



Chemical substances are dangerous by their nature, with an high potential risk of fires, explosions and environment contaminations.

The Legislation Text on Health and Safety at Work, has a section (*title IX - chapter I*) dedicated to the managing of **chemical substances**..

An adequate storage of chemical substances is the ground rule for the prevention of possible disasters that can threaten health and safety of workers and environment.

The legislator has established that *"All substances must be stored in specific closets and shelves that must not be positioned next to ways of escape or emergency exits; they must be far from open flames and they must not impede the reaching of emergency devices (fire extinguishers, first aid kits, etc.). The material for neutralization and absorption of possible spilling must be always available, as indicated in the safety sheets"*.

For **toxic substances** safety measures are definitely more specific and restrictive, indeed it is necessary to *"use safety closets with aspiration towards outside, able to provide an high number of air exchanges per hour. High toxic agents, such as carcinogen substances, should be stored in separate closets, locked up and preferably ventilated"*.

In regard to **acid or basic substances** particular precautions are mandatory, so as to know how to intervene: *"For the storage of acid or basic substances it is necessary to use safety closets with aspiration towards outside, guaranteeing from 30 to 50 air exchanges per hour. Each closet must indicate the dangers of the stored products using the specific signage and it must be affixed a list of the contained agents, where to find the Safety Sheets, the identification of the person responsible for the Laboratory to which the stored agents belong"*.