</sup> in accordance with footnote densities and arrangements	Sprinklered in accordance with Tables 5704.3.6.3(4) through 5704.3.6.3(8) and Table 5704.3.7.5.1	Nonsprinklered
Class IA	60	60	30
Class IB, IC, II and IIIA	7,500 <sup>c</sup>	15,000 <sup>c</sup>	1,600
Class IIIB	Unlimited	Unlimited	13,200

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. Control areas shall be separated from each other by not less than a 1-hour fire barrier.
- b. To be considered as sprinklered, a building shall be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system with a design providing minimum densities as follows:
  - 1. For uncartoned commodities on shelves 6 feet or less in height where the ceiling height does not exceed 18 feet, quantities are those allowed with a minimum sprinkler design density of Ordinary Hazard Group 2.
  - 2. For cartoned, palletized or racked commodities where storage is 4 feet 6 inches or less in height and where the ceiling height does not exceed 18 feet, quantities are those allowed with a minimum sprinkler design density of 0.21 gallon per minute per square foot over the most remote 1,500-square-foot area.
- c. Where wholesale and retail sales or storage areas exceed 50,000 square feet in area, the maximum allowable quantities are allowed to be increased by 2 percent for each 1,000 square feet of area in excess of 50,000 square feet, up to not more than 100 percent of the table amounts. A control area separation is not required. The cumulative amounts, including amounts attained by having an additional control area, shall not exceed 30,000 gallons.

**5704.3.4.2 Occupancy quantity limits.** The following limits for quantities of stored *flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall not be exceeded:

1. Group A occupancies: Quantities in Group A occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
2. Group B occupancies: Quantities in drinking, dining, office and school uses within Group B occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).

3. Group E occupancies: Quantities in Group E occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
4. Group F occupancies: Quantities in dining, office, and school uses within Group F occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
5. Group I occupancies: Quantities in Group I occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
6. Group M occupancies: Quantities in dining, office, and school uses within Group M occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1). The maximum allowable quantities for storage in wholesale and retail sales areas shall be in accordance with Section 5704.3.4.1.
7. Group R occupancies: Quantities in Group R occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
8. Group S occupancies: Quantities in dining and office uses within Group S occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).

**5704.3.4.3 Quantities exceeding limits for control areas.** Quantities exceeding those allowed in *control areas* set forth in Section 5704.3.4.1 shall be in liquid storage rooms or liquid storage warehouses in accordance with Sections 5704.3.7 and 5704.3.8.

**[S] 5704.3.4.4 Liquids for maintenance and operation of equipment.** In all occupancies, quantities of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in excess of 10 gallons (38 L) used for maintenance purposes, demonstration, treatment, and laboratory work, and the operation of equipment shall be stored in liquid storage cabinets in accordance with Section 5704.3.2. Quantities not exceeding 10 gallons (38 L) are allowed to be stored outside of a cabinet where in *approved* containers located in private garages or other *approved* locations.

**5704.3.5 Storage in control areas.** Storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in *control areas* shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.3.5.1 through 5704.3.5.4.

**5704.3.5.1 Basement storage.** Class I liquids shall be allowed to be stored in *basements* in amounts not exceeding the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* for use-open systems in Table 5003.1.1(1), provided that *fire protection systems* are provided in accordance with Chapter 9. Class II and IIIA liquids shall be allowed to be stored in *basements*, provided that automatic suppression and other fire protection are provided in accordance with Chapter 9.

**5704.3.5.2 Storage pile heights.** Containers having less than a 30-gallon (114 L) capacity that contain Class I or II liquids shall not be stacked more than 3 feet (914.4 mm) or two containers high, whichever is greater, unless stacked on fixed shelving or otherwise satisfactorily secured. Containers of Class I or II liquids having a capacity of 30 gallons (114 L) or more shall not be stored more than one container high. Containers shall be stored in an upright position.

**5704.3.5.3 Storage distance from ceilings and roofs.** Piles of containers or portable tanks shall not be stored closer than 3 feet (914 mm) to the nearest beam, chord, girder or other obstruction, and shall be 3 feet (914 mm) below sprinkler deflectors or discharge orifices of water spray or other overhead *fire protection system*.

**5704.3.5.4 Combustible materials.** In areas that are not open to the public, Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall not be stored in the same pile or rack section as ordinary combustible commodities unless such materials are packaged together as kits.

**5704.3.6 Wholesale and retail sales uses.** *Flammable* and *combustible liquids* in Group M occupancy wholesale and retail sales uses shall be in accordance with Sections 5704.3.6.1 through 5704.3.6.5, or Sections 10.10.2, 12.3.6, 16.4.1 through 16.4.3, 16.5.1 through 16.5.2.12, Figures 16.4.1(a) through 16.4.1(c) and Tables 16.5.2.1 through 16.5.2.12, of NFPA 30.

**5704.3.6.1 Container type.** Containers for Class I liquids shall be metal.

**Exception:** In sprinklered buildings, an aggregate quantity of 120 gallons (454 L) of water-miscible Class IB and Class IC liquids is allowed in non-metallic containers, each having a capacity of 16 ounces (0.473 L) or less.

**5704.3.6.2 Container capacity.** Containers for Class I liquids shall not exceed a capacity of 5 gallons (19 L).

**Exception:** Metal containers not exceeding 55 gallons (208 L) are allowed to store up to 240 gallons (908 L) of the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* of Class IB and IC liquids in a *control area*. The building shall be equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Table 5704.3.4.1. The containers shall be provided with plastic caps without cap seals and shall be stored upright. Containers shall not be stacked or stored in racks and shall not be located in areas open to the public.

**5704.3.6.3 Fire protection and storage arrangements.** Fire protection and container storage arrangements shall be in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(1) or the following:

1. Storage on shelves shall not exceed 6 feet (1829 mm) in height, and shelving shall be metal.
2. Storage on pallets or in piles greater than 4 feet 6 inches (1372 mm) in height, or where the ceiling exceeds 18 feet (5486 mm) in height, shall be protected in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(4), and the storage heights and arrangements shall be limited to those specified in Table 5704.3.6.3(2).
3. Storage on racks greater than 4 feet 6 inches (1372 mm) in height, or where the ceiling exceeds 18 feet (5486 mm) in height shall be protected in accordance with Tables 5704.3.6.3(5), 5704.3.6.3(6), and 5704.3.6.3(7) as appropriate, and the storage heights and arrangements shall be limited to those specified in Table 5704.3.6.3(3).

Combustible commodities shall not be stored above *flammable* and *combustible liquids*.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(1)  
MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT IN CONTROL AREA**

TYPE OF LIQUID	NONSPRINKLERED AREA (feet)	SPRINKLERED AREA <sup>a</sup> (feet)	SPRINKLERED WITH IN-RACK PROTECTION <sup>a, b</sup> (feet)
Flammable liquids:			
Class IA	4	4	4
Class IB	4	8	12
Class IC	4	8	12
Combustible liquids:			
Class II	6	8	12
Class IIIA	8	12	16
Class IIIB	8	12	20

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- a. In buildings protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the storage height for containers and portable tanks shall not exceed the maximum storage height permitted for the fire protection scheme set forth in NFPA 30 or the maximum storage height demonstrated in a full-scale fire test, whichever is greater. NFPA 30 criteria and fire test results for metallic containers and portable tanks shall not be applied to nonmetallic containers and portable tanks.
- b. In-rack protection shall be in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(5), 5704.3.6.3(6) or 5704.3.6.3(7).

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(2)  
STORAGE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PALLETIZED OR SOLID-PILE STORAGE IN LIQUID STORAGE ROOMS AND WAREHOUSES**

CLASS	STORAGE LEVEL	MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT			MAXIMUM QUANTITY PER PILE (gallons)		MAXIMUM QUANTITY PER ROOM <sup>a</sup> (gallons)	
		Drums	Containers <sup>b</sup> (feet)	Portable tanks <sup>b</sup> (feet)	Containers	Portable tanks	Containers	Portable tanks
IA	Ground floor	1	5	Not Allowed	3,000	Not Allowed	12,000	Not Allowed
	Upper floors	1	5	Not Allowed	2,000	Not Allowed	8,000	Not Allowed
	Basements	0	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
IB	Ground floor	1	6.5	7	5,000	20,000	15,000	40,000
	Upper floors	1	6.5	7	3,000	10,000	12,000	20,000
	Basements	0	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
IC	Ground floor <sup>d</sup>	1	6.5 <sup>c</sup>	7	5,000	20,000	15,000	40,000
	Upper floors	1	6.5 <sup>c</sup>	7	3,000	10,000	12,000	20,000
	Basements	0	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
II	Ground floor <sup>d</sup>	3	10	14	10,000	40,000	25,000	80,000
	Upper floors	3	10	14	10,000	40,000	25,000	80,000

CLASS	STORAGE LEVEL	MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT			MAXIMUM QUANTITY PER PILE (gallons)		MAXIMUM QUANTITY PER ROOM <sup>a</sup> (gallons)	
		Drums	Containers <sup>b</sup> (feet)	Portable tanks <sup>b</sup> (feet)	Containers	Portable tanks	Containers	Portable tanks
III	Basements	1	5	7	7,500	20,000	7,500	20,000
	Ground floor	5	20	14	15,000	60,000	50,000	100,000
	Upper floors	5	20	14	15,000	60,000	50,000	100,000
	Basements	3	10	7	10,000	20,000	25,000	40,000

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

- a. See Section 5704.3.8.1 for unlimited quantities in liquid storage warehouses.
- b. In buildings protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the storage height for containers and portable tanks shall not exceed the maximum storage height permitted for the fire protection scheme set forth in NFPA 30 or the maximum storage height demonstrated in a full-scale fire test, whichever is greater. NFPA 30 criteria and fire test results for metallic containers and portable tanks shall not be applied to nonmetallic containers and portable tanks.
- c. These height limitations are allowed to be increased to 10 feet for containers having a capacity of 5 gallons or less.
- d. For palletized storage of unsaturated polyester resins (UPR) in relieving-style metal containers with 50 percent or less by weight Class IC or II liquid and no Class IA or IB liquid, height and pile quantity limits shall be permitted to be 10 feet and 15,000 gallons, respectively, provided that such storage is protected by sprinklers in accordance with NFPA 30 and that the UPR storage area is not located in the same containment area or drainage path for other Class I or II liquids.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(3)  
STORAGE ARRANGEMENTS FOR RACK STORAGE IN LIQUID STORAGE ROOMS AND WAREHOUSES**

CLASS	TYPE RACK	STORAGE LEVEL	MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT <sup>b</sup> (feet)	MAXIMUM QUANTITY PER ROOM <sup>a</sup> (gallons)
			Containers	Containers
IA	Double row or Single row	Ground floor	25	7,500
		Upper floors	15	4,500
		Basements	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
IB IC	Double row or Single row	Ground floor	25	15,000
		Upper floors	15	9,000
		Basements	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
II	Double row or Single row	Ground floor	25	24,000
		Upper floors	25	24,000
		Basements	15	9,000
III	Multirow	Ground floor	40	48,000
	Double row	Upper floors	20	48,000
	Single row	Basements	20	24,000

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

- a. See Section 5704.3.8.1 for unlimited quantities in liquid storage warehouses.
- b. In buildings protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the storage height for containers and portable tanks shall not exceed the maximum storage height permitted for the fire protection scheme set forth in NFPA 30 or the maximum storage height demonstrated in a full-scale fire test, whichever is greater. NFPA 30 criteria and fire test results for metallic containers and portable tanks shall not be applied to nonmetallic containers and portable tanks.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(4)  
AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER PROTECTION FOR SOLID-PILE AND PALLETIZED STORAGE  
OF LIQUIDS IN METAL CONTAINERS AND PORTABLE TANKS<sup>a</sup>**

STORAGE CONDITIONS		CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND				MINIMUM HOSE STREAM DEMAND (gpm)	MINIMUM DURATION SPRINKLERS AND HOSE STREAMS (hours)
Class liquid	Container size and arrangement	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		Maximum spacing (square feet)		
			High-temperature sprinklers	Ordinary temperature sprinklers			
IA	5 gallons or less, with or without cartons, palletized or solid pile <sup>b</sup>	0.30	3,000	5,000	100	750	2
	Containers greater than 5 gallons, on end or side, palletized or solid pile	0.60	5,000	8,000	80	750	
IB, IC and II	5 gallons or less, with or without cartons, palletized or solid pile <sup>b</sup>	0.30	3,000	5,000	100	500	2

Blue 2021 IFC New Language, Green 2021 WA State Amendment, Red Current 2018 Seattle amendments,  
 Purple Proposed 2021 Seattle Amendments

STORAGE CONDITIONS		CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND				MINIMUM HOSE STREAM DEMAND (gpm)	MINIMUM DURATION SPRINKLERS AND HOSE STREAMS (hours)
Class liquid	Container size and arrangement	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		Maximum spacing (square feet)		
			High-temperature sprinklers	Ordinary temperature sprinklers			
	Containers greater than 5 gallons on pallets or solid pile, one high	0.25	5,000	8,000	100		
II	Containers greater than 5 gallons on pallets or solid pile, more than one high, on end or side	0.60	5,000	8,000	80	750	2
IB, IC and II	Portable tanks, one high	0.30	3,000	5,000	100	500	2
II	Portable tanks, two high	0.60	5,000	8,000	80	750	2
III	5 gallons or less, with or without cartons, palletized or solid pile	0.25	3,000	5,000	120	500	1
	Containers greater than 5 gallons on pallets or solid pile, on end or sides, up to three high	0.25	3,000	5,000	120	500	1
	Containers greater than 5 gallons, on pallets or solid pile, on end or sides, up to 18 feet high	0.35	3,000	5,000	100	750	2
	Portable tanks, one high	0.25	3,000	5,000	120	500	1
	Portable tanks, two high	0.50	3,000	5,000	80	750	2

- For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.
- a. The design area contemplates the use of Class II standpipe systems. Where Class I standpipe systems are used, the area of application shall be increased by 30 percent without revising density.
  - b. For storage heights above 4 feet or ceiling heights greater than 18 feet, an approved engineering design shall be provided in accordance with Section 104.8.2.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(5)  
AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR RACK STORAGE OF LIQUIDS IN  
METAL CONTAINERS OF 5-GALLON CAPACITY OR LESS WITH OR WITHOUT CARTONS ON CONVENTIONAL WOOD PALLETS<sup>a</sup>**

CLASS LIQUID	CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND			IN-RACK SPRINKLER ARRANGEMENT AND DEMAND					MINIMUM HOSE STREAM DEMAND (gpm)	MINIMUM DURATION SPRINKLER AND HOSE STREAM (hours)
	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		Maximum spacing	Racks up to 9 feet deep	Racks more than 9 feet to 12 feet deep	30 psi (standard orifice)	Number of sprinklers operating		
		High-temperature sprinklers	Ordinary temperature sprinklers				14 psi (large orifice)			
I (maximum 25-foot height) Option 1	0.40	3,000	5,000	80 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	1. Ordinary temperature, quick-response sprinklers, maximum 8 feet 3 inches horizontal spacing 2. One line sprinklers above each level of storage 3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertical 4. Shields required where multiple-level	1. Ordinary temperature, quick-response sprinklers, maximum 8 feet 3 inches horizontal spacing 2. One line sprinklers above each level of storage 3. Locate in transverse flue spaces, staggered vertical and within 20 inches of aisle 4. Shields required where multiple-level	30 psi (0.5-inch orifice)	1. Eight sprinklers if only one level 2. Six sprinklers each on two levels if only two levels 3. Six sprinklers each on top three levels, if three or more levels 4. Hydraulically most remote	750	2
I (maximum 25-foot height) Option 2	0.55	2,000 <sup>b</sup>	Not Applicable	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	1. Ordinary temperature, quick-response sprinklers, maximum 8 feet 3 inches horizontal spacing 2. See 2 above 3. See 3 above 4. See 4 above	1. Ordinary temperature, quick-response sprinklers, maximum 8 feet 3 inches horizontal spacing 2. See 2 above 3. See 3 above 4. See 4 above	14 psi (0.53-inch orifice)	See 1 through 4 above	500	2
I and II (maximum 14-foot storage height) (maximum three tiers)	0.55 <sup>c</sup>	2,000 <sup>d</sup>	Not Applicable	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	Not Applicable None for maximum 6-foot-deep racks	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	500	2
<sup>ii</sup> (maximum 25-foot height)	0.30	3,000	5,000	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	1. Ordinary temperature sprinklers 8 feet apart horizontally 2. One line sprinklers between levels at nearest 10-foot vertical intervals 3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertical 4. Shields required where multiple-level	1. Ordinary temperature sprinklers 8 feet apart horizontally 2. Two lines between levels at nearest 10-foot vertical intervals 3. Locate in transverse flue spaces, staggered vertical and within 20 inches of aisle 4. Shields required where multiple-level	30 psi	Hydraulically most remote—six sprinklers at each level, up to a maximum of three levels	750	2
III (40-foot height)	0.25	3,000	5,000	120 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	Same as for Class II liquids	Same as for Class II liquids	30 psi	Same as for Class II liquids	500	2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. The design area contemplates the use of Class II standpipe systems. Where Class I standpipe systems are used, the area of application shall be increased by 30 percent without revising density.
- b. Using listed or approved extra-large orifices, high-temperature quick-response or standard element sprinklers under a maximum 30-foot ceiling with minimum 7.5-foot aisles.



- c. For friction lid cans and other metal containers equipped with plastic nozzles or caps, the density shall be increased to 0.65 gpm per square foot using listed or approved extra-large orifice, high-temperature quick-response sprinklers.
- d. Using listed or approved extra-large orifice, high-temperature quick-response or standard element sprinklers under a maximum 18-foot ceiling with minimum 7.5-foot aisles and metal containers.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(6)**  
**AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR RACK STORAGE OF LIQUIDS IN METAL CONTAINERS GREATER THAN 5-GALLON CAPACITY<sup>a</sup>**

CLASS LIQUID	CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND			IN-RACK SPRINKLER ARRANGEMENT AND DEMAND				MINIMUM HOSE STREAM DEMAND (gpm)	MINIMUM DURATION SPRINKLER AND HOSE STREAM (hours)	
	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		Maximum spacing	On-side storage racks up to 9-foot-deep racks	On-end storage (on pallets) up to 9-foot-deep racks	Minimum nozzle pressure			Number of sprinklers operating
		High-temperature sprinklers	Ordinary temperature sprinklers							
IA (maximum 25-foot height)	0.60	3,000	5,000	80 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ordinary temperature sprinklers 8 feet apart horizontally</li> <li>2. One line sprinklers above each tier of storage</li> <li>3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertical</li> <li>4. Shields required where multiple-level</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ordinary temperature sprinklers 8 feet apart horizontally</li> <li>2. One line sprinklers above each tier of storage</li> <li>3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertical</li> <li>4. Shields required where multiple-level</li> </ol>	30 psi	Hydraulically most remote—six sprinklers at each level	1,000	2
IB, IC and II (maximum 25-foot height)	0.60	3,000	5,000	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See 1 above</li> <li>2. One line sprinklers every three tiers of storage</li> <li>3. See 3 above</li> <li>4. See 4 above</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See 1 above</li> <li>2. See 2 above</li> <li>3. See 3 above</li> <li>4. See 4 above</li> </ol>	30 psi	Hydraulically most remote—six sprinklers at each level	750	2
III (maximum 40-foot height)	0.25	3,000	5,000	120 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See 1 above</li> <li>2. One line sprinklers every sixth level (maximum)</li> <li>3. See 3 above</li> <li>4. See 4 above</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See 1 above</li> <li>2. One line sprinklers every third level (maximum)</li> <li>3. See 3 above</li> <li>4. See 4 above</li> </ol>	15 psi	Hydraulically most remote—six sprinklers at each level	500	1

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

a. The design assumes the use of Class II standpipe systems. Where a Class I standpipe system is used, the area of application shall be increased by 30 percent without revising density.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(7)**  
**AUTOMATIC AFFF WATER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR RACK STORAGE OF LIQUIDS IN METAL CONTAINERS GREATER THAN 5-GALLON CAPACITY<sup>a, b</sup>**

CLASS LIQUID	CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND			IN-RACK SPRINKLER ARRANGEMENT AND DEMAND <sup>c</sup>				DURATION AFFF SUPPLY (minimum)	DURATION WATER SUPPLY (hours)
	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		On-end storage of drumson pallets, up to 25 feet	Minimum nozzle pressure (psi)	Number of sprinklers operating	Hose stream demand <sup>d</sup> (gpm)		
		High-temperature sprinklers	Ordinary temperature sprinklers						
IA, IB, IC and II	0.30	1,500	2,500	1. Ordinary temperature sprinkler up to 10 feet apart horizontally 2. One line sprinklers above each level of storage 3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertically 4. Shields required for multiple-level	30	Three sprinklers per level	500	15	2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. System shall be a closed-head wet system with approved devices for proportioning aqueous film-forming foam.
- b. Except as modified herein, in-rack sprinklers shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 13.
- c. The height of storage shall not exceed 25 feet.
- d. Hose stream demand includes 1-1/2-inch inside hose connections, where required.

**TABLE 5704.3.6.3(8)**  
**AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS I LIQUID STORAGE IN METAL CONTAINERS OF 1-GALLON CAPACITY OR LESS WITH UNCARTONED OR CASE-CUT SHELF DISPLAY UP TO 6.5 FEET, AND PALLETIZED STORAGE ABOVE IN A DOUBLE-ROW RACK ARRAY<sup>a</sup>**

STORAGE HEIGHT	CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND				IN-RACK SPRINKLER ARRANGEMENT AND DEMAND				MINIMUM HOSE STREAM DEMAND (gpm)	MINIMUM DURATION SPRINKLERS AND HOSE STREAM (hours)
	Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)		Maximum spacing	Racks up to 9 feet deep	Racks 9 to 12 feet	Minimum nozzle pressure	Number of sprinklers operating		
		High temperature	Ordinary temperature							
Maximum 20-foot storage height	0.60	2,000 <sup>b</sup>	Not Applicable	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	1. Ordinary temperature, quick-response sprinklers, maximum 8 feet 3 inches horizontal spacing 2. One line of sprinklers at the 6-foot level and the 11.5-foot level of storage 3. Locate in longitudinal flue space, staggered vertical 4. Shields required where multiple-level	Not Applicable	30 psi (standard orifice) or 14 psi (large orifice)	1. Six sprinklers each on two levels 2. Hydraulically most remote 12 sprinklers	500	2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa, 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. This table shall not apply to racks with solid shelves.
- b. Using extra-large orifice sprinklers under a ceiling 30 feet or less in height. Minimum aisle width is 7.5 feet.

**5704.3.6.4 Warning for containers.** Cans, containers and vessels containing *flammable liquids* or *flammable liquid* compounds or mixtures offered for sale shall be provided with a warning indicator, painted or printed on the container and stating that the liquid is flammable, and shall be kept away from heat and an open flame.

**5704.3.6.5 Storage plan.** Where required by fire the code official, *aisle* and storage plans shall be submitted in accordance with Chapter 50.

**5704.3.7 Liquid storage rooms.** Liquid storage rooms shall comply with Sections 5704.3.7.1 through 5704.3.7.5.2.

**5704.3.7.1 General.** Quantities of liquids exceeding those set forth in Section 5704.3.4.1 for storage in *control areas* shall be stored in a liquid storage room complying with this section and constructed and separated as required by the *International Building Code*.

**5704.3.7.2 Quantities and arrangement of storage.** The quantity limits and storage arrangements in liquid storage rooms shall be in accordance with Tables 5704.3.6.3(2) and 5704.3.6.3(3) and Sections 5704.3.7.2.1 through 5704.3.7.2.3.

**5704.3.7.2.1 Mixed storage.** Where two or more classes of liquids are stored in a pile or rack section, both of the following shall apply:

1. The quantity in that pile or rack shall not exceed the smallest of the maximum quantities for the classes of liquids stored in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(2) or 5704.3.6.3(3).
2. The height of storage in that pile or rack shall not exceed the smallest of the maximum heights for the classes of liquids stored in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(2) or 5704.3.6.3(3).

**5704.3.7.2.2 Separation and aisles.** Piles shall be separated from each other by not less than 4-foot (1219 mm) aisles. Aisles shall be provided so that all containers are 20 feet (6096 mm) or less from an aisle. Where the storage of liquids is on racks, a minimum 4-foot-wide (1219 mm) aisle shall be provided between adjacent rows of racks and adjacent storage of liquids. Main aisles shall be not less than 8 feet (2438 mm) wide.

Additional aisles shall be provided for access to doors, required windows and ventilation openings, standpipe connections, mechanical equipment and switches. Such aisles shall be not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width, unless greater widths are required for separation of piles or racks, in which case the greater width shall be provided.

**5704.3.7.2.3 Stabilizing and supports.** Containers and piles shall be separated by pallets or dunnage to provide stability and to prevent excessive stress to container walls. Portable tanks stored over one tier shall be designed to nest securely without dunnage.

Requirements for portable tank design shall be in accordance with Chapters 9 and 12 of NFPA 30. Shelving, racks, dunnage, scuffboards, floor overlay and similar installations shall be of noncombustible construction or of wood not less than a 1-inch (25 mm) nominal thickness. Adequate material-handling equipment shall be available to handle tanks safely at upper tier levels.

**5704.3.7.3 Spill control and secondary containment.** Liquid storage rooms shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Section 5004.2.

**5704.3.7.4 Ventilation.** Liquid storage rooms shall be ventilated in accordance with Section 5004.3.

**5704.3.7.5 Fire protection.** Fire protection for liquid storage rooms shall comply with Sections 5704.3.7.5.1 and 5704.3.7.5.2.

**5704.3.7.5.1 Fire-protection systems.** Liquid storage rooms shall be protected by *automatic sprinkler systems* installed in accordance with Chapter 9 and Tables 5704.3.6.3(4) through 5704.3.6.3(7) and Table 5704.3.7.5.1. In-rack sprinklers shall also comply with NFPA 13.

Automatic foam-water systems and automatic aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) water sprinkler systems shall not be used except where *approved*.

Protection criteria developed from fire modeling or full-scale fire testing conducted at an *approved* testing laboratory are allowed in lieu of the protection as shown in Tables 5704.3.6.3(2) through 5704.3.6.3(7) and Table 5704.3.7.5.1 where *approved*.

**TABLE 5704.3.7.5.1  
AUTOMATIC AFFF-WATER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLID-PILE AND  
PALLETIZED STORAGE OF LIQUIDS IN METAL CONTAINERS OF 5-GALLON CAPACITY OR LESS<sup>a, b</sup>**

PACKAGE TYPE	CLASS LIQUID	CEILING SPRINKLER DESIGN AND DEMAND					STORAGE HEIGHT (feet)	HOSE DEMAND (gpm) <sup>c</sup>	DURATION AFFF SUPPLY (minimum)	DURATION WATER SUPPLY (hours)
		Density (gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Area (square feet)	Temperature rating	Maximum spacing	Orifice size (inch)				
Cartoned	IB, IC, II and III	0.40	2,000	286°F	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	0.531	11	500	15	2
Uncartoned	IB, IC, II and III	0.30	2,000	286°F	100 ft <sup>2</sup> /head	0.5 or 0.531	12	500	15	2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 gallon per minute per square foot = 40.75 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>, °C = [(°F) – 32]/1.8.

a. System shall be a closed-head wet system with approved devices for proportioning aqueous film-forming foam.

b. Maximum ceiling height of 30 feet.

c. Hose stream demand includes 1-1/2-inch inside hose connections, where required.

**5704.3.7.5.2 Portable fire extinguishers.** Not less than one *approved* portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 and having a rating of not less than 20-B shall be located not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) or more than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any Class I or II liquid storage area located outside of a liquid storage room.

Not less than one portable fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 20-B shall be located outside of, but not more than 10 feet (3048 mm) from, the door opening into a liquid storage room.

**5704.3.8 Liquid storage warehouses.** Buildings used for storage of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* in quantities exceeding those set forth in Section 5704.3.4 for *control areas* and Section 5704.3.7 for liquid storage rooms shall comply with Sections 5704.3.8.1 through 5704.3.8.5 and shall be constructed and separated as required by the *International Building Code*.

**5704.3.8.1 Quantities and storage arrangement.** The total quantities of liquids in a liquid storage warehouse shall not be limited. The arrangement of storage shall be in accordance with Table 5704.3.6.3(2) or 5704.3.6.3(4).

**5704.3.8.1.1 Mixed storage.** Mixed storage shall be in accordance with Section 5704.3.7.2.1.

**5704.3.8.1.2 Separation and aisles.** Separation and aisles shall be in accordance with Section 5704.3.7.2.2.

**5704.3.8.2 Spill control and secondary containment.** Liquid storage warehouses shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment as set forth in Section 5004.2.

**5704.3.8.3 Ventilation.** Liquid storage warehouses storing containers greater than 5 gallons (19 L) in capacity shall be ventilated at a rate of not less than 0.25 cfm per square foot (0.00127 m<sup>3</sup>/s × m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area over the storage area.

**5704.3.8.4 Automatic sprinkler systems.** Liquid storage warehouses shall be protected by *automatic sprinkler systems* installed in accordance with Chapter 9 and Tables 5704.3.6.3(4) through 5704.3.6.3(7) and Table 5704.3.7.5.1, or Sections 16.4.1 through 16.4.3, 16.5.1 through 16.5.2.12, and Figures 16.4.1(a) through 16.4.1(c) and Tables 16.5.2.1 through 16.5.2.12 of NFPA 30. In-rack sprinklers shall also comply with NFPA 13.

Automatic foam-water systems and automatic AFFF water sprinkler systems shall not be used except where *approved*.

Protection criteria developed from fire modeling or full-scale fire testing conducted at an *approved* testing laboratory are allowed in lieu of the protection as shown in Tables 5704.3.6.3(2) through 5704.3.6.3(7) and Table 5704.3.7.5.1 where *approved*.

**5704.3.8.5 Warehouse hose lines.** In liquid storage warehouses, either 1-1/2-inch (38 mm) lined or 1-inch (25 mm) hard rubber hose lines shall be provided in sufficient number to reach all liquid storage areas and shall be in accordance with Section 903 or 905.

**5704.4 Outdoor storage of containers and portable tanks.** Storage of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in closed containers and portable tanks outside of buildings shall be in accordance with Section 5703 and Sections 5704.4.1 through 5704.4.8. Capacity limits for containers and portable tanks shall be in accordance with Section 5704.3.

**5704.4.1 Plans.** Storage shall be in accordance with *approved* plans.

**5704.4.2 Location on property.** Outdoor storage of liquids in containers and portable tanks shall be in accordance with Table 5704.4.2. Storage of liquids near buildings located on the same lot shall be in accordance with this section.

**TABLE 5704.4.2  
OUTDOOR LIQUID STORAGE IN CONTAINERS AND PORTABLE TANKS**

CLASS OF LIQUID	CONTAINER STORAGE— MAXIMUM PER PILE		PORTABLE TANK STORAGE— MAXIMUM PER PILE		MINIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN PILES OR RACKS (feet)	MINIMUM DISTANCE TO LOT LINE OF PROPERTY THAT CAN BE BUILT ON <sup>c, d</sup> (feet)	MINIMUM DISTANCE TO PUBLIC STREET, PUBLIC ALLEY OR PUBLIC WAY <sup>d</sup> (feet)
	Quantity <sup>a, b</sup> (gallons)	Height (feet)	Quantity <sup>a, b</sup> (gallons)	Height (feet)			
IA	1,100	10	2,200	7	5	50	10
IB	2,200	12	4,400	14	5	50	10
IC	4,400	12	8,800	14	5	50	10
II	8,800	12	17,600	14	5	25	5
III	22,000	18	44,000	14	5	10	5

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon 3.785 L.

a. For mixed class storage, see Section 5704.4.2.

b. For storage in racks, the quantity limits per pile do not apply, but the rack arrangement shall be limited to not more than 50 feet in length and two rows or 9 feet in depth.

c. If protection by a public fire department or private fire brigade capable of providing cooling water streams is not available, the distance shall be doubled.

d. Where the total quantity stored does not exceed 50 percent of the maximum allowed per pile, the distances are allowed to be reduced 50 percent, but not less than 3 feet.

**5704.4.2.1 Mixed liquid piles.** Where two or more classes of liquids are stored in a single pile, the quantity in the pile shall not exceed the smallest of maximum quantities for the classes of material stored.

**5704.4.2.2 Access.** Storage of containers or portable tanks shall be provided with fire apparatus access roads in accordance with Chapter 5.

**5704.4.2.3 Security.** The storage area shall be protected against tampering or trespassers where necessary and shall be kept free from weeds, debris and other combustible materials not necessary to the storage.

**5704.4.2.4 Storage adjacent to buildings.** Not more than 1,100 gallons (4163 L) of liquids stored in closed containers and portable tanks is allowed adjacent to a building located on the same premises and under the same management, provided that one of the following requirements is met:

1. The building does not exceed one story in height. Such building shall be of *fire-resistance-rated* construction with noncombustible exterior surfaces or noncombustible construction and shall be used principally for the storage of liquids.
2. The exterior building wall adjacent to the storage area shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours, having no openings to above-grade areas within 10 feet (3048 mm) horizontally of such storage and no openings to below-grade areas within 50 feet (15 240 mm) horizontally of such storage.

The quantity of liquids stored adjacent to a building protected in accordance with Item 2 is allowed to exceed 1,100 gallons (4163 L), provided that the maximum quantity per pile does not exceed 1,100 gallons (4163 L) and each pile is separated by a 10-foot-minimum (3048 mm) clear space along the common wall.

Where the quantity stored exceeds 1,100 gallons (4163 L) adjacent to a building complying with Item 1, or the provisions of Item 1 cannot be met, a minimum distance in accordance with Table 5704.4.2, column 7 (“Minimum Distance to Lot Line of Property That Can Be Built On”) shall be maintained between buildings and the nearest container or portable tank.

**5704.4.3 Spill control and secondary containment.** Storage areas shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Section 5703.4.

**Exception:** Containers stored on *approved* containment pallets in accordance with Section 5004.2.3 and containers stored in cabinets and lockers with integral spill containment.

**5704.4.4 Security.** Storage areas shall be protected against tampering or trespassers by fencing or other *approved* control measures.

**5704.4.5 Protection from vehicles.** Guard posts or other means shall be provided to protect exterior storage tanks from vehicular damage. Where guard posts are installed, the posts shall be installed in accordance with Section 312.

**5704.4.6 Clearance from combustibles.** The storage area shall be kept free from weeds, debris and combustible materials not necessary to the storage. The area surrounding an exterior storage area shall be kept clear of such materials for a minimum distance of 15 feet (4572 mm).

**5704.4.7 Weather protection.** Weather protection for outdoor storage shall be in accordance with Section 5004.13.

**5704.4.8 Empty containers and tank storage.** The storage of empty tanks and containers previously used for the storage of *flammable* or *combustible liquids*, unless free from explosive vapors, shall be stored as required for filled containers and tanks. Tanks and containers when emptied shall have the covers or plugs immediately replaced in openings.

## **SECTION 5705 DISPENSING, USE, MIXING AND HANDLING**

**5705.1 Scope.** Dispensing, use, mixing and handling of *flammable liquids* shall be in accordance with Section 5703 and this section. Tank vehicle and tank car loading and unloading and other special operations shall be in accordance with Section 5706.

**Exception:** Containers of organic coatings having no fire point and which are opened for pigmentation are not required to comply with this section.

**5705.2 Liquid transfer.** Liquid transfer equipment and methods for transfer of Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall be *approved* and be in accordance with Sections 5705.2.1 through 5705.2.6.

**5705.2.1 Pumps.** Where positive-displacement pumps are used, they shall be provided with pressure relief discharging back to the tank, pump suction or other *approved* location, or shall be provided with interlocks to prevent over-pressure.

**5705.2.2 Pressured systems.** Where gases are introduced to provide for transfer of Class I liquids, or Class II and III liquids transferred at temperatures at or above their *flash points* by pressure, only inert gases shall be used. Controls, including pressure relief devices, shall be provided to limit the pressure so that the maximum working pressure of tanks, containers and piping systems cannot be exceeded. Where devices operating through pressure within a tank or container are used, the tank or container shall be a pressure vessel *approved* for the intended use. Air or oxygen shall not be used for pressurization.

**Exception:** Air transfer of Class II and III liquids at temperatures below their *flash points*.

**5705.2.3 Piping, hoses and valves.** Piping, hoses and valves used in liquid transfer operations shall be *approved* or *listed* for the intended use.

**5705.2.4 Class I, II and III liquids.** Class I liquids or, when heated to or above their flash points, Class II and Class III liquids, shall be transferred by one of the following methods:

1. From safety cans complying with UL 30.
2. Through an *approved* closed piping system.
3. From containers or tanks by an *approved* pump taking suction through an opening in the top of the container or tank.
4. For Class IB, IC, II and III liquids, from containers or tanks by gravity through an *approved* self-closing or automatic-closing valve where the container or tank and dispensing operations are provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Section 5703.4. Class IA liquids shall not be dispensed by gravity from tanks.
5. *Approved* engineered liquid transfer systems.

**Exception:** Liquids in original shipping containers not exceeding a 5.3-gallon (20 L) capacity.

**5705.2.5 Manual container filling operations.** Class I liquids or Class II and Class III liquids that are heated up to or above their *flash points* shall not be transferred into containers unless the nozzle and containers are electrically interconnected. Acceptable methods of electrical interconnection include either of the following:

1. Metallic floor plates on which containers stand while filling, where such floor plates are electrically connected to the fill stem.
2. Where the fill stem is bonded to the container during filling by means of a bond wire.

**5705.2.6 Automatic container-filling operations for Class I liquids.** Container-filling operations for Class I liquids involving conveyor belts or other automatic-feeding operations shall be designed to prevent static accumulations.

**5705.3 Use, dispensing and mixing inside of buildings.** Indoor use, dispensing and mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be in accordance with Section 5705.2 and Sections 5705.3.1 through 5705.3.5.3.

**5705.3.1 Closure of mixing or blending vessels.** Vessels used for mixing or blending of Class I liquids and Class II or III liquids heated up to or above their *flash points* shall be provided with self-closing, tight-fitting, noncombustible lids that will control a fire within such vessel.

**Exception:** Where such devices are impractical, *approved* automatic or manually controlled fire-extinguishing devices shall be provided.

**5705.3.2 Bonding of vessels.** Where differences of potential could be created, vessels containing Class I liquids or liquids handled at or above their *flash points* shall be electrically connected by bond wires, ground cables, piping or similar means to a static grounding system to maintain equipment at the same electrical potential to prevent sparking.

**5705.3.3 Heating, lighting and cooking appliances.** Heating, lighting and cooking appliances that utilize Class I liquids shall not be operated within a building or structure.

**Exception:** Operation in single-family *dwelling*s.

**5705.3.4 Location of processing vessels.** Processing vessels shall be located with respect to distances to *lot lines* of adjoining property that can be built on, in accordance with Tables 5705.3.4(1) and 5705.3.4(2).

**Exception:** Where the exterior wall facing the adjoining *lot line* is a blank wall having a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 4 hours, the *fire code official* is authorized to modify the distances. The distance shall be not less than that set forth in the *International Building Code*, and where Class IA or unstable liquids are involved, explosion control shall be provided in accordance with Section 911.

**TABLE 5705.3.4(1)  
SEPARATION OF PROCESSING VESSELS FROM LOT LINES**

PROCESSING VESSELS WITH EMERGENCY RELIEF VENTING	LOCATION <sup>a</sup>	
	Stable liquids	Unstable liquids
Not in excess of 2.5 psig	Table 5705.3.4(2)	2.5 times Table 5705.3.4(2)
Over 2.5 psig	1.5 times Table 5705.3.4(2)	4 times Table 5705.3.4(2)

For SI: 1 pound per square inch gauge = 6.895 kPa.

a. Where protection of exposures by a public fire department or private fire brigade capable of providing cooling water streams on structures is not provided, distances shall be doubled.

**TABLE 5705.3.4(2)  
REFERENCE TABLE FOR USE WITH TABLE 5705.3.4(1)**

TANK CAPACITY (gallons)	MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM LOT LINE OF A LOT THAT IS OR CAN BE BUILT ON, INCLUDING THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF A PUBLIC WAY (feet)	MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM NEAREST SIDE OF ANY PUBLIC WAY OR FROM NEAREST IMPORTANT BUILDING ON THE SAME PROPERTY (feet)
275 or less	5	5
276 to 750	10	5
751 to 12,000	15	5
12,001 to 30,000	20	5
30,001 to 50,000	30	10
50,001 to 100,000	50	15
100,001 to 500,000	80	25
500,001 to 1,000,000	100	35
1,000,001 to 2,000,000	135	45
2,000,001 to 3,000,000	165	55
3,000,001 or more	175	60

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

**5705.3.5 Quantity limits for use.** Liquid use quantity limitations shall comply with Sections 5705.3.5.1 through 5705.3.5.3.

**[S] 5705.3.5.1 Maximum allowable quantity per control area.** Indoor use, dispensing and mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall not exceed the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* indicated in Table 5003.1.1(1) and shall not exceed the additional limitations set forth in Section 5705.3.5.

Use of hazardous production material *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in Group H-5 occupancies shall be in accordance with Chapter 27.

**Exceptions:**

1. Cleaning with Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall be in accordance with Section 5705.3.6.
2. Group B non-production laboratories in accordance with Table 5003.8.3.3 and Section 5003.13.

**5705.3.5.2 Occupancy quantity limits.** The following limits for quantities of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* used, dispensed or mixed based on occupancy classification shall not be exceeded:

1. Group A occupancies: Quantities in Group A occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
2. Group B occupancies: Quantities in drinking, dining, office and school uses within Group B occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
3. Group E occupancies: Quantities in Group E occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, treatment, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
4. Group F occupancies: Quantities in dining, office and school uses within Group F occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
5. Group I occupancies: Quantities in Group I occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
6. Group M occupancies: Quantities in dining, office and school uses within Group M occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
7. Group R occupancies: Quantities in Group R occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for maintenance purposes and operation of equipment, and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).
8. Group S occupancies: Quantities in dining and office uses within Group S occupancies shall not exceed that necessary for demonstration, laboratory work, maintenance purposes and operation of equipment and shall not exceed quantities set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1).

**Exception:** Cleaning with Class I, II, or IIIA liquids shall be in accordance with Section 5705.3.6.

**5705.3.5.3 Quantities exceeding limits for control areas.** Quantities exceeding the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* indicated in Sections 5705.3.5.1 and 5705.3.5.2 shall be in accordance with the following:

1. For *open systems*, indoor use, dispensing and mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be within a room or building complying with the *International Building Code* and Sections 5705.3.7.1 through 5705.3.7.5.3.
2. For *closed systems*, indoor use, dispensing and mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* shall be within a room or building complying with the *International Building Code* and Sections 5705.3.7 through 5705.3.7.4 and Section 5705.3.7.6.

**5705.3.6 Cleaning with flammable and combustible liquids.** Cleaning with Class I, II and IIIA liquids shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.6.1 through 5705.3.6.2.7.

**Exceptions:**

1. Dry cleaning shall be in accordance with Chapter 21.
2. Spray-nozzle cleaning shall be in accordance with Section 2403.3.5.

**5705.3.6.1 Cleaning operations.** Class IA liquids shall not be used for cleaning. Cleaning with Class IB, IC or II liquids shall be conducted as follows:

1. In a room or building, Section 5705.3.7; or
2. In a parts cleaner *listed, labeled* and *approved* for the purpose, Section 5705.3.6.2.



**Exception:** Materials used in commercial and industrial process-related cleaning operations in accordance with other provisions of this code and not involving facilities maintenance cleaning operations.

**5705.3.6.2 Listed and approved machines.** Parts cleaning and degreasing conducted in *listed* and *approved* machines in accordance with Section 5705.3.6.1 shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.6.2.1 through 5705.3.6.2.7.

**5705.3.6.2.1 Solvents.** Solvents shall be classified and shall be compatible with the machines within which they are used.

**5705.3.6.2.2 Machine capacities.** The quantity of solvent shall not exceed the *listed* design capacity of the machine for the solvent being used with the machine.

**5705.3.6.2.3 Solvent quantity limits.** Solvent quantities shall be limited as follows:

1. Machines without remote solvent reservoirs shall be limited to quantities set forth in Section 5705.3.5.
2. Machines with remote solvent reservoirs using Class I liquids shall be limited to quantities set forth in Section 5705.3.5.
3. Machines with remote solvent reservoirs using Class II liquids shall be limited to 35 gallons (132 L) per machine. The total quantities shall not exceed an aggregate of 240 gallons (908 L) per *control area* in buildings not equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* and an aggregate of 480 gallons (1817 L) per *control area* in buildings equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
4. Machines with remote solvent reservoirs using Class IIIA liquids shall be limited to 80 gallons (303 L) per machine.

**5705.3.6.2.4 Immersion soaking of parts.** Work areas of machines with remote solvent reservoirs shall not be used for immersion soaking of parts.

**5705.3.6.2.5 Separation.** Multiple machines shall be separated from each other by a distance of not less than 30 feet (9144 mm) or by a *fire barrier* with a minimum 1-hour *fire-resistance rating*.

**5705.3.6.2.6 Ventilation.** Machines shall be located in areas adequately ventilated to prevent accumulation of vapors.

**5705.3.6.2.7 Installation.** Machines shall be installed in accordance with their listings.

**5705.3.7 Rooms or buildings for quantities exceeding the maximum allowable quantity per control area.** Where required by Section 5705.3.5.3 or 5705.3.6.1, rooms or buildings used for the use, dispensing or mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in quantities exceeding the *maximum allowable quantity per control area* shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.7.1 through 5705.3.7.6.3.

**5705.3.7.1 Construction, location and fire protection.** Rooms or buildings classified in accordance with the *International Building Code* as Group H-2 or H-3 occupancies based on use, dispensing or mixing of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall be constructed in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**5705.3.7.2 Basements.** In rooms or buildings classified in accordance with the *International Building Code* as Group H2 or H-3, dispensing or mixing of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall not be conducted in *basements*.

**5705.3.7.3 Fire protection.** Rooms or buildings classified in accordance with the *International Building Code* as Group H-2 or H-3 occupancies shall be equipped with an *approved* automatic fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Chapter 9.

**5705.3.7.4 Doors.** Interior doors to rooms or portions of such buildings shall be self-closing fire doors in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**5705.3.7.5 Open systems.** Use, dispensing and mixing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* in *open systems* shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.7.5.1 through 5705.3.7.5.3.

**5705.3.7.5.1 Ventilation.** Continuous mechanical ventilation shall be provided at a rate of not less than 1 cfm per square foot [ $0.00508 \text{ m}^3/(\text{s} \times \text{m}^2)$ ] of floor area over the design area. Provisions shall be made for introduction of makeup air in such a manner to include all floor areas or pits where vapors can collect. Local or spot ventilation shall be provided where needed to prevent the accumulation of hazardous vapors. Ventilation system design shall comply with the *International Building Code* and *International Mechanical Code*.

**Exception:** Where natural ventilation can be shown to be effective for the materials used, dispensed or mixed. **5705.3.7.5.2 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided in accordance with Section 911.

**[S] 5705.3.7.5.3 Spill control and secondary containment.** Spill control shall be provided in accordance with Section 5703.4 where Class I, II or IIIA liquids are dispensed into containers exceeding a 1.3-gallon (5 L) capacity or mixed or used in open containers or systems exceeding a 5.3-gallon (20 L) capacity. Spill control and secondary containment shall be provided in accordance with Section 5703.4 where the capacity of an individual container exceeds 55 gallons (208 L) or the aggregate capacity of multiple containers or tanks exceeds 100 gallons (378.5 L).

**Exception:** Double wall tanks where all piping connections to the tank are located above the maximum liquid level, and a means is provided to prevent the release of liquids from the tank by siphon.

**5705.3.7.6 Closed systems.** Use or mixing of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* in *closed systems* shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.7.6.1 through 5705.3.7.6.3.

**5705.3.7.6.1 Ventilation.** *Closed systems* designed to be opened as part of normal operations shall be provided with ventilation in accordance with Section 5705.3.7.5.1.

**5705.3.7.6.2 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided where an explosive environment can occur as a result of the mixing or use process. Explosion control shall be designed in accordance with Section 911.

**Exception:** Where process vessels are designed to contain fully the worst-case explosion anticipated within the vessel under process conditions considering the most likely failure.

**5705.3.7.6.3 Spill control and secondary containment.** Spill control shall be provided in accordance with Section 5703.4 where *flammable* or *combustible liquids* are dispensed into containers exceeding a 1.3-gallon (5 L) capacity or mixed or used in open containers or systems exceeding a 5.3-gallon (20 L) capacity. Spill control and secondary containment shall be provided in accordance with Section 5703.4 where the capacity of an individual container exceeds 55 gallons (208 L) or the aggregate capacity of multiple containers or tanks exceeds 1,000 gallons (3785 L).

**5705.3.8 Use, dispensing and handling outside of buildings.** Outside use, dispensing and handling shall be in accordance with Sections 5705.3.8.1 through 5705.3.8.4.

Dispensing of liquids into motor vehicle fuel tanks at motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be in accordance with Chapter 23.

**5705.3.8.1 Spill control.** Outside use, dispensing and handling areas shall be provided with spill control as set forth in Section 5703.4.

**5705.3.8.2 Location on property.** Dispensing activities that exceed the quantities set forth in Table 5705.3.8.2 shall not be conducted within 15 feet (4572 mm) of buildings or combustible materials or within 25 feet (7620 mm) of building openings, *lot lines*, public streets, public alleys or *public ways*. Dispensing activities that exceed the quantities set forth in Table 5705.3.8.2 shall not be conducted within 15 feet (4572 mm) of storage of Class I, II or III liquids unless such liquids are stored in tanks that are *listed* and *labeled* as 2-hour protected tank assemblies in accordance with UL 2085.

**Exceptions:**

1. The requirements shall not apply to areas where only the following are dispensed: Class III liquids; liquids that are heavier than water; water-miscible liquids; and liquids with viscosities greater than 10,000 centipoise (cp) (10 Pa × s).
2. *Flammable* and *combustible liquid* dispensing in refineries, chemical plants, process facilities, gas and crude oil production facilities and oil-blending and packaging facilities, terminals and bulk plants.

**TABLE 5705.3.8.2  
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITIES FOR DISPENSING  
FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS IN OUTDOOR CONTROL AREAS<sup>a, b</sup>**

CLASS OF LIQUID	QUANTITY (gallons)
Flammable	
Class IA	10
Class IB	15
Class IC	20
Combination Class IA, IB and IC	30 <sup>c</sup>

CLASS OF LIQUID	QUANTITY (gallons)
Combustible	
Class II	30
Class IIIA	80
Class IIIB	3,300

For SI: 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

- For definition of "Outdoor Control Area," see Section 202.
- The fire code official is authorized to impose special conditions regarding locations, types of containers, dispensing units, fire control measures and other factors involving fire safety.
- Containing not more than the maximum allowable quantity per control area of each individual class.

**5705.3.8.3 Location of processing vessels.** Processing vessels shall be located with respect to distances to *lot lines* that can be built on in accordance with Table 5705.3.4(1).

**Exception:** In refineries and distilleries.

**5705.3.8.4 Weather protection.** Weather protection for outdoor use shall be in accordance with Section 5005.3.9.

**5705.4 Solvent distillation units.** Solvent distillation units shall comply with Sections 5705.4.1 through 5705.4.9.

**5705.4.1 Unit with a capacity of 60 gallons or less.** Solvent distillation units used to recycle Class I, II or IIIA liquids having a distillation chamber capacity of 60 gallons (227 L) or less shall be *listed, labeled* and installed in accordance with Section 5705.4 and UL 2208.

**Exceptions:**

- Solvent distillation units used in continuous through-put industrial processes where the source of heat is remotely supplied using steam, hot water, oil or other heat transfer fluids, the temperature of which is below the auto-ignition point of the solvent.
- Approved* research, testing and experimental processes.

**5705.4.2 Units with a capacity exceeding 60 gallons.** Solvent distillation units used to recycle Class I, II or IIIA liquids, having a distillation chamber capacity exceeding 60 gallons (227 L) shall be used in locations that comply with the use and mixing requirements of Section 5705 and other applicable provisions in this chapter.

**5705.4.3 Prohibited processing.** Class I, II and IIIA liquids that are classified as unstable (reactive) shall not be processed in solvent distillation units.

**Exception:** Appliances *listed* for the distillation of unstable (reactive) solvents.

**5705.4.4 Labeling.** A permanent label shall be affixed to the unit by the manufacturer. The label shall indicate the capacity of the distillation chamber, and the distance the unit shall be placed away from sources of ignition. The label shall indicate the products for which the unit has been *listed* for use or refer to the instruction manual for a list of the products.

**5705.4.5 Manufacturer's instruction manual.** An instruction manual shall be provided. The manual shall be readily available for the user and the *fire code official*. The manual shall include installation, use and servicing instructions. It shall identify the liquids for which the unit has been *listed* for distillation purposes along with each liquid's *flash point* and auto-ignition temperature. For units with adjustable controls, the manual shall include directions for setting the heater temperature for each liquid to be instilled.

**5705.4.6 Location.** Solvent distillation units shall be used in locations in accordance with the listing. Solvent distillation units shall not be used in *basements*.

**5705.4.7 Storage of liquids.** Distilled liquids and liquids awaiting distillation shall be stored in accordance with Section 5704.

**5705.4.8 Storage of residues.** Hazardous residue from the distillation process shall be stored in accordance with Section 5704 and Chapter 50.

**5705.4.9 Portable fire extinguishers.** *Approved* portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with Section 906. Not less than one portable fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 40-B shall be located not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) or more than 30 feet (9144 mm) from any solvent distillation unit.

**5705.5 Alcohol-based hand rubs classified as Class I or II liquids.** The use of wall-mounted dispensers containing alcohol-based hand rubs classified as Class I or II liquids shall be in accordance with all of the following:

- The maximum capacity of each dispenser shall be 68 ounces (2 L).

2. The minimum separation between dispensers shall be 48 inches (1219 mm).
3. The dispensers shall not be installed above, below, or closer than 1 inch (25 mm) to an electrical receptacle, switch, appliance, device or other ignition source. The wall space between the dispenser and the floor or intervening counter top shall be free of electrical receptacles, switches, appliances, devices or other ignition sources.
4. Dispensers shall be mounted so that the bottom of the dispenser is not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) and not more than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
5. Dispensers shall not release their contents except when the dispenser is manually activated. Facilities shall be permitted to install and use automatically activated “touch free” alcohol-based hand-rub dispensing devices with the following requirements:
  - 5.1. The facility or persons responsible for the dispensers shall test the dispensers each time a new refill is installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s care and use instructions.
  - 5.2. Dispensers shall be designed and must operate in a manner that ensures accidental or malicious activations of the dispensing device are minimized. At a minimum, all devices subject to or used in accordance with this section shall have the following safety features:
    - 5.2.1. Any activations of the dispenser shall only occur when an object is placed within 4 inches (98 mm) of the sensing device.
    - 5.2.2. The dispenser shall not dispense more than the amount required for hand hygiene consistent with label instructions as regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA).
    - 5.2.3. An object placed within the activation zone and left in place will cause only one activation.
6. Storage and use of alcohol-based hand rubs shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of Sections 5704 and 5705.
7. Dispensers installed in occupancies with carpeted floors shall only be allowed in *smoke compartments* or *fire areas* equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

**5705.5.1 Corridor installations.** In addition to the provisions of Section 5705.5, where wall-mounted dispensers containing alcohol-based hand rubs are installed in *corridors* or rooms and areas open to the *corridor*, they shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Level 2 and 3 aerosol containers shall not be allowed in *corridors*.
2. The maximum capacity of each Class I or II liquid dispenser shall be 41 ounces (1.21 L) and the maximum capacity of each Level 1 aerosol dispenser shall be 18 ounces (0.51 kg).
3. The maximum quantity allowed in a *corridor* within a *control area* shall be 10 gallons (37.85 L) of Class I or II liquids or 1135 ounces (32.2 kg) of Level 1 aerosols, or a combination of Class I or II liquids and Level 1 aerosols not to exceed, in total, the equivalent of 10 gallons (37.85 L) or 1,135 ounces (32.2 kg) such that the sum of the ratios of the liquid and aerosol quantities divided by the allowable quantity of liquids and aerosols, respectively, shall not exceed one.
4. The minimum *corridor* width shall be 72 inches (1829 mm).
5. Projections into a *corridor* shall be in accordance with Section 1003.3.3.

## SECTION 5706 SPECIAL OPERATIONS

**5706.1 General.** This section shall cover the provisions for special operations that include, but are not limited to, storage, use, dispensing, mixing or handling of *flammable* and *combustible liquids*. The following special operations shall be in accordance with Sections 5701, 5703, 5704 and 5705, except as provided in Section 5706.

1. Storage and dispensing of *flammable* and *combustible liquids* on farms and construction sites.
2. Well drilling and operating.
3. Bulk plants or terminals.
4. Bulk transfer and process transfer operations utilizing tank vehicles and tank cars.

5. Tank vehicles and tank vehicle operation.
6. Refineries.
7. Vapor recovery and vapor-processing systems.

**5706.2 Storage and dispensing of flammable and combustible liquids on farms and construction sites.** Permanent and temporary storage and dispensing of Class I and II liquids for private use on farms and rural areas and at construction sites, earth-moving projects, gravel pits or borrow pits shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.2.1 through 5706.2.8.1.

**Exception:** Storage and use of fuel oil and containers connected with oil-burning equipment regulated by Section 605 and the *International Mechanical Code*.

**5706.2.1 Combustibles and open flames near tanks.** Storage areas shall be kept free from weeds and extraneous combustible material. Open flames and smoking are prohibited in *flammable* or *combustible liquid* storage areas.

**5706.2.2 Marking of tanks and containers.** Tanks and containers for the storage of liquids above ground shall be conspicuously marked with the name of the product that they contain and the words: "FLAMMABLE—KEEP FIRE AND FLAME AWAY." Tanks shall bear the additional marking: "KEEP 50 FEET FROM BUILDINGS."

**5706.2.3 Containers for storage and use.** Metal containers used for storage of Class I or II liquids shall be in accordance with DOTn requirements or shall be of an *approved* design.

Discharge devices shall be of a type that do not develop an internal pressure on the container. Pumping devices or *approved* self-closing faucets used for dispensing liquids shall not leak and shall be well-maintained. Individual containers shall not be interconnected and shall be kept closed when not in use.

Containers stored outside of buildings shall be in accordance with Section 5704 and the *International Building Code*.

**5706.2.4 Permanent and temporary tanks.** The capacity of permanent above-ground tanks containing Class I or II liquids shall not exceed 1,100 gallons (4164 L). The capacity of temporary above-ground tanks containing Class I or II liquids shall not exceed 10,000 gallons (37 854 L). Tanks shall be of the single-compartment design.

**Exception:** Permanent above-ground tanks of greater capacity that meet the requirements of Section 5704.2.

**5706.2.4.1 Fill-opening security.** Fill openings shall be equipped with a locking closure device. Fill openings shall be separate from vent openings.

**5706.2.4.2 Vents.** Tanks shall be provided with a method of normal and emergency venting. Normal vents shall be in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.3.

Emergency vents shall be in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.4. Emergency vents shall be arranged to discharge in a manner that prevents localized overheating or flame impingement on any part of the tank in the event that vapors from such vents are ignited.

**5706.2.4.3 Location.** Tanks containing Class I or II liquids shall be kept outside and not less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from buildings and combustible storage. Additional distance shall be provided where necessary to ensure that vehicles, equipment and containers being filled directly from such tanks will not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from structures, haystacks or other combustible storage.

**5706.2.4.4 Locations where above-ground tanks are prohibited.** The storage of Class I and II liquids in above-ground tanks is prohibited within the limits established by law as the limits of districts in which such storage is prohibited [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY].

**5706.2.5 Type of tank.** Tanks shall be provided with top openings only or shall be elevated for gravity discharge.

**5706.2.5.1 Tanks with top openings only.** Tanks with top openings shall be mounted in accordance with either of the following:

1. On well-constructed metal legs connected to shoes or runners designed so that the tank is stabilized and the entire tank and its supports can be moved as a unit.
2. For stationary tanks, on a stable base of timbers or blocks approximately 6 inches (152 mm) in height that prevents the tank from contacting the ground.

**5706.2.5.1.1 Pumps and fittings.** Tanks with top openings only shall be equipped with a tightly and permanently attached, *approved* pumping device having an *approved* hose of sufficient length for filling vehicles, equipment or containers to be served from the tank. Either the pump or the hose shall be equipped with a padlock to its hanger to

prevent tampering. An effective antisiphoning device shall be included in the pump discharge unless a self-closing nozzle is provided. Siphons or internal pressure discharge devices shall not be used.

**5706.2.5.2 Tanks for gravity discharge.** Tanks with a connection in the bottom or the end for gravity-dispensing liquids shall be mounted and equipped as follows:

1. Supports to elevate the tank for gravity discharge shall be designed to carry all required loads and provide stability.
2. Bottom or end openings for gravity discharge shall be equipped with a valve located adjacent to the tank shell that will close automatically in the event of fire through the operation of an effective heat-activated releasing device. Where this valve cannot be operated manually, it shall be supplemented by a second, manually operated valve.

The gravity discharge outlet shall be provided with an *approved* hose equipped with a self-closing valve at the discharge end of a type that can be padlocked to its hanger.

**5706.2.6 Spill control drainage control and diking.** Indoor storage and dispensing areas shall be provided with spill control and drainage control as set forth in Section 5703.4. Outdoor storage areas shall be provided with drainage control or diking as set forth in Section 5704.2.10.

**5706.2.7 Portable fire extinguishers.** Portable fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 20-B:C and complying with Section 906 shall be provided where required by the *fire code official*.

**5706.2.8 Dispensing from tank vehicles.** Where *approved*, liquids used as fuels are allowed to be transferred from tank vehicles into the tanks of motor vehicles or special equipment, provided that:

1. The tank vehicle's specific function is that of supplying fuel to motor vehicle fuel tanks.
2. The dispensing hose does not exceed 100 feet (30 480 mm) in length.
3. The dispensing nozzle is an *approved* type.
4. The dispensing hose is properly placed on an *approved* reel or in a compartment provided before the tank vehicle is moved.
5. Signs prohibiting smoking or open flames within 25 feet (7620 mm) of the vehicle or the point of refueling are prominently posted on the tank vehicle.
6. Electrical devices and wiring in areas where fuel dispensing is conducted are in accordance with NFPA 70.
7. Tank vehicle-dispensing equipment is operated only by designated personnel who are trained to handle and dispense motor fuels.
8. Provisions are made for controlling and mitigating unauthorized discharges.

**5706.2.8.1 Location.** Dispensing from tank vehicles shall be conducted not less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from structures or combustible storage.

**5706.3 Well drilling and operating.** Wells for oil and natural gas shall be drilled and operated in accordance with Sections 5706.3.1 through 5706.3.8.

**5706.3.1 Location.** The location of wells shall comply with Sections 5706.3.1.1 through 5706.3.1.3.2.

**5706.3.1.1 Storage tanks and sources of ignition.** Storage tanks or boilers, fired heaters, open-flame devices or other sources of ignition shall not be located within 25 feet (7620 mm) of well heads. Smoking is prohibited at wells or tank locations except as designated and in *approved* posted areas.

**Exception:** Engines used in the drilling, production and serving of wells.

**5706.3.1.2 Streets and railways.** Wells shall not be drilled within 75 feet (22 860 mm) of any dedicated public street, highway or nearest rail of an operating railway.

**5706.3.1.3 Buildings.** Wells shall not be drilled within 100 feet (30 480 mm) of buildings not necessary to the operation of the well.

**5706.3.1.3.1 Group A, E or I buildings.** Wells shall not be drilled within 300 feet (91 440 mm) of buildings with an occupancy in Group A, E or I.

**5706.3.1.3.2 Existing wells.** Where wells are existing, buildings shall not be constructed within the distances set forth in Section 5706.3.1 for separation of wells or buildings.

**5706.3.2 Waste control.** Control of waste materials associated with wells shall comply with Sections 5706.3.2.1 and 5706.3.2.2.

**5706.3.2.1 Discharge on a street or water channel.** Liquids containing crude petroleum or its products shall not be discharged into or on streets, highways, drainage canals or ditches, storm drains or flood control channels.

**5706.3.2.2 Discharge and combustible materials on ground.** The surface of the ground under, around or near wells, pumps, boilers, oil storage tanks or buildings shall be kept free from oil, waste oil, refuse or waste material.

**5706.3.3 Sumps.** Sumps associated with wells shall comply with Sections 5706.3.3.1 through 5706.3.3.3.

**5706.3.3.1 Maximum width.** Sumps or other basins for the retention of oil or petroleum products shall not exceed 12 feet (3658 mm) in width.

**5706.3.3.2 Backfilling.** Sumps or other basins for the retention of oil or petroleum products larger than 6 feet by 6 feet by 6 feet (1829 mm by 1829 mm by 1829 mm) shall not be maintained longer than 60 days after the cessation of drilling operations.

**5706.3.3.3 Security.** Sumps, diversion ditches and depressions used as sumps shall be securely fenced or covered.

**5706.3.4 Prevention of blowouts.** Protection shall be provided to control and prevent the blowout of a well. Protection equipment shall meet federal, state and other applicable jurisdiction requirements.

**5706.3.5 Storage tanks.** Storage of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* in tanks shall be in accordance with Section 5704. Oil storage tanks or groups of tanks shall have posted in a conspicuous place, on or near such tank or tanks, an *approved* sign with the name of the *owner* or operator, or the lease number and the telephone number where a responsible person can be reached at any time.

**5706.3.6 Soundproofing.** Where soundproofing material is required during oil field operations, such material shall be noncombustible.

**5706.3.7 Signs.** Well locations shall have posted in a conspicuous place on or near such tank or tanks an *approved* sign with the name of the *owner* or operator, name of the leasee or the lease number, the well number and the telephone number where a responsible person can be reached at any time. Such signs shall be maintained on the premises from the time materials are delivered for drilling purposes until the well is abandoned.

**5706.3.8 Field-loading racks.** Field-loading racks shall be in accordance with Section 5706.5.

**5706.4 Bulk plants or terminals.** Portions of properties where *flammable* and *combustible liquids* are received by tank vessels, pipelines, tank cars or tank vehicles and stored or blended in bulk for the purpose of distribution by tank vessels, pipelines, tanks cars, tank vehicles or containers shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.4.1 through 5706.4.10.4.

**5706.4.1 Building construction.** Buildings shall be constructed in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**5706.4.2 Means of egress.** Rooms in which liquids are stored, used or transferred by pumps shall have *means of egress* arranged to prevent occupants from being trapped in the event of fire.

**5706.4.3 Heating.** Rooms in which Class I liquids are stored or used shall be heated only by means not constituting a source of ignition, such as steam or hot water. Rooms containing heating appliances involving sources of ignition shall be located and arranged to prevent entry of flammable vapors.

**5706.4.4 Ventilation.** Ventilation shall be provided for rooms, buildings and enclosures in which Class I liquids are pumped, used or transferred. Design of ventilation systems shall consider the relatively high specific gravity of the vapors. Where natural ventilation is used, adequate openings in outside walls at floor level, unobstructed except by louvers or coarse screens, shall be provided. Where natural ventilation is inadequate, mechanical ventilation shall be provided in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*.

**5706.4.4.1 Basements and pits.** Class I liquids shall not be stored or used within a building having a *basement* or pit into which flammable vapors can travel, unless such area is provided with ventilation designed to prevent the accumulation of flammable vapors therein.

**5706.4.4.2 Dispensing of Class I liquids.** Containers of Class I liquids shall not be drawn from or filled within buildings unless a provision is made to prevent the accumulation of flammable vapors in hazardous concentrations. Where mechanical ventilation is required, it shall be kept in operation while flammable vapors could be present.

**5706.4.5 Storage.** Storage of Class I, II and IIIA liquids in bulk plants shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of Section 5704.

**5706.4.6 Overfill protection of Class I and II liquids.** Manual and automatic systems shall be provided to prevent overfill during the transfer of Class I and II liquids from mainline pipelines and marine vessels in accordance with API 2350.

**5706.4.7 Wharves.** This section shall apply to all wharves, piers, bulkheads and other structures over or contiguous to navigable water having a primary function of transferring liquid cargo in bulk between shore installations and tank vessels, ships, barges, lighter boats or other mobile floating craft.

**Exception:** Marine motor fuel-dispensing facilities in accordance with Chapter 23.

**5706.4.7.1 Transferring approvals.** Handling packaged cargo of liquids, including full and empty drums, bulk fuel and stores, over a wharf during cargo transfer shall be subject to the approval of the wharf supervisor and the senior deck officer on duty.

**5706.4.7.2 Transferring location.** Wharves at which liquid cargoes are to be transferred in bulk quantities to or from tank vessels shall be not less than 100 feet (30 480 mm) from any bridge over a navigable waterway; or from an entrance to, or superstructure of, any vehicular or railroad tunnel under a waterway. The termination of the fixed piping used for loading or unloading at a wharf shall be not less than 200 feet (60 960 mm) from a bridge or from an entrance to, or superstructures of, a tunnel.

**5706.4.7.3 Superstructure and decking material.** Superstructure and decking shall be designed for the intended use. Decking shall be constructed of materials that will afford the desired combination of flexibility, resistance to shock, durability, strength and *fire resistance*.

**5706.4.7.4 Tanks allowed.** Tanks used exclusively for ballast water or Class II or III liquids are allowed to be installed on suitably designed wharves.

**5706.4.7.5 Transferring equipment.** Loading pumps capable of building up pressures in excess of the safe working pressure of cargo hose or loading arms shall be provided with bypasses, relief valves or other arrangements to protect the loading facilities against excessive pressure. Relief devices shall be tested not less than annually to determine that they function satisfactorily at their set pressure.

**5706.4.7.6 Piping, valves and fittings.** Piping valves and fittings shall be in accordance with Section 5703.6 except as modified by the following:

1. Flexibility of piping shall be ensured by appropriate layout and arrangement of piping supports so that motion of the wharf structure resulting from wave action, currents, tides or the mooring of vessels will not subject the pipe to repeated excessive strain.
2. Pipe joints that depend on the friction characteristics of combustible materials or on the grooving of pipe ends for mechanical continuity of piping shall not be used.
3. Swivel joints are allowed in piping to which hoses are connected and for articulated, swivel-joint transfer systems, provided that the design is such that the mechanical strength of the joint will not be impaired if the packing materials fail such as by exposure to fire.
4. Each line conveying Class I or II liquids leading to a wharf shall be provided with a block valve that has *ready access* and that is on shore, near the approach to the wharf and outside of any diked area. Where more than one line is involved, the valves shall be grouped in one location.
5. Means shall be provided for easy access to cargo line valves located below the wharf deck.
6. Piping systems shall contain a sufficient number of valves to operate the system properly and to control the flow of liquid in normal operation and in the event of physical damage.
7. Piping on wharves shall be bonded and grounded where Class I and II liquids are transported. Where excessive stray currents are encountered, insulating joints shall be installed. Bonding and grounding connections on piping shall be located on the wharf side of hose riser insulating flanges, where used, and shall be in a location provided with *ready access* for inspection.
8. Hose or articulated swivel-joint pipe connections used for cargo transfer shall be capable of accommodating the combined effects of change in draft and maximum tidal range, and mooring lines shall be kept adjusted to prevent surge of the vessel from placing stress on the cargo transfer system.
9. Hoses shall be supported to avoid kinking and damage from chafing.

**5706.4.7.7 Loading and unloading.** Loading or discharging shall not commence until the wharf superintendent and officer in charge of the tank vessel agree that the tank vessel is properly moored and connections are properly made.



**5706.4.7.8 Mechanical work.** Mechanical work shall not be performed on the wharf during cargo transfer, except under special authorization by the *fire code official* based on a review of the area involved, methods to be employed and precautions necessary.

**5706.4.8 Sources of ignition.** Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall not be used, drawn or dispensed where flammable vapors can reach a source of ignition. Smoking shall be prohibited except in designated locations. “No Smoking” signs complying with Section 310 shall be conspicuously posted where a hazard from flammable vapors is normally present.

**5706.4.9 Drainage control.** Loading and unloading areas shall be provided with drainage control in accordance with Section 5704.2.10.

**5706.4.10 Fire protection.** Fire protection shall be in accordance with Chapter 9 and Sections 5706.4.10.1 through 5706.4.10.4.

**5706.4.10.1 Portable fire extinguishers.** Portable fire extinguishers with a rating of not less than 20-B and complying with Section 906 shall be located within 75 feet (22 860 mm) of hose connections, pumps and separator tanks.

**5706.4.10.2 Fire hoses.** Where piped water is available, ready-connected fire hose in a size appropriate for the water supply shall be provided in accordance with Section 905 so that manifolds where connections are made and broken can be reached by not less than one hose stream.

**5706.4.10.3 Obstruction of equipment.** Material shall not be placed on wharves in such a manner that would obstruct access to fire-fighting equipment or important pipeline control valves.

**5706.4.10.4 Fire apparatus access.** Where the wharf is designed for vehicular traffic, an unobstructed fire apparatus access road to the shore end of the wharf shall be maintained in accordance with Chapter 5.

**5706.5 Bulk transfer and process transfer operations.** Bulk transfer and process transfer operations shall be *approved* and be in accordance with Sections 5706.5.1 through 5706.5.4.5. Motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall comply with Chapter 23.

**5706.5.1 General.** The provisions of Sections 5706.5.1.1 through 5706.5.1.18 shall apply to bulk transfer and process transfer operations; Sections 5706.5.2 and 5706.5.2.1 shall apply to bulk transfer operations; Sections 5706.5.3 through 5706.5.3.3 shall apply to process transfer operations and Sections 5706.5.4 through 5706.5.4.5 shall apply to dispensing from tank vehicles and tank cars.

**5706.5.1.1 Location.** Bulk transfer and process transfer operations shall be conducted in *approved* locations. Tank cars shall be unloaded only on private sidings or railroad-siding facilities equipped for transferring *flammable* or *combustible liquids*. Tank vehicles and tank cars engaged in bulk transfer or process transfer operations shall be separated from buildings, above-ground tanks, combustible materials, *lot lines*, public streets, public alleys or *public ways* by a distance of 25 feet (7620 mm) for Class I liquids and 15 feet (4572 mm) for Class II and IIIA liquids measured from the nearest loading or unloading valve on the tank vehicle or tank car.

**Exception:** Buildings for pumps and shelters for personnel supporting transfer operations shall not be required to be separated from tank vehicles and tank cars engaged in bulk transfer or process transfer operations.

**5706.5.1.2 Weather protection canopies.** Where weather protection canopies are provided, they shall be constructed in accordance with Section 5004.13. Weather protection canopies shall not be located within 15 feet (4572 mm) of a building or combustible material or within 25 feet (7620 mm) of building openings, *lot lines*, public streets, public alleys or *public ways*.

**5706.5.1.3 Ventilation.** Ventilation shall be provided to prevent accumulation of vapors in accordance with Section 5705.3.7.5.1.

**5706.5.1.4 Sources of ignition.** Sources of ignition shall be controlled or eliminated in accordance with Section 5003.7.

**5706.5.1.5 Spill control and secondary containment.** Areas where transfer operations are located shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Section 5703.4. The spill control and secondary containment system shall have a design capacity capable of containing the capacity of the largest tank compartment located in the area where transfer operations are conducted. Containment of the rainfall volume specified in Section 5004.2.2.6 is not required.

**5706.5.1.6 Fire protection.** Fire protection shall be in accordance with Section 5703.2.

**5706.5.1.7 Static protection.** Static protection shall be provided to prevent the accumulation of static charges during transfer operations. Bonding facilities shall be provided during the transfer through open domes where Class I liquids are transferred, or where Class II and III liquids are transferred into tank vehicles or tank cars that could contain vapors from previous cargoes of Class I liquids.

Protection shall consist of a metallic bond wire permanently electrically connected to the fill stem. The fill pipe assembly shall form a continuous electrically conductive path downstream from the point of bonding. The free end of such bond wire shall be provided with a clamp or equivalent device for convenient attachment to a metallic part in electrical contact with the cargo tank of the tank vehicle or tank car. For tank vehicles, protection shall consist of a flexible bond wire of adequate strength for the intended service and the electrical resistance shall not exceed 1 megohm. For tank cars, bonding shall be provided where the resistance of a tank car to ground through the rails is 25 ohms or greater.

Such bonding connection shall be fastened to the vehicle, car or tank before dome covers are raised and shall remain in place until filling is complete and all dome covers have been closed and secured.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where vehicles and cars are loaded exclusively with products not having a static-accumulating tendency, such as asphalt, cutback asphalt, most crude oils, residual oils and water-miscible liquids.
2. Where Class I liquids are not handled at the transfer facility and the tank vehicles are used exclusively for Class II and III liquids.
3. Where vehicles and cars are loaded or unloaded through closed top or bottom connections whether the hose is conductive or nonconductive.

Filling through open domes into the tanks of tank vehicles or tank cars that contain vapor-air mixtures within the flammable range, or where the liquid being filled can form such a mixture, shall be by means of a downspout that extends to near the bottom of the tank.

**5706.5.1.8 Stray current protection.** Tank car loading facilities where Class I, II or IIIA liquids are transferred through open domes shall be protected against stray currents by permanently bonding the pipe to not less than one rail and to the transfer apparatus. Multiple pipes entering the transfer areas shall be permanently electrically bonded together. In areas where excessive stray currents are known to exist, all pipes entering the transfer area shall be provided with insulating sections to isolate electrically the transfer apparatus from the pipelines.

**5706.5.1.9 Top loading.** When top loading a tank vehicle with Class I and II liquids without vapor control, valves used for the final control of flow shall be of the self-closing type and shall be manually held open except where automatic means are provided for shutting off the flow when the tank is full. Where used, automatic shutoff systems shall be provided with a manual shutoff valve located at a safe distance from the loading nozzle to stop the flow if the automatic system fails.

When top loading a tank vehicle with vapor control, flow control shall be in accordance with Section 5706.5.1.10. Self-closing valves shall not be tied or locked in the open position.

**5706.5.1.10 Bottom loading.** When bottom loading a tank vehicle or tank car with or without vapor control, a positive means shall be provided for loading a pre-determined quantity of liquid, together with an automatic secondary shutoff control to prevent overflow. The connecting components between the transfer equipment and the tank vehicle or tank car required to operate the secondary control shall be functionally compatible.

**5706.5.1.10.1 Dry disconnect coupling.** When bottom loading a tank vehicle, the coupling between the liquid loading hose or pipe and the truck piping shall be a dry disconnect coupling.

**5706.5.1.10.2 Venting.** When bottom loading a tank vehicle or tank car that is equipped for vapor control and vapor control is not used, the tank shall be vented to the atmosphere to prevent pressurization of the tank. Such venting shall be at a height equal to or greater than the top of the cargo tank.

**5706.5.1.10.3 Vapor-tight connection.** Connections to the plant vapor control system shall be designed to prevent the escape of vapor to the atmosphere when not connected to a tank vehicle or tank car.

**5706.5.1.10.4 Vapor-processing equipment.** Vapor-processing equipment shall be separated from above-ground tanks, warehouses, other plant buildings, transfer facilities or nearest *lot line* of adjoining property that can be built on by a distance of not less than 25 feet (7620 mm). Vapor-processing equipment shall be protected from physical damage by remote location, guard rails, curbs or fencing.

**5706.5.1.11 Switch loading.** Tank vehicles or tank cars that have previously contained Class I liquids shall not be loaded with Class II or III liquids until such vehicles and all piping, pumps, hoses and meters connected thereto have been completely drained and flushed.

**5706.5.1.12 Loading racks.** Where provided, loading racks, *stairways* or platforms shall be constructed of noncombustible materials. Buildings for pumps or for shelter of loading personnel are allowed to be part of the loading

rack. Wiring and electrical equipment located within 25 feet (7620 mm) of any portion of the loading rack shall be in accordance with Section 5703.1.1.

**5706.5.1.13 Transfer apparatus.** Bulk and process transfer apparatus shall be of an *approved* type.

**5706.5.1.14 Inside buildings.** Tank vehicles and tank cars shall not be located inside a building while transferring Class I, II or IIIA liquids, unless *approved* by the *fire code official*.

**Exception:** Tank vehicles are allowed under weather protection canopies and canopies of automobile motor vehicle fuel-dispensing stations.

**5706.5.1.15 Tank vehicle and tank car certification.** Certification shall be maintained for tank vehicles and tank cars in accordance with DOTn 49 CFR Parts 100–185.

**5706.5.1.16 Tank vehicle and tank car stability.** Tank vehicles and tank cars shall be stabilized against movement during loading and unloading in accordance with Sections 5706.5.1.16.1 through 5706.5.1.16.3.

**5706.5.1.16.1 Tank vehicles.** When the vehicle is parked for loading or unloading, the cargo trailer portion of the tank vehicle shall be secured in a manner that will prevent unintentional movement.

**5706.5.1.16.2 Chock blocks.** Not less than two chock blocks not less than 5 inches by 5 inches by 12 inches (127 mm by 127 mm by 305 mm) in size and dished to fit the contour of the tires shall be used during transfer operations of tank vehicles.

**5706.5.1.16.3 Tank cars.** Brakes shall be set and the wheels shall be blocked to prevent rolling.

**5706.5.1.17 Monitoring.** Transfer operations shall be monitored by an *approved* monitoring system or by an attendant. Where monitoring is by an attendant, the operator or other competent person shall be present at all times.

**5706.5.1.18 Security.** Transfer operations shall be surrounded by a noncombustible fence not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) in height. Tank vehicles and tank cars shall not be loaded or unloaded unless such vehicles are entirely within the fenced area.

**Exceptions:**

1. Motor fuel-dispensing facilities complying with Chapter 23.
2. Installations where adequate public safety exists because of isolation, natural barriers or other factors as determined appropriate by the *fire code official*.
3. Facilities or properties that are entirely enclosed or protected from entry.

**5706.5.2 Bulk transfer.** Bulk transfer shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.5.1 and 5706.5.2.1.

**5706.5.2.1 Vehicle motor.** Motors of tank vehicles or tank cars shall be shut off during the making and breaking of hose connections and during the unloading operation.

**Exception:** Where unloading is performed with a pump deriving its power from the tank vehicle motor.

**5706.5.3 Process transfer.** Process transfer shall be in accordance with Section 5706.5.1 and Sections 5706.5.3.1 through 5706.5.3.3.

**5706.5.3.1 Piping, valves, hoses and fittings.** Piping, valves, hoses and fittings that are not a part of the tank vehicle or tank car shall be in accordance with Section 5703.6. Caps or plugs that prevent leakage or spillage shall be provided at all points of connection to transfer piping.

**5706.5.3.1.1 Shutoff valves.** *Approved* automatically or manually activated shutoff valves shall be provided where the transfer hose connects to the process piping, and on both sides of any exterior *fire-resistance-rated* wall through which the piping passes. Manual shutoff valves shall be arranged so that they are able to be accessed from grade. Valves shall not be locked in the open position.

**5706.5.3.1.2 Hydrostatic relief.** Hydrostatic pressure-limiting or relief devices shall be provided where pressure buildup in trapped sections of the system could exceed the design pressure of the components of the system.

Devices shall relieve to other portions of the system or to another *approved* location.

**5706.5.3.1.3 Antisiphon valves.** Antisiphon valves shall be provided where the system design would allow siphonage.

**5706.5.3.2 Vents.** Normal and emergency vents shall be maintained operable at all times.

**5706.5.3.3 Motive power.** Motors of tank vehicles or tank cars shall be shut off during the making and breaking of hose connections and during the unloading operation.

**Exception:** When unloading is performed with a pump deriving its power from the tank vehicle motor.

**5706.5.4 Dispensing from tank vehicles and tank cars.** Dispensing from tank vehicles and tank cars into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles shall be prohibited unless allowed by and conducted in accordance with Sections 5706.5.4.1 through 5706.5.4.5.

**5706.5.4.1 Marine craft and special equipment.** Liquids intended for use as motor fuels are allowed to be transferred from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of marine craft and special equipment where *approved* by the *fire code official*, and where:

1. The tank vehicle's specific function is that of supplying fuel to fuel tanks.
2. The operation is not performed where the public has access or where there is unusual exposure to life and property.
3. The dispensing line does not exceed 50 feet (15 240 mm) in length.
4. The dispensing nozzle is *approved*.

**5706.5.4.2 Emergency refueling.** Where *approved* by the *fire code official*, dispensing of motor vehicle fuel from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles is allowed during emergencies. Dispensing from tank vehicles shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.2.8 and 5706.6.

**5706.5.4.3 Aircraft fueling.** Transfer of liquids from tank vehicles to the fuel tanks of aircraft shall be in accordance with Chapter 20.

**5706.5.4.4 Fueling of vehicles at farms, construction sites and similar areas.** Transfer of liquid from tank vehicles to motor vehicles for private use on farms and rural areas and at construction sites, earth-moving projects, gravel pits and borrow pits is allowed in accordance with Section 5706.2.8.

**[W][S] 5706.5.4.5 Commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing.** Dispensing of Class I, II and III motor vehicle fuel from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles located at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments is allowed where (~~permitted~~) *approved*, provided that such dispensing operations are conducted in accordance with the following:

1. Dispensing shall occur only at sites that have been issued a permit to conduct mobile fueling.
2. The *owner* of a mobile fueling operation shall provide to the jurisdiction a written response plan that demonstrates readiness to respond to a fuel spill and carry out appropriate mitigation measures, and describes the process to dispose properly of contaminated materials.
3. A detailed site plan shall be submitted with each application for a permit. The site plan shall indicate: all buildings, structures and appurtenances on site and their use or function; all uses adjacent to the *lot lines* of the site; the locations of all storm drain openings, adjacent waterways or wetlands; information regarding slope, natural drainage, curbing, impounding and how a spill will be retained on the site property; and the scale of the site plan.

Provisions shall be made to prevent liquids spilled during dispensing operations from flowing into buildings or off-site. Acceptable methods include, but shall not be limited to, grading driveways, raising doorsills or other *approved* means.

4. The *fire code official* is allowed to impose limits on the times and days during which mobile fueling operations is allowed to take place, and specific locations on a site where fueling is permitted.
5. Mobile fueling operations shall be conducted in areas not open to the public or shall be limited to times when the public is not present.
6. Mobile fueling shall not take place within 15 feet (4572 mm) of buildings, property lines, combustible storage or storm drains.

**Exceptions:**

1. The distance to storm drains shall not apply where an *approved* storm drain cover or an *approved* equivalent that will prevent any fuel from reaching the drain is in place prior to fueling or a fueling hose being placed within 15 feet (4572 mm) of the drain. Where placement of a storm drain cover will cause the accumulation of excessive water or difficulty in conducting the fueling, such cover shall not be used and the fueling shall not take place within 15 feet (4572 mm) of a drain.

Blue 2021 IFC New Language, Green 2021 WA State Amendment, Red Current 2018 Seattle amendments,  
Purple Proposed 2021 Seattle Amendments

2. The distance to storm drains shall not apply for drains that direct influent to *approved* oil interceptors.
7. The tank vehicle shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 385 and local, state and federal requirements. The tank vehicle's specific functions shall include that of supplying fuel to motor vehicle fuel tanks. The vehicle and all its equipment shall be maintained in good repair.
8. Signs prohibiting smoking or open flames within 25 feet (7620 mm) of the tank vehicle or the point of fueling shall be prominently posted on three sides of the vehicle including the back and both sides.
9. A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 40:BC shall be provided on the vehicle with signage clearly indicating its location.
10. The dispensing nozzles and hoses shall be of an *approved* and *listed* type.
11. The dispensing hose shall not be extended from the reel more than 100 feet (30 480 mm) in length.
- ~~12. Absorbent materials, nonwater absorbent pads, a 10 foot long (3048 mm) containment boom, an *approved* container with lid and a nonmetallic shovel shall be provided to mitigate a minimum 5 gallon (19 L) fuel spill.~~
12. Fuel delivery vehicles shall be equipped with spill cleanup supplies in accordance with the Department of Ecology's Source Control Best Management Practices. Such supplies shall be readily available for deployment by the operator at all times and include nonwatery absorbents capable of absorbing 15 gallons (56.76 L) of diesel fuel, storm drain plug or cover kit, a nonwater absorbent containment boom or a minimum 10-foot-long (3048 mm) length with a 12-gallon (45.41 L) absorbent capacity, a nonmetallic shovel, and two 5-gallon (19 L) buckets with lids.
13. Tank vehicles shall be equipped with a "fuel limit" switch such as a count-back switch, to limit the amount of a single fueling operation to not more than 500 gallons (1893 L) before resetting the limit switch.  
**Exception:** Tank vehicles where the operator carries and can utilize a remote emergency shutoff device that, when activated, immediately causes flow of fuel from the tank vehicle to cease.
14. Persons responsible for dispensing operations shall be trained in the appropriate mitigating actions in the event of a fire, leak or spill. Training records shall be maintained by the dispensing company.
15. Operators of tank vehicles used for mobile fueling operations shall have in their possession at all times an emergency communications device to notify the proper authorities in the event of an emergency.
16. The tank vehicle dispensing equipment shall be constantly attended and operated only by designated personnel who are trained to handle and dispense motor fuels.
17. Fuel dispensing shall be prohibited within 25 feet (7620 mm) of any source of ignition.
18. The engines of vehicles being fueled shall be shut off during dispensing operations.
19. Nighttime fueling operations shall only take place in adequately lighted areas.
20. The tank vehicle shall be positioned with respect to vehicles being fueled to prevent traffic from driving over the delivery hose.
21. During fueling operations, tank vehicle brakes shall be set, chock blocks shall be in place and warning lights shall be in operation.
22. Motor vehicle fuel tanks shall not be topped off.
23. The dispensing hose shall be properly placed on an *approved* reel or in an *approved* compartment prior to moving the tank vehicle.
24. The *fire code official* and other appropriate authorities shall be notified when a reportable spill or unauthorized discharge occurs.
25. Operators shall place a drip pan or an absorbent pillow under each fuel fill opening prior to and during dispensing operations. Drip pans shall be liquid-tight. The pan or absorbent pillow shall have a capacity of not less than 3 gallons (11.36 L). Spills retained in the drip pan or absorbent pillow need not be reported. Operators, when fueling, shall have on their person an absorbent pad capable of capturing diesel fuel overfills. Except during fueling, the nozzle shall face upward and an absorbent pad shall be kept under the nozzle to catch drips. Contaminated absorbent pads or pillows shall be disposed of regularly in accordance with local, state and federal requirements.

**5706.6 Tank vehicles and vehicle operation.** Tank vehicles shall be designed, constructed, equipped and maintained in accordance with NFPA 385 and Sections 5706.6.1 through 5706.6.4.

**5706.6.1 Operation of tank vehicles.** Tank vehicles shall be utilized and operated in accordance with NFPA 385 and Sections 5706.6.1.1 through 5706.6.1.11.

**5706.6.1.1 Vehicle maintenance.** Tank vehicles shall not be operated unless they are in proper state of repair and free from accumulation of grease, oil or other flammable substance, and leaks.

**5706.6.1.2 Leaving vehicle unattended.** The driver, operator or attendant of a tank vehicle shall not remain in the vehicle cab and shall not leave the vehicle while it is being filled or discharged. The delivery hose, when attached to a tank vehicle, shall be considered to be a part of the tank vehicle.

**5706.6.1.3 Vehicle motor shutdown.** Motors of tank vehicles or tractors shall be shut down during the making or breaking of hose connections. If loading or unloading is performed without the use of a power pump, the tank vehicle or tractor motor shall be shut down throughout such operations.

**5706.6.1.4 Outage.** A cargo tank or compartment thereof used for the transportation of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall not be loaded to absolute capacity. The vacant space in a cargo tank or compartment thereof used in the transportation of *flammable* or *combustible liquids* shall be not less than 1 percent. Sufficient space shall be left vacant to prevent leakage from or distortion of such tank or compartment by expansion of the contents caused by rise in temperature in transit.

**5706.6.1.5 Overfill protection.** The driver, operator or attendant of a tank vehicle shall, before making delivery to a tank, determine the unfilled capacity of such tank by a suitable gauging device. To prevent overfilling, the driver, operator or attendant shall not deliver in excess of that amount.

**5706.6.1.6 Securing hatches.** During loading, hatch covers shall be secured on all but the receiving compartment.

**5706.6.1.7 Liquid temperature.** Materials shall not be loaded into or transported in a tank vehicle at a temperature above the material's ignition temperature unless safeguarded in an *approved* manner.

**5706.6.1.8 Bonding to underground tanks.** An external bond-wire connection or bond-wire integral with a hose shall be provided for the transferring of *flammable liquids* through open connections into underground tanks.

**5706.6.1.9 Smoking.** Smoking by tank vehicle drivers, helpers or other personnel is prohibited while they are driving, making deliveries, filling or making repairs to tank vehicles.

**5706.6.1.10 Hose connections.** Delivery of *flammable liquids* to underground tanks with a capacity of more than 1,000 gallons (3785 L) shall be made by means of *approved* liquid and vapor-tight connections between the delivery hose and tank fill pipe. Where underground tanks are equipped with any type of vapor recovery system, all connections required to be made for the safe and proper functioning of the particular vapor recovery process shall be made. Such connections shall be made liquid and vapor tight and remain connected throughout the unloading process. Vapors shall not be discharged at grade level during delivery.

**5706.6.1.10.1 Simultaneous delivery.** Simultaneous delivery to underground tanks of any capacity from two or more discharge hoses shall be made by means of mechanically tight connections between the hose and fill pipe.

**5706.6.1.11 Hose protection.** Upon arrival at a point of delivery and prior to discharging any *flammable* or *combustible liquids* into underground tanks, the driver, operator or attendant of the tank vehicle shall ensure that all hoses utilized for liquid delivery and vapor recovery, where required, will be protected from physical damage by motor vehicles. Such protection shall be provided by positioning the tank vehicle to prevent motor vehicles from passing through the area or areas occupied by hoses, or by other *approved* equivalent means.

**5706.6.2 Parking.** Parking of tank vehicles shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.6.2.1 through 5706.6.2.3.

**Exception:** In cases of accident, breakdown or other emergencies, tank vehicles are allowed to be parked and left unattended at any location while the operator is obtaining assistance.

**5706.6.2.1 Parking near residential, educational and institutional occupancies and other high-risk areas.** Tank vehicles shall not be left unattended at any time on residential streets, or within 500 feet (152 m) of a residential area, apartment or hotel complex, educational facility, hospital or care facility. Tank vehicles shall not be left unattended at any other place that would, in the opinion of the *fire chief*, pose an extreme life hazard.

**5706.6.2.2 Parking on thoroughfares.** Tank vehicles shall not be left unattended on a public street, highway, public avenue or public alley.

**Exceptions:**

1. The necessary absence in connection with loading or unloading the vehicle. During actual fuel transfer, Section 5706.6.1.2 shall apply. The vehicle location shall be in accordance with Section 5706.6.2.1.
2. Stops for meals during the day or night, where the street is well lighted at the point of parking. The vehicle location shall be in accordance with Section 5706.6.2.1.

**5706.6.2.3 Duration exceeding 1 hour.** Tank vehicles parked at one point for longer than 1 hour shall be located off of public streets, highways, public avenues or alleys, and in accordance with either of the following:

1. Inside of a bulk plant and either 25 feet (7620 mm) or more from the nearest *lot line* or within a building *approved* for such use.
2. At other *approved* locations not less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from the buildings other than those *approved* for the storage or servicing of such vehicles.

**5706.6.3 Garaging.** Tank vehicles shall not be parked or garaged in buildings other than those specifically *approved* for such use by the *fire code official*.

**5706.6.4 Portable fire extinguisher.** Tank vehicles shall be equipped with a portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 and having a minimum rating of 2-A:20-B:C.

During unloading of the tank vehicle, the portable fire extinguisher shall be out of the carrying device on the vehicle and shall be 15 feet (4572 mm) or more from the unloading valves.

**5706.7 Refineries.** Plants and portions of plants in which *flammable liquids* are produced on a scale from crude petroleum, natural gasoline or other hydrocarbon sources shall be in accordance with Sections 5706.7.1 through 5706.7.3. Petroleum-processing plants and facilities or portions of plants or facilities in which *flammable* or *combustible liquids* are handled, treated or produced on a commercial scale from crude petroleum, natural gasoline, or other hydrocarbon sources shall also be in accordance with API 651, API 653, API 752, API 1615, API 2001, API 2003, API 2009, API 2015, API 2023, API 2201 and API 2350.

**5706.7.1 Corrosion protection.** Above-ground tanks and piping systems shall be protected against corrosion in accordance with API 651.

**5706.7.2 Cleaning of tanks.** The safe entry and cleaning of petroleum storage tanks shall be conducted in accordance with API 2015.

**5706.7.3 Storage of heated petroleum products.** Where petroleum-derived asphalts and residues are stored in heated tanks at refineries and bulk storage facilities or in tank vehicles, such products shall be in accordance with API 2023.

**5706.8 Vapor recovery and vapor-processing systems.** Vapor-processing systems in which the vapor source operates at pressures from vacuum, up to and including 1 psig (6.9 kPa) or in which a potential exists for vapor mixtures in the flammable range, shall comply with Sections 5706.8.1 through 5706.8.5.

**Exceptions:**

1. Marine systems complying with federal transportation waterway regulations such as DOTn 33 CFR Parts 154 through 156, and CGR 46 CFR Parts 30, 32, 35 and 39.
2. Motor fuel-dispensing facility systems complying with Chapter 23.

**5706.8.1 Over-pressure/vacuum protection.** Tanks and equipment shall have independent venting for over-pressure or vacuum conditions that might occur from malfunction of the vapor recovery or processing system.

**Exception:** For tanks, venting shall comply with Section 5704.2.7.3.

**5706.8.2 Vent location.** Vents on vapor-processing equipment shall be not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) from adjacent ground level, with outlets located and directed so that flammable vapors will disperse to below the lower flammable limit (LFL) before reaching locations containing potential ignition sources.

**5706.8.3 Vapor collection systems and overfill protection.** The design and operation of the vapor collection system and overfill protection shall be in accordance with this section and Section 19.5 of NFPA 30.

**5706.8.4 Liquid-level monitoring.** A liquid knock-out vessel used in the vapor collection system shall have means to verify the liquid level and a high-liquid-level sensor that activates an alarm. For unpopulated facilities, the high-liquid-level sensor shall initiate the shutdown of liquid transfer into the vessel and shutdown of vapor recovery or vapor-processing systems.

**5706.8.5 Overfill protection.** Storage tanks served by vapor recovery or processing systems shall be equipped with overfill protection in accordance with Section 5704.2.7.5.8.

## SECTION 5707 ON-DEMAND MOBILE FUELING OPERATIONS

**5707.1 General.** On-demand mobile fueling operations that dispense Class I, II and III liquids into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles shall comply with Sections 5707.1 through 5707.6.6.

**Exception:** Fueling from an *approved* portable container in cases of an emergency or for personal use.

**5707.1.1 Approval required.** Mobile fueling operations shall not be conducted without first obtaining a *permit* and approval from the *fire code official*. Mobile fueling operations shall occur only at *approved* locations. *The fire code official is authorized to approve individual locations or geographic areas where mobile fueling is allowed.*

[W]5707.1.2 Coordination of permits. Permits across multiple authorities having jurisdiction shall be coordinated in accordance with Sections 5707.1.2.1 through 5707.1.2.4.

5707.1.2.1 Acceptance of permits issued by other authorities having jurisdiction. Local authorities having jurisdiction that allow mobile on demand fueling trucks may accept conforming *permits* issued and/or inspections performed by any other local authorities having jurisdiction in Washington state. Local authorities having jurisdiction that choose to accept conforming *permits* issued by other local authorities having jurisdiction in Washington state retain the right to enforce the provisions of this section.

5707.1.2.2 Local authorities having jurisdiction not offering operator or truck certification. A conforming operator or vehicle *permit* issued by one local authority having jurisdiction shall be recognized and accepted by all local authorities having jurisdiction in Washington state, if those local authority having jurisdictions allow mobile on-demand fueling and do not offer such operator or truck certification. Under no circumstances will an issuing local authority having jurisdiction be expected to perform permissive inspections beyond their jurisdiction.

5707.1.2.3 Commencing permit issuance. When a local authority having jurisdiction that has previously authorized mobile fueling operations but not issued their own *permits* commences *permit* issuance for mobile fueling operations or vehicles, that local authority having jurisdiction shall continue to accept *permits* previously issued by another local authority having jurisdiction in Washington state for three months or until their expiration date, whichever is sooner.

5707.1.2.4 Permit record maintenance. Issuing local authorities having jurisdiction shall maintain a publicly available list of current *permits* or other information source to enable all parties to have information about whether *permits* are in good standing.

[W]5707.2 Mobile fueling vehicle. An on-demand mobile fueling vehicle shall be ~~((that which is))~~ utilized in on-demand fueling operations for the dispensing of Class I, II or III liquids into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles and shall comply with Sections 5707.2.1 and 5707.2.2.

**5707.2.1 Mobile fueling vehicle classifications.** An on-demand mobile fueling vehicle shall be ~~((characterized))~~ classified as one of the following:

1. ~~((Tier))~~ **Type 1** mobile fueling vehicle. A tank vehicle that complies with NFPA 385 and that has chassis-mounted tanks where the aggregate capacity does not exceed 1,600 gallons (6057 L).
2. ~~((Tier))~~ **Type 2** mobile fueling vehicle. A vehicle with one or more chassis-mounted tanks or chassis-mounted containers, ~~((that do))~~ not to exceed 110 gallons (416 L) ~~((in))~~ capacity for each tank or container and having ~~((with))~~ an aggregate capacity ~~((that does not exceed))~~ not exceeding 800 gallons (3028 L) or the weight capacity of the vehicle in accordance with DOTn.
3. ~~((Tier))~~ **Type 3** mobile fueling vehicle. A vehicle that carries a maximum aggregate capacity of 60 gallons (227 L) of motor fuel in metal safety cans *listed* in accordance with UL 30 or other approved metal containers, each not to exceed 5 gallons (19 L) in capacity.

**5707.2.2 Mobile fueling vehicle requirements.** Each mobile fueling vehicle shall comply with all local, state and federal requirements, ~~((as well as))~~ and the following:



Blue 2021 IFC New Language, Green 2021 WA State Amendment, Red Current 2018 Seattle amendments,  
Purple Proposed 2021 Seattle Amendments

1. Mobile fueling vehicles with a chassis-mounted tank in excess of 110 gallons (416 L) shall also comply with the requirements of Section 5706.6 and NFPA 385.
2. The mobile fueling vehicle and its equipment shall be maintained in good repair.
3. Safety cans and *approved* metal containers shall be secured to the mobile fueling vehicle except when in use.
4. Fueling a motor vehicle from tanks or containers mounted in a trailer connected to a mobile fueling vehicle shall be prohibited.

**[W]5707.3 Required documents.** Documents developed to comply with Sections 5707.3.1 through 5707.3.3 shall be updated as necessary by the *owner* of the mobile fueling operation and shall be maintained in compliance with Section 109.3.

**5707.3.1 Safety and emergency response plan.** Mobile fueling operators shall have an *approved* written safety and emergency response plan that establishes policies and procedures for fire safety, spill prevention and control, personnel training and compliance with other applicable requirements of this code. The safety and emergency response plan shall specifically address and require that all operators assess surroundings prior to fueling to consider the presence of items listed in Section 5707.3.3.

**5707.3.2 Training records.** Mobile fueling vehicles shall be operated only by designated personnel who are trained on proper fueling procedures and the safety and emergency response plan. Training records of operators shall be maintained.

**5707.3.3 Site plan.** Where required by the *fire code official*, a site plan shall be developed for each location or area at which mobile fueling occurs. The site plan shall be in sufficient detail to indicate but not be limited to the following:

1. All buildings, (~~and~~) structures.
2. *Lot lines* or property lines.
3. Electric car chargers.
4. Solar photovoltaic parking lot canopies.
5. Appurtenances on-site and their use or function.
6. All uses adjacent to the *lot lines* of the site.
7. Fueling locations.
8. Locations of all storm drain openings and adjacent waterways or wetlands.
9. Information regarding slope, natural drainage, curbing and impounding.
10. How a spill will be kept on the site property.
11. Scale of the site plan.

**5707.3.4 Tiered sites.** Where a site permitting process is required by the local jurisdiction, a site shall be designated by the fire code official to be one of the following and based on local provisions as necessitated by zoning laws, environmental laws, public safety, and other characteristics.

5707.3.4.1 Tier 1 sites. Sites that do not present atypical geographic, safety or environmental concerns shall be provided expedited permitting review and shall allow permit issuance prior to site inspection. The fire code official may impose additional conditions and may perform a site inspection during the period of permit validity.

5707.3.4.2 Tier 2 sites. Sites that require an inspection shall be approved by the fire code official prior to permit issuance.

**[W]5707.4 Mobile fueling areas.** During fueling, the mobile fueling vehicle and point of connection to the vehicle being fueled shall not be located on public streets, *public ways* or inside *buildings*. Fueling on the roof level of parking structures or other *buildings* is prohibited.

**5707.4.1 Separation.** During fueling, the point of connection to the vehicle being fueled shall not take place within 25 feet (7620 mm) of buildings, *lot lines*, property lines or combustible storage. Mobile fueling vehicles shall not park within 10 feet (3048 mm) of buildings, *lot lines*, property lines or combustible storage.

**Exceptions:**

1. The *fire code official* shall be authorized to decrease the separation distance for dispensing from metal safety cans or other *approved* metal containers in accordance with Section 5707.2.

2. The point of fueling shall not take place within 10 feet (3048 mm) of buildings, *lot lines*, property lines or combustible storage where the mobile fueling vehicle has an *approved* vapor recovery system or is servicing vehicles with onboard refueling vapor recovery.

Where dispensing operations occur within 15 feet (4572 mm) of a storm drain, an *approved* storm drain cover or an *approved* equivalent method that will prevent any fuel from reaching the drain shall be used.

**5707.4.2 Sources of ignition.** Smoking, open flames and other sources of ignition shall be prohibited within 25 feet (7620 mm) of fuel dispensing activities. Signs prohibiting smoking or open flames within 25 feet (7620 mm) of the vehicle or the point of fueling shall be prominently posted on the mobile fueling vehicle. The engines of vehicles being fueled shall be shut off during fueling.

**5707.4.3 Electrical equipment.** Mobile fueling shall not occur within 20 feet (6096 mm) of electrical equipment located within 18 inches (457 mm) of the ground unless such electrical equipment is rated for Class I, Division 2, hazardous locations in accordance with NFPA 70.

**[W]5707.5 Equipment.** Mobile fueling equipment shall comply with Sections 5707.5.1 through 5707.5.5.

**5707.5.1 Dispensing hoses and nozzles.** Where equipped, the dispensing hose shall not exceed 50 feet (15 240 mm) in length. The dispensing nozzles and hoses shall be of an *approved* and *listed* type. ~~Where metal-to-metal contact cannot be made between the nozzle and the fuel fill opening, then~~ a means for bonding the mobile fueling vehicle to the motor vehicle shall be provided and employed during fueling operations.

**5707.5.2 Breakaway device.** A *listed* breakaway device shall be provided at the nozzle.

**Exception:** Mobile fueling vehicles equipped with an approved brake interlock tied to the nozzle holder that prohibits movement of the mobile fueling vehicle when the nozzle is removed from its holder or tied to the delivery of fuel that prevents activation of the pumping system.

**5707.5.3 Shutoff valve and fuel limit.** Mobile fueling vehicles shall be equipped with a *listed* shutoff valve assembly and a fuel limit switch set to a maximum of 30 gallons (116 L).

**5707.5.4 Fire extinguisher.** An *approved* portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum rating of 4-A:80-B:C shall be provided on the mobile fueling vehicle with signage clearly indicating its location.

**5707.5.5 Spill kit.** Mobile fueling vehicles shall contain a minimum 5-gallon (19 L) spill kit of an *approved* type.

**[W]5707.6 Operations.** Mobile fueling vehicles shall be constantly attended during fueling operations with brakes set and warning lights in operation. Mobile fueling vehicles shall not obstruct emergency vehicle access roads.

**5707.6.1 Dispensing hose.** Where equipped, mobile fueling vehicles shall be positioned in a manner to preclude traffic from driving over the dispensing hose. The dispensing hose shall be properly placed on an *approved* reel or in an *approved* compartment prior to moving the mobile fueling vehicle.

**5707.6.2 Drip control.** Operators shall place a drip pan or an absorbent pillow under the nozzle and each fuel fill opening prior to and during dispensing operations to catch drips.

**5707.6.3 Safety cones.** Safety cones or other visual barriers shall be employed as warning devices to highlight the vehicle fueling area. Signs prohibiting smoking or open flames within 25 feet (7620 mm) shall be prominently posted in the vehicle fueling area.

**5707.6.4 Vehicle lights.** The mobile fueling vehicle flasher lights shall be in operation while dispensing operations are in progress.

**5707.6.5 Nighttime deliveries.** Nighttime deliveries shall be made only in areas (~~deemed adequately lighted by the fire code official.~~) adequately lighted per WAC 296-800-21005.

**5707.6.6 Spill reporting.** Spills shall be reported in accordance with Section 5003.3.1.