



PENNSYLVANIA LUMBERMENS MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY

FURNITURE UPHOLSTERING OPERATIONS

FIRE PREVENTION - MANUFACTURING AREA

1. Electrical equipment
 - a. Maintain in good condition - provide immediate service to loose connections, open electrical boxes, and other deficiencies.
 - b. Extension cord use must be kept to a minimum and cords must be in good conditions with no splices or breaks.
 - c. Regularly remove lint and dust build up from fans, motors, and other electrical equipment.
2. Heating equipment
 - a. Prohibit the use of temporary heaters.
 - b. Maintain a three (3) foot clearance between heating units and all combustible storage.
3. Smoking
 - a. Prohibit smoking throughout manufacturing and storage areas.
4. Housekeeping
 - a. Remove all refuse and scrap materials at least daily.

STORAGE

1. Storage in processing areas should be restricted to that needed during one day.
2. Bulk supplies of upholstery materials should be separated from production areas by:
 - a. Detached trailers;
 - b. Detached building; or
 - c. A separate room cut off from production and other storage areas by at least 2-hour rated division walls and 1 1/2-hour rated fire doors.
3. Smaller supplies of upholstery materials can be stored in noncombustible storage bins equipped with self-closing doors.
4. Combustible foam materials stored in piles should conform to the following provisions:
 - a. Maximum height of five (5) feet
 - b. Maximum single pile storage area of 500 sq. ft.
 - c. Minimum aisle width of eight (8) feet between pile storage areas
5. Racks used for storage of fabric, foam, or padding should have a transverse flue space (space between rack sections parallel to the direction of loading) of at least six (6) inches between vertical supports, or be equipped with noncombustible fire stops at every third vertical support.
6. Cutting tables with storage below the table should be equipped with noncombustible fire stops at least every 20 feet.

FIRE PROTECTION

1. Sprinkler systems
 - a. Provide the most effective means of fire protection in production and storage areas.
 - b. Installations in production areas must conform to Extra Hazard Group 1 density requirements.
 - c. Installations in bulk storage areas must conform to NFPA 231, Standard for Indoor General Storage.
 - d. All systems should be equipped with automatic central station waterflow alarms.
2. Standpipe and hose
 - a. All production and storage areas should be provided with 1 1/2 inch standpipe and hose stations arranged so that hose streams can reach the entire area.
3. Fire extinguishers
 - a. Multi-purpose fire extinguishers should be distributed in production and storage areas so that there is no more than 50 feet of travel to an extinguisher from any one point.
4. Draft curtains
 - a. Installations around production and storage areas assist in isolating fire areas and alleviate the opening of sprinkler heads outside the immediate fire area.
5. Automatic venting
 - a. Installations in production and storage areas assist in releasing heat and toxic smoke from the building in fire situations.

MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONS

1. Foam shredding
 - a. Should be isolated from bulk storage areas.
 - b. Shredded material must be kept in noncombustible containers.
 - c. All refuse must be removed on a daily basis.
2. Adhesive applications
 - a. Spraying of flammable adhesive must be done in a noncombustible booth with adequate ventilation, electrical equipment designed for a finishing operation, and an automatic fire extinguishing system.
 - b. Storage of flammable adhesive materials must be limited to a one-day supply in the production area.