Flammable and Combustible Liquids 155: Flashpoint

Every flammable and combustible liquid has a flashpoint, a temperature at which the liquid will ignite when it comes into contact with flames or sparks. Manufacturers are required to include the flashpoint on labels of flammable and combustible liquids. The flashpoints could be in degrees Fahrenheit or degrees Celsius.

To convert between the Fahrenheit and Celsius temperature scales, the following formulas can be used.

$$F = 1.8C + 32 \qquad C = \frac{F - 32}{1.8}$$

When using the formulas, be sure to follow the correct order of operations. In the Fahrenheit (F) formula, multiply the Celsius (C) temperature by 1.8 before adding 32. In the Celsius (C) formula, find the answer in the numerator before dividing by 1.8.

EXERCISES:

1. Some classes of flammable liquids are extremely dangerous because they can ignite at room temperatures below 73°F. If the room temperature is 65°F, what is the equivalent Celsius temperature?

2. Combustible liquids have flashpoints that are 100°F or more. A very warm industrial environment has a temperature of 44°C. Is there a potential hazard for a combustible liquid to ignite in this environment?