



Guide to **RETAIL STORAGE AND DISPLAY OF AEROSOLS**

Aerosols are pressurised containers and often contain flammable products and propellants. So it is important to give some thought to their storage and display

RETAIL STORAGE

Retail Storage

- Storage areas should be cool and well ventilated.
- Do not store aerosols near stock room entrances and exits. Adequate access gangways should be provided and maintained to enable the stock room or store to be evacuated rapidly.
- Do not store aerosols near any source of heat.
- Do not store aerosols in direct sunlight.
- Do not allow smoking in storage areas.
- Take care when splitting up packs of aerosols – the use of knives or sharp implements may pierce cans. The use of a concealed safety knife is recommended.
- Make sure that stacks of aerosols are level and stacked evenly. This will ensure that they do not spray off before they get to the customer.
- Do not put heavy items on top of aerosols.
- Be careful when you are moving aerosols around and make sure that they are not damaged.
- Do not move stacks of aerosols by pulling them by the plastic shrink wrapping.
- Remove damaged or leaking aerosols immediately and take them to a well ventilated area (*ideally outside*) where there is no source of ignition.
- Avoid keeping aerosols in basements.
- Bear in mind that aerosol propellants are heavier than air and so, if the aerosols are leaking, the flammable propellant may collect at low points or in basements.
- Never incinerate aerosol products regardless of whether they are full or empty as this can be hazardous to personnel.

All staff should be trained in emergency procedures and means of escape. Always ensure that staff and members of the public are evacuated as quickly as possible in the event of an incident. Well-trained staff should be capable of dealing with a minor fire, using suitable extinguishers available in the store.

RETAIL DISPLAY

Retail Display

- Do not display aerosols in places where they will be in direct sunlight e.g. *some shop windows*.
- Where aerosols are displayed in cabinets, make sure that they are not subject to concentrated artificial light or close to light bulbs or other heat sources. Do not display aerosols where they may be stacked high or easily knocked over.
- Do not display aerosols in discount bins in case they get damaged or spray off accidentally.
- Basement display areas are not recommended for large quantities of aerosol products.