

## **Risk Solutions**

## **Fire Safety Inspection Checklist**

Performing routine fire safety inspections is an integral part of an effective fire prevention and control plan. The following items can be used as a starting point for a fire safety inspection program:

|  | Yes | No | N/A |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| Exterior   |     |    |     |
| Is the facility's address clearly displayed for emergency response?  |     |    |     |
| Are there accumulations of combustible materials in outside areas?   |     |    |     |
| Is fire exposure from adjoining facilities limited by building separation or fire barriers?  |     |    |     |
| Are fire hydrants protected from accidental damage and access to them unobstructed?  |     |    |     |
| Are all exterior areas of the business property illuminated?   |     |    |     |
| Are exterior doors and windows of the business secured from unauthorized access?   |     |    |     |
| Are access roads provided for buildings when any point of a building's exterior is located more than 150 ft (45.7 m) from a roadway?   |     |    |     |
| Is the perimeter of the property fenced?   |     |    |     |
| Facility Design and Construction   |     |    |     |
| Are stairway openings, elevator shafts, or other vertical openings kept closed at all times?   |     |    |     |
| Are doors to high-hazard areas, such as boiler rooms and flammable liquid storage areas, kept closed or provided with automatic fire-door closers?   |     |    |     |
| Are the building's furnishings and decorations fire-retardant?   |     |    |     |
| Are fire doors free from visible damage?   |     |    |     |
| Are fire doors free from obstructions that would prevent closure?  |     |    |     |
| Are the areas near fire doors free of combustible material storage that could produce a flash fire (since such a fire could spread through the opening before automatically tripping the fire door)? |     |    |     |
| Are fusible links of automatic closing mechanisms of fire doors free of paint and other foreign materials?   |     |    |     |
| Are the guides and pulleys of automatic closing mechanisms of fire doors free of damage and cables not showing signs of fraying?   |     |    |     |



|   | Yes | No | N/A |
|---|-----|----|-----|
|   |     |    |     |
| Exits, Walkways, Paths, and Aisles  |     |    |     |
| Are fire exits provided with panic hardware and not locked by chains or padlocks?   |     |    |     |
| Are means of egress (e.g., aisles to fire exits) clear and unobstructed?  |     |    |     |
| Exits, Walkways, Paths, and Aisles (cont.)  |     |    |     |
| Are at least two fire exits provided for each smoke compartment?  |     |    |     |
| Are paths to fire protection equipment (e.g., fire alarm control panel) unobstructed?   |     |    |     |
| Are the locations of fire exits indicated by clearly visible signs?   |     |    |     |
| Is an emergency lighting system provided and tested for all means of egress?  |     |    |     |
| Building Services   |     |    |     |
| Is electrical equipment that is used in wet areas, such as restrooms and outside locations, provided with ground fault protection?  |     |    |     |
| Are electrical cords and connections for appliances inspected before use?   |     |    |     |
| Does the electrical system appear to be in good working condition?  |     |    |     |
| Is the electrical system adequate to handle the expected loads?   |     |    |     |
| Are electrical appliances that are used in areas where flammable atmospheres are present listed/approved for such use by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL)? |     |    |     |
| Are air circulation systems designed to automatically shut down in the event of a fire?   |     |    |     |
| Are furnaces and boilers for heating systems located in a separate area that has no openings or return air vent within 10 ft (3 m) of areas where flammable liquids or gases are used or stored?                  |     |    |     |
| Are boilers that produce steam for heating provided with a manually operated, emergency shutoff valve for the fuel supply?  |     |    |     |
| Fire Suppression Equipment  |     |    |     |
| Are fire extinguishers fully charged and checked at least monthly?  |     |    |     |
| Are fire extinguishers conveniently located and readily accessible?   |     |    |     |
| Have fire extinguishers been inspected in the last year?  |     |    |     |
| Are fire extinguishers appropriate for the types of hazards present?  |     |    |     |
| Is there a maintenance and service contract for the sprinkler system?   |     |    |     |



|   | Yes | No | N/A |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| Are products, supplies, and equipment that are stored in racks protected by an automatic sprinkler system?  |     |    |     |
| Are sprinkler heads free of obstructions, with no product, storage, or objects (e.g., beams and ducts) closer than 18 in (457 mm) from the bottom of a sprinkler?   |     |    |     |
| Fire Suppression Equipment (cont.)  |     |    |     |
| Is the fire department notified when service, repair, or maintenance activities will impede the sprinkler system for more than four hours (in a 24-hour period)?  |     |    |     |
| Fire Alarms   |     |    |     |
| Are fire alarm zones (areas) clearly marked?  |     |    |     |
| Is there a maintenance and service contract for the fire alarm system?  |     |    |     |
| Does the activation of the alarm system cause the release of hold-open devices on smoke compartment doors?  |     |    |     |
| Does the alarm system include both manual and automatic initiation devices that provide immediate evacuation notification to the occupants?   |     |    |     |
| Are smoke detection and fire alarm systems provided for each enclosed room or area?   |     |    |     |
| Storage   |     |    |     |
| Are storage rooms, trash rooms, and similar areas separated from other areas by one-hour fire barriers or protected by automatic sprinklers?  |     |    |     |
| Are compressed gas cylinders stored in a separate area, away from ignition sources, and secured to prevent tipping and damage?  |     |    |     |
| Are supplies and stock located at least 3 ft (0.9 m) from heating units and ductwork?   |     |    |     |
| Is the inside storage of flammable or combustible liquids limited so that not more than 120 gal (454 L) of such liquids are stored in any one cabinet and not more than three cabinets are located in the same storage area?  |     |    |     |
| Is the indoor storage of idle wood pallets limited to floor storage not exceeding 6 ft (1.8 m) in height and in stacks (of four pallet groups) separated by at least 8 ft (1.4 m) unless the area is protected by an appropriately designed automatic sprinkler system? |     |    |     |
| Are idle pallets stored flat (i.e., not on edges)?  |     |    |     |
| Are flammable liquids stored in a protected area that is separated from the rest of the facility?   |     |    |     |
| Are flammable liquids stored in containers that are listed/approved for such use?   |     |    |     |
| General   |     |    |     |
| If smoking is allowed on the premises, is it restricted to certain areas and are smoking and non-smoking areas clearly marked?  |     |    |     |



|   | Yes | No | N/A |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| Are emergency telephone numbers conspicuously posted?   |     |    |     |
| Are exit doors and exit paths checked on a daily basis to ensure egress during an emergency?  |     |    |     |
| General (cont.)   |     |    |     |
| Does a designated person remain for 30 minutes after candles have been extinguished to ensure that reignition has not occurred?       |     |    |     |
| Are the types of powered industrial trucks used suitable for the environment present?   |     |    |     |
| Are materials handling equipment in good working order?   |     |    |     |
| Are listed/approved materials handling equipment used in hazardous locations?   |     |    |     |
| Are good housekeeping practices followed, including routine cleaning of dusts over 1/8 in (3.18 mm) in depth from all surfaces?       |     |    |     |
| Are candles arranged in a manner that will prevent them from tipping over?  |     |    |     |
| Is proper bonding and grounding used when flammable liquids are transferred between containers?                                       |     |    |     |
| Is a hot-work permit system required for all cutting, welding, and soldering operations?  |     |    |     |
| Emergency Planning  |     |    |     |
| Is there an emergency action plan for the facility?   |     |    |     |
| Are emergency evacuation drills conducted at least on a semi-annual basis?  |     |    |     |
| Are employees assigned to assist with the evacuation of customers?  |     |    |     |
| Are separate signals, such as voice commands, distinct alarms, or flags used to recall employees to return to the building when safe? |     |    |     |
| Is there a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system?   |     |    |     |
| Is there a guard patrol service?  |     |    |     |

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