



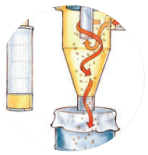
A list of best practices for loss prevention to help United Mutual agent partners and members identify the most common hazards that Woodworking Shops face every day.

Offered through

Woodworking Shops

Best Practices

Effective dust collection systems are integral to establishing a safer environment and the following items should be considered:



- ☐ Maintain properly-engineered dust collection systems, with adequately-sized motors that effectively remove the volume of dust and sawdust generated by a plant's woodworking equipment; portable dust collectors are acceptable for smaller shops). Cyclone dust collectors should be located on the exterior of a building (preferably with blowout panels).
- ☐ Automatic abort gates should be installed in exhaust duct work to prevent fires inside collection units from migrating back inside the building.

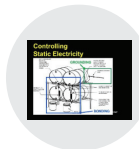
- ☐ Use magnetic detectors to discover and attract nails or other metal objects found in the wood.
- ☐ Install fire suppression/spark control systems and inside exhaust duct work by qualified fire contractors.
- ☐ Establish regular intervals for entire shop vacuuming, using an explosion-proof shop vacuum to prevent dangerous accumulations of sawdust. Compressed air should never be utilized unless a building is completely de-energized.
- ☐ If spray finishing or dipping operations are present, engineering controls are the preferred method of eliminating exposures to hazardous contaminants or conditions. When finishing wood with coatings and adhesives, an attempt should be made to use water-based or noncombustible ones

whenever possible. Adequate ventilation should be provided for all coating and gluing processes, which includes spraying, rolling, brushing, automated coating processes and dip-coating. Open surface tanks used for dip coating should be ventilated with an enclosure or hood. Spray booths should be used whenever possible for the application of spray coatings (with appropriate fire suppression systems).

- ☐ Allocate time for DAILY sweeping of all work areas at the end of every shift.
- ☐ No smoking policy should be strictly enforced.



- ☐ Use of torpedo heaters or other open flame devices is strictly prohibited.



- ☐ All working drums of flammable liquids should be bonded and grounded to dissipate static electricity while they are being transferred to smaller containers, limited to a one-day's working supply. Empty drums of flammable liquids should be removed from the building as soon as possible to reduce the potential for vapor release into the building. Use flammable liquid storage cabinets for smaller containers.



- ☐ To reduce fire hazards, air compressors require complete and regular cleaning while maintaining clear storage space of three feet around all sides of the units.

