



## California State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin

January 8, 2010

### FIELD TESTING FOR FLAMMABILITY: MATCH FLAME TEST

State regulations require that drapes, hangings, curtains, etc., that would tend to increase fire and panic hazards in Groups A, E, I and R-3.1 occupancies be made from non-flammable material or treated and maintained in a non-flammable condition by California State Fire Marshal (CSFM) registered chemicals or processes. (See California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 19, Section 3.08.) CSFM evaluates materials, chemicals and applicators and issues certificates of registration to those who comply with state standards.

Local fire authorities may encounter existing conditions where an alternate means of compliance may be warranted. Field-testing for flammability may be accepted (CCR, T-19, Section 1310) if fire and panic safety can be maintained while permitting reasonable economic or time allowances for a building owner or exhibitor.

The most commonly used method of field-testing is the "match flame test". The "match test" is based on requirements of small-scale fire tests. It is important to note that field-testing may not be used in place of the requirements for certification of new products.

#### MATCH FLAME TEST

- Materials:** Specimens must be dry. Specimen size should be a minimum of 3 inches wide by 10 inches long. Flame exposure should be from a common wood kitchen-type match.
- Method:** The test is performed in a draft-free and safe location. The sample is suspended (preferably held with tongs or some similar device) with the long axis vertical. The flame is applied to the center of the bottom edge with the bottom edge ½-inch above the flame. After 12 seconds of exposure, the match is removed.
- Requirements:** During the exposure, flaming shall not spread over the complete length of the sample or in excess of 4 inches from the bottom of the sample. There shall not be more than 2 seconds of afterflame. Materials that break and drip flaming particles shall be rejected if the materials continue to burn after they reach the floor.

The authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) shall use reasonable judgment in taking test specimens to avoid unnecessary damage to the product/article. For further information concerning field-testing for flammability or information concerning the California State Fire Marshal's Flame Retardant Program, contact Jeannie Smith, Deputy State Fire Marshal, at (916) 445-8533, or by email at [jeannie.smith@fire.ca.gov](mailto:jeannie.smith@fire.ca.gov)

Information can be downloaded from our Web site at:

[http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/strucfireengineer\\_flameretardant.php](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/strucfireengineer_flameretardant.php)



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

2000 MAIN STREET

CALIFORNIA 92648

FIRE DEPARTMENT

**To:** Huntington Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Float Operators

**From:** Joe Morelli, Assistant Fire Marshal

**Date:** March 24, 2015

**SUBJECT: FIRE CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARADE FLOATS**

Dear Parade Float Operators:

All parade floats within Huntington Beach must meet the requirements of the California Fire Code as adopted by the City of Huntington Beach. All floats participating in the parade will be inspected to ensure they may be safely operated. The following code sections apply to parade floats, and all floats will require compliance with the Fire Code, as adopted.

**17.56.120 CFC Section 320.1 - Decorative Material:** Decorative material on parade floats shall be non-combustible or flame retardant.

If the material is not flame retardant, then it must not be utilized on the float. This includes paper and bails of straw. The inspector will ask for documentation that the decorative material upon the float is certified as flame retardant. Material may be treated with a flame retardant application that is approved by the California State Fire Marshal's Office. Once treated, a copy of the "**Registered Flame Retardant**" certificate, describing all materials that are treated, shall be submitted to the Huntington Beach Fire Department prior to participating in the parade and a copy shall be maintained on the float while participating in the parade. If necessary, the inspector may conduct a field test of a sample of any material to check for fire retardant characteristics.

For further information about fire retardant application, go to the California State Fire Marshal's website: [http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/strucfireengineer\\_flameretardant.php](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/strucfireengineer_flameretardant.php)

**17.56.130 CFC Section 320.2 - Fire Protection:** Motorized parade floats and towing apparatus shall be provided with a minimum of one 2A 10B:C rated portable fire extinguisher readily accessible to the operator.

At a minimum, one **2-A, 10B:C** (or larger) fire extinguisher must be within easy access of the operator of the float. The fire extinguisher must have a CSFM tag that verifies servicing within one year of the inspection. An exception to the CSFM tag is granted if a **new 2-A, 10-B:C fire extinguisher** is purchased within one year of the inspection and has the original receipt attached.

**17.56.140 CFC Section 320.3 – Engine Exhaust:** Motorized parade floats shall be provided with an engine exhaust system that is capable of carrying the exhaust product away from any enclosed spaces to the open air.

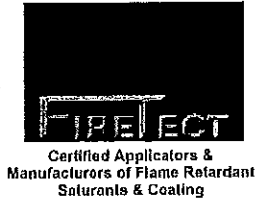
Exhaust fumes from internal combustion engines must be dispersed into the open air to avoid accumulation of unburned flammable or toxic vapors. The exhaust system must be intact and in good condition to avoid leakage into areas that may not be adequately ventilated.

If you have any questions regarding parade floats, please contact me at (714) 536-5565 or [Joe.Morelli@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:Joe.Morelli@surfcity-hb.org) .

Sincerely,

*Joe Morelli*

Joe Morelli  
Assistant Fire Marshal



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## SAFE-T-GUARD®

FLAME RETARDANT FOR FABRICS, PAPER and WOOD  
 Material Safety Data Sheet - Safe-T-Guard

Printable PDF's

[Product Data Sheet](#)   [MSDS Safe-T-Guard](#)

Call for pricing - [Order Form \(PDF\)](#)

**FABRIC PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:** Safe-T-Guard is an interior flame retardant for most fibers. Also works on some cardboard, and paper. Safe-T-Guard is unique, as it is one product for most fibers. Not effective on 100% nylon, acetate or acrylic.

**WOOD PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:** Safe-T-Guard is an interior class B flame retardant saturant.

PH  
 661/295-3473 (Fire)

### TECHNICAL DATA:

Toll free  
 800-380-8801

Fax  
 661/295-3880

28298 Constellation Rd.  
 Valencia, CA 91355

Shipping and  
 Receiving Hrs.:  
 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

Closed between  
 12:00 1:00 P.M.

[info@firetect.com](mailto:info@firetect.com)

- ▶ Weight - 5-gallon pail is 50 lbs (ready to use), ph=6.5-7.
- ▶ Available in all quantities.
- ▶ Available in concentrate.
- ▶ May need up to 24 hrs. to cure depending upon fiber characteristics.
- ▶ Appearance - consistency and appearance of water.
- ▶ Store between 40° and 100°F. Shelf life, 10 years if unopened.
- ▶ Safe-T-Guard is water-soluble. It is recommended that all fabrics be dry-cleaned.
- ▶ Do not add water or change chemical composition in any way. Always make sure cap stays on container.
- ▶ Do not expose to heat above 300° f. after application.
- ▶ Certification requires application by a California State Certified Applicator to comply with requirements of the CA State Fire Marshal.

### FABRIC

### FABRIC PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Safe-T-Guard is a non-hazardous, non-toxic interior flame retardant for most fibers including synthetics and metallic. Also works wonderful on cardboard and paper. If applied properly, this product will not leave a white flaky residue behind. In most cases, this product will not change the hand of the fabric, will not dis-color or shrink the fabric. No smell and easy to apply on or off-site. When choosing fibers to flame-retard, the most difficult fibers are acrylic, acetate and some nylons. Although pre-testing is recommended for all fibers, these fibers most definitely need to be pre-tested. Can be dried with heat up to 300°. May need up to a 24 hour cure time depending upon application process and substrate.

### APPROVALS:

- ▶ **For Fabric:**
  - ▶ CAN/ULC-S109-03 Large-Flame Test
  - ▶ California Chemical Approval #C-10002
  - ▶ NFPA 701, small and large scale; NFPA 701, Test No. 1,
  - ▶ CA Title 117
  - ▶ CA Title 19,
  - ▶ New York City Administrative Code §27-4266 and 3RCNY §19-01, Public Safety Section 1237,
- ▶ **For Wood:**
  - ▶ Meets ASTM E-84, UL 723, UBC No. 42y, NFPA 255, Class II flame spread rating,
  - ▶ California Chemical Approval #C-10002, ICBO #3656, City of L.A. Approval No. 24303.
  - ▶ British Standard 476:Part 7:1987

Chemical Approval #C-10002, ICBO #3656, City of L.A. Approval No. 24303.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:**

Before using, user should determine the suitability of this product for its intended use. Ready to use. Applicator should wear chemical gloves, goggles and respirator. All wood must be free from coatings such as paint, sealant or dirt. Coverage is 250 square feet per gallon. Using a hand Hudson type orchard sprayer, apply at 40-60 PSI using a fan spray tip, spray entire area and cover completely. The state of CA requires application by a CA Certified Applicator to obtain documented certification.

**Application Instructions Cardboard and Paper**

Due to various thickness of cardboard and paper, proper testing will determine application procedures.

**GENERAL INFORMATION FOR FABRIC AND WOOD**

**CLEAN-UP:**

Flush sprayer and tips with warm water and wash hands with soap and water.

**CAUTION:**

Keep out of reach of children. Do not ingest. Call physician if swallowed. Clean with soap and water all contacted areas. Flush eyes with chemical eye wash or flush eyes with cool water for at least 15 minutes. If irritation persists seek advice of a Physician.

**WARRANTY AND DISCLAIMER:**

Use only as directed. Sellers and Manufacturers only obligation shall be to replace such quantity of the product proved to be defective. Neither seller nor manufacturer shall be liable for any injury, loss or damage, direct or consequential, arising out of the use of or inability to use the product. The user assumes all risk and liability whatsoever in connection therewith. Any statement or recommendation not contained herein shall have no force or effect unless contained in an agreement signed by officers of seller and manufacturer. Deterioration of coatings applied to interior finishes can occur due to cleaning, atmospheric and other conditions. Fire Retardants shall possess the desired degree of permanency and shall be maintained so as to retain the effectiveness of the treatment under the service conditions encountered in actual use. Periodic testing should be performed to insure flame-retardancy effectiveness.

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gallon to achieve a Class B rating. Use low pressure spraying equipment, brush or roll.

Flamex PF is used widely in schools, restaurants, nightclubs, high-rise hotels, apartments, nursing homes, theatres, etc.

[Download MSDS](#)

- Container Size:  5 Gallon Pall  
 Gallon  
 Quart  
 Sample (1 oz)

[Email Friend](#)

Price: 100.00

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