

Highly Flammable Liquids in Motor Vehicle Repair: Construction of a mixing room



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Applicable health and safety legislation

- Health and Safety at Work (Jersey) Law, 1989
- Highly Flammable Liquids (Jersey) Regulations, 1979
- Electricity at Work (Jersey) Regulations, 1983

Construction of mixing room

Walls: 30 minutes fire resistant standard (external walls exempt).

Floor: 30 minutes fire resistant standard (floor immediately above ground exempt).

Ceiling: 30 minutes fire resistant standard (single storey or roof exempt).

All doors: 30 minutes fire resistant self-closing standard (external doors exempt).

Ventilation

Ventilation: provide good general ventilation with a through draft (e.g. 10 air changes per hour).

Ducting: 30 minutes fire resistant standard.

Fan: the motor located outside of the ducting in a vapour free area.

Filters: to prevent deposits of paint on motor casings, fan blades and inside ducts.

Heating

Heating: to be indirect, i.e. ducted warm air, hot water or low pressure steam radiators.

Electrical installation

Electrical fittings: it is advisable to exclude electrical equipment from mixing rooms where possible.

Use only explosion protected electrical equipment inside the mixing room. The selection of appropriate equipment is determined by the hazardous area classification, defined as zones, of the mixing room. This is the method used to identify areas where flammable vapours are likely to be present.

Advice on suitable electrical equipment which can be used in the mixing room should be obtained from a competent electrical contractor.

Mixing Schemes

Paint mixing schemes: use proprietary paint-mixing schemes to reduce the quantities of paints stored and minimise vapour given off during mixing.

Cleaning and Housekeeping

Reduce the escape of flammable vapours: open cans and fill spray guns only inside the room.

Clean mixing equipment as soon as possible after use.

Deal with spills immediately—absorb liquid spills with granules.

Keep contaminated material in a lidded metal bin, and dispose of contents safely.