

KENTFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Developed by

Jim Galli, Battalion Chief

Approved by

Paul Smith, Fire Chief

Fire Protection Standard 516

Automotive Repair Garages

Date: 1-1-04

Revision: _____

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This standard has been developed pursuant to Article 29 of the Uniform Fire Code as adopted by ordinance by the Kentfield Fire Protection District. It is intended that this standard be used as a guide for establishing a reasonable degree of fire and life safety in buildings or portions thereof used for automotive repair (including marine engine repair).

1. A Fire District permit is required to operate a place of business for the purpose of repairing any motor vehicle. The permit application and filing fee should be submitted to the Fire Loss Management Division for processing,
2. Definitions
 - a. Combustible liquid is a liquid having a flash point at or above 100 degrees F. Combustible liquids shall be subdivided as follows:
 1. Class II liquids shall include those having flash points at or above 100 degrees F and below 140 degrees F.
 2. Class III-A liquids shall include those having flash points at or above 140 degrees F. and below 200 degrees F.
 3. Class III-B liquids shall include those liquids having flash points at or above 200 degrees F.
 - b. Flammable liquid is any liquid having a flash point below 100 degrees F. and having a vapor pressure not exceeding 40 pounds per square inch (absolute) at 100 degrees F. Class I liquids shall include those having flash points below 100 degrees F. and may be subdivided as follows:
 1. Class I-A shall include those having flash points below 73 degrees F. and having a boiling point below 100 degrees F.
 2. Class I-B shall include those having flash points below 73 degrees F. and having a boiling point at or above 100 degrees F.
 3. Class I-C shall include those having flash points at or above 73 degrees F. and below 100 degrees F.
3. Flammable liquids with a flash point less than 110 degrees F. shall not be used in or in connection with any garage for washing parts or removing grease or dirt, unless in a special closed machine approved for the purpose or in a separate well ventilated room constructed in accordance with the provisions of the Building Code for a Group H, Division 2 Occupancy.

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4. Flammable liquids with a flash point less than 110 degrees F. shall not be used for cleaning floors or walls.
5. The fuel tanks of motor vehicles shall be filled directly through hose from approved pumps attached to approved portable tanks or drawing from underground storage tanks. Storage and handling of flammable or combustible liquids shall conform to Article 79. No transfer of gasoline in any garage shall be made in any open container.
6. Garage floors shall drain to approved oil separators or traps discharging to sewer in accordance with the Plumbing Code. Contents of oil separators or traps of floor drainage systems shall be collected at sufficiently frequent intervals and removed from the premises to prevent oil from being carried into the sewers.
7. Self-closing metal cans shall be used for all oily waste.
8. Waste oils shall be stored in approved containers or tanks.
9. Fixed appliances and equipment generating a glow, spark, or flame capable of igniting flammable vapors shall be installed in accordance with its listing from a nationally recognized testing laboratory or higher than 18" from the floor and in accordance with the building and mechanical codes.
10. Portable appliances and equipment such as welders, torches or heaters shall not be used so that sparks, open flame or slag is within 18" of the floor or shall be separated from the flammable vapors in accordance with Fire Prevention Standards 516A.
11. Storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids shall conform to the requirements of the Uniform Fire Code, Article 79 and the following:

A. Liquid Storage Capacity Inside Buildings

1. Storage shall not exceed 60 gallons of Class I-A, 120 gallons of Class I-B, 180 gallons of Class I-C, 240 gallons of Class II or 660 gallons of Class III-A liquids, or 240 gallons in any combination of Class I and Class II liquids, subject to the limitation of the individual class.

Exception: Class I-A liquids shall not be stored in basements.

For water-miscible liquids or for areas protected with automatic sprinklers installed in accordance with U.B.C. Standard No. 38-1 for extra hazard occupancies, the quantities may be doubled.

Quantities exceeding these limitations shall be stored in an approved inside liquid

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storage room or liquid storage warehouse in accordance with U.F.C. Section 79.202 or 79.203.

2. Classes I, II and III-A liquids in excess of 10 gallons that are used for maintenance purposes and operation of equipment shall be stored in cabinets which comply with the requirements outlined in Fire Prevention Standard No. 510A.
12. Smoking shall be prohibited in any automotive repair garage. "NO SMOKING" signs shall have letters at least 3 inches high with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stroke, red and on a white background. Signs shall be conspicuously posted.
13. Exit signs shall be clearly posted above all required exit doors within the repair garage. Signs shall have letters at least 6 inches high with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stroke, green and on a white background.
14. A minimum of two exit doors are required from any repair garage. Doors shall be at least 36" wide and 6'8" high. Doors are to swing in the direction of exit travel (sliding, horizontal and roll-up doors do not qualify as required exit door).
15. No lock or latch may be installed on required exit door that requires the use of a key or any special knowledge or effort.
16. Where an exit door swings into a parking area or area which may be blocked by obstacles. A sign shall be posted on the door exterior stating "FIRE EXIT. DO NOT BLOCK". Letters are to be at least 3" high with a $\frac{3}{4}$ " stroke. Letters are to be red on a white background.
17. A minimum of one fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A20BC shall be installed at a height of not less than 4: (to the bottom of the extinguisher) nor greater than 5' (to the top of the extinguisher) from the floor level. Travel distance to the fire extinguisher shall not exceed 50'.
18. An additional fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 40 BC shall be installed where flammable or combustible liquids are stored or used. The installation height shall be as specified in #16 above. Travel distance to the fire extinguisher shall not exceed 30'.

Referenced Fire Prevention Standards:

No. 510A Storage Cabinets

No. 516A Separations for Welding Operations in Repair Garages.