

Hazards of Flammable and Combustible Liquids:

FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS ARE LIQUIDS THAT CAN BURN

WHAT WOULD IGNITE (CATCH ON FIRE) AT A LOWER TEMPERATURE: A FLAMMABLE OR COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID?

Flammable liquids tend to ignite and burn easily at normal working temperatures. Combustible liquids have the ability to burn at temperatures that are usually above working temperatures.

Flammable and combustible liquids are present in almost every workplace. Fuels and many common products like solvents, thinners, cleaners, adhesives, paints, waxes and polishes may be flammable or combustible liquids. Everyone who works with these liquids must be aware of their hazards and how to work safely with them.

Under the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) 1988, flammable liquids have a flashpoint below 37.8°C (100°F). Combustible liquids have a flashpoint at or above 37.8°C (100°F) and below 93.3°C (200°F).

-Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety