

AN INDEPENDENT REGISTRATION SCHEME FOR THE PESTICIDE INDUSTRY
Recognised under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986

ADVISORY NOTES FOR NEW PESTICIDE STORES

For distributors planning new pesticide stores or wishing to improve existing stores, consult the following bodies during planning stages and also see the Defra Code of Practice for Suppliers of Pesticides to Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry ([Yellow Code](#)): PB3529; <http://www.basis-reg.co.uk/media/documents/355/index.html>

Further information is available from the BASIS website; www.basis-reg.com or by email lindsay@basis-reg.co.uk

- a] Planning Department, Building Control Department of the local Authority. (Permission for siting and structure).
- b] The local Fire Authority, Fire Prevention / Safety Department; (Structure, design, fire safety).
- c] The local Environment Agency (Environment Protection Officer) in England or the local officer for Natural Resources Wales, the local Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) (Environment Protection Officer) and Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) (Approval of anti-pollution measures).
- d] Police Crime Prevention Officer. (Security)
- e] The Local Authority; Environmental Health Department. (Safe working environment).
- f] The Health and Safety Executive. Some stores may come under the responsibility of the HSE, for example, those involved in contracting.

Obtain detailed approval reports from the Environment Protection Officer and the Fire Authority prior to, and after construction has finished.

SITING

The location of the store is critical, to both the Environment Protection Officers and the Fire Authorities for water supplies and potential damage to existing property and public services and environment.

Ideally, maximum access to all sides of the building is needed for new stores for fire emergency vehicles. A free standing building is preferable.

NEW STORE CONSTRUCTION – BUNDING

An ideal design is to have a sunken floor with ramped access to contain spillage and fire water.

Floors should be concrete and containment can be provided by double faced ramps for lift truck operation (maximum slope 1 in 12). Other doorways such as communicating and fire exit doors will need to be stepped and banded. This combination provides the permanent bunding required by the Defra Code of Practice (Yellow).

RAMPS

These are usually installed centrally within the doorway. Ramps can be split into two halves to allow sliding doors to remain undisturbed.

Ramps can be installed entirely inside or outside the warehouse, using dwarf walls from the ramp high point to the edges of the doorway.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

FLOOR - sealed concrete (generally achieved using sealants incorporating epoxy resin)

WALLS - masonry or masonry with metal sheet construction above

ROOF - Sheet asbestos (or replacement material) or metal

NB The roof should be designed to quickly fail in the event of a fire and may require heat ventilation modification.

Other materials may be acceptable subject to Environment Protection Officer and Fire Authority approval.

FIRE RESISTANCE

The pesticides should be held in a fully enclosed store. All internal and external walls and doors should be of 30 minutes fire resistance specification. Separation of chemicals from other commodities by 30 minute fire resistant walls or by a suitable distance is required by the Defra Code of Practice (Yellow). This may require considerable modification of 'stores within stores'. New fire walls extending to roof height and even ceilings with 30 minutes fire resistance will be required. The local Fire Safety Officer should **always** be consulted over this matter.

VENTILATION

Pesticide stores must be well ventilated. Continuous ventilation by air bricks or louvres is advised in the Code of Practice.

Advice can be obtained from the Environmental Health Officer, local Fire Safety Officer or the Health and Safety Executive. See also HS (G) 51 'The Storage of Flammable Liquids in Containers' <http://www.hse.gov.uk/fireandexplosion/storageflammliquids.htm> ref ISBN 0-11-885533-6 available from HSE Books PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6FS. Tel: 01787 881165 Fax: 01787 313995

EXISTING STORE IMPROVEMENT - BUNDING AND STRUCTURE

Many of the above points will apply when stores are upgraded.

Written approval should always be obtained after consultation with the fire authority and the relevant Environment Agency. Check that modifications are not in conflict with existing building regulations e.g. height of doorways.

CONTAINER AND CABINET STORES

Satisfactory pesticide storage can be achieved in modified steel transport containers or manufactured portable units. Fire resistance standards are met and providing bunding and ventilation are built in, this type of store is acceptable to the authorities.

The smaller cabinet with integral sump is also suitable and acceptable to authorities but should not be used to display professional products in retail sales areas.

A separate list of manufacturers of container / cabinet stores which may be suitable is available from BASIS®

BASIS Registration Ltd, St Monica's House, 39 Windmill Lane, ASHBOURNE, Derbyshire DE6 1EY

Tel: 01335 343945/346138 Fax: 01335 301205

Web site: <http://www.basis-reg.com>

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