

Seattle Fire Department

Permit Conditions

3603

Dry Cleaning

This permit shall be kept on the premises designated herein at all times and shall be readily available for inspection by the fire code official. [SFC 105.3.5]

GENERAL

1. Dry cleaning plants and systems shall be classified based on the solvents used. Spotting and pretreating operations conducted in accordance with Section 2106 of the SFC shall not change the type of the dry cleaning plant. (SFC 2103.2)
2. Type I dry cleaning plants are prohibited. (SFC 2104.1)
3. Smoking shall only be within designated smoking rooms. NO SMOKING signs shall be posted in conspicuous locations in rooms containing flammable or combustible liquids. (SFC 310)
4. At least two portable fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A, 10-BC shall be provided at each entrance to rooms where flammable or combustible liquids are stored or used, and within 30 feet of the use of flammable or combustible solvents. (SFC 2108.4)

DRY CLEANING SYSTEMS:

5. Manufacturer-provided nameplate shall be attached to the dry cleaning machine indicating the class of solvent for which the machine is designed or listed. (SFC 2105.1.2)
6. The use of solvents with a flash point below that for which a machine is designed or listed shall be prohibited. (SFC 2105.1.4)
7. Type II dry cleaning systems shall have a mechanical ventilation system designed to exhaust 1 cubic foot of air per minute for each square foot of floor area in the dry cleaning rooms and in drying rooms. The ventilation system shall operate automatically when the dry cleaning equipment is in operation and shall have manual controls at an approved location. (SFC 2105.2.3)
8. Type II dry cleaning plants shall only be heated by indirect means using steam, hot water or hot oil only. (SFC 2104.2.2)
9. Type IV (nonflammable and noncombustible liquid) dry cleaning systems shall be provided with an automatically activated exhaust ventilation system to maintain a minimum of 100 feet per minute air velocity through the loading door when the door is opened.
Exception: Dry Cleaning units are not required to be provided with exhaust ventilation where an exhaust hood is installed immediately outside of and above the loading door with the required airflow. (SFC 2105.3)
10. Lint and refuse shall be removed from traps daily, deposited in approved waste cans, removed from the premises and disposed of safely. At all other times, traps shall be held securely in place. (SFC 2105.1.5.3)

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SPOTTING AND PRETREATING:

11. Limited quantities of Class I solvents stored and used in accordance with Chapter 21 of the SFC shall not be prohibited in dry cleaning plants. (SFC 2104.1 & 2106.2)
12. Class I, II, and III solvents used in spotting operations shall be dispensed only from approved safety cans and stored in either approved safety cans or DOT approved metal shipping containers of not more than 1-gallon. (SFC 2106.2)
13. Spotting and prespotting shall be permitted to be conducted with Class I solvents where dispensed from plastic containers of not more than 1 pint (0.5 L) capacity. (SFC 2106.2.1)
14. The aggregate quantity of Class I liquid solvents at each workstation shall not exceed 1-gallon. (SFC 2106.2)
15. The aggregate quantity of combustible liquid solvents at each workstation shall not exceed 10 gallons. (SFC 2106.4)
16. Storage of additional solvents shall be in approved safety cans or in sealed DOT-approved metal shipping containers not exceeding 1-gallon capacity. (SFC 2106.2)
17. Spotting tables shall have a liquid-tight top with a curb on all sides not less than 1 inch high. The top of the table shall be pitched to ensure thorough draining to a 1.5-inch drain connected to an approved container especially provided and marked for such purpose. (2106.3.1)
18. Scrubbing tubs, where approved for articles that cannot be washed in the usual washing machines are allowed and shall comply with the following:
 - a. Only Class II or III liquids shall be used.
 - b. The total amount of solvent used in such open containers shall not exceed 3 gallons (11 L)
 - c. Scrubbing tubs shall be secured to the floor.
 - d. Scrubbing tubs shall be provided with permanent 1 ½ -inch (38 mm) drains. Such drain shall be provided with a trap and shall be connected to an approved container. (SFC 2106.3.2)
19. Scrubbing tubs, scouring, brushing, or spotting operations using flammable or combustible solvents shall be located such that solvent vapors are captured and exhausted by the ventilating system. (SFC 2106.3.3)
20. Metal scouring, brushing, and spotting tables and scrubbing tubs where flammable or combustible solvents are used shall be permanently and effectively grounded and bonded. (SFC 2106.3.4)