



Coffee Break Training - Fire Protection Series

Hazardous Materials: Indoor Magazine Construction Requirements

No. FP-2010-41 October 12, 2010

Learning Objective: The student shall be able to recite the construction requirements for indoor magazines.

Explosives and explosive materials are required to be stored in magazines to minimize the risk of unwanted detonation. (See Coffee Break 2008-9 for an explanation of the different types of magazines.)

Indoor magazines may be used in factory and industrial, hazardous, mercantile, storage occupancies, or research and development laboratories when storage is needed for small quantities of explosive materials. They may never be used in buildings containing residential occupancies.

Indoor magazines have very specific construction requirements:

- They must be fire resistant and theft resistant.
- The exterior must be painted red.
- The base must have wheels, casters, or rollers so the magazine can be removed from the building during an emergency.
- The smallest horizontal dimension (width) must not exceed the clear width of the entrance door.
- The door or the lid must be marked with conspicuous white lettering at least 3-inches (76 mm) high and 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) wide, reading “EXPLOSIVES—KEEP FIRE AWAY.”

Indoor magazines must be located within 10 ft (3,048 mm) of an entrance, and only on floors that have ramps or are level with the exterior grade.

An indoor magazine may hold up to 50 pounds (23 kg) of explosives or explosive materials. Two indoor magazines may be stored in the same building as long as they are separated by a distance of at least 10 ft.

For additional information, refer to *International Fire Code*[®], Chapter 33, or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1, *Uniform Fire Code*[™], Chapter 60 and NFPA 495, *Explosive Materials Code*, Chapter 13.



This indoor magazine needs additional signs to warn “Keep Fire Away.”



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