Chapter 296-835 WAC
DIPPING AND COATING OPERATIONS (DIP TANKS)

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IMPORTANT:
A dip tank is a container holding a liquid other than plain water that is used for dipping or coating. An object may be completely or partially immersed (in a dip tank) or it may be suspended in a vapor coming from the tank.

Exemption: Dip tanks that use a molten material (molten metal, alloy, salt, etc.) are not covered by this chapter. This chapter applies to:

• A dip tank that uses a liquid other than plain water, or the vapor of the liquid, to:
  – Clean an object
  – Coat an object
  – Alter the surface of an object
  OR
  – Change the character of an object.
• Draining or drying an object that has been dipped or coated.

Examples of covered dipping and coating operations include, but are not limited to:

– Paint dipping
– Electroplating
– Anodizing
– Pickling
– Quenching
– Tanning
– Degreasing
– Stripping
– Cleaning
– Dyeing
– Flow coating
– Roll coating.

**Reference:** You have to do a hazard assessment to identify hazards or potential hazards in your workplace and determine if PPE is necessary to protect your employees. See personal protective equipment (PPE), WAC 296-800-160, in the core rules, chapter 296-800 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-100, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**WAC 296-835-110 General requirements. Summary.**

**Your responsibility:**
Safeguard employees working with dip tanks.

**You must:**

**CONSTRUCTION**
Construct safe dip tanks
WAC 296-835-11005

**VENTILATION**
Provide proper ventilation for the vapor area
WAC 296-835-11010
Take additional precautions if you recirculate ventilation system exhaust air into the workplace
WAC 296-835-11015
Take additional precautions when using an exhaust hood
WAC 296-835-11020

**INSPECTION**
Periodically inspect your dip tanks and associated equipment and correct any deficiencies
WAC 296-835-11025

**FIRST AID**
Make sure employees working near dip tanks know appropriate first-aid procedures
WAC 296-835-11030

**CLEANING**
Prepare dip tanks before cleaning
WAC 296-835-11035

**CYANIDE**
Safeguard cyanide tanks
WAC 296-835-11040

**WELDING**
Protect employees during welding, burning or other work using open flames
WAC 296-835-11045

**LIQUIDS HARMFUL TO SKIN**
Provide additional protection for employees working near dip tanks that use liquid that may burn, irritate, or otherwise harm the skin
WAC 296-835-11050.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-110, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**CONSTRUCTION**

**WAC 296-835-11005 Construct safe dip tanks.**

**You must:**

• Make sure dip tanks, including any drain boards, are strong enough to support the expected load.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11005, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**VENTILATION**

**WAC 296-835-11010 Provide proper ventilation for the vapor area.**

**You must:**

• Make sure mechanical ventilation meets the requirements of one or more of the following standards:
  – NFPA 34-1995, Standard for Dipping and Coating Processes Using Flammable or Combustible Liquids

**Note:** Some, or all, of the consensus standards (such as ANSI and NFPA) may have been revised. If you comply with a later version of a consensus standard, you will be considered to have complied with any previous version of the same consensus standard.

**You must:**

• Limit the vapor area to the smallest practical space by using mechanical ventilation.
  • Keep airborne concentration of any substance below twenty-five percent of its lower flammable limit (LFL).
  • Make sure mechanical ventilation draws the flow of air into a hood or exhaust duct.
  • Have a separate exhaust system for each dip tank if the combination of substances being removed could cause a:
    – Fire
    – Explosion
  OR
  – Potentially hazardous chemical reaction.

**Reference:** You need to keep employee exposure within safe levels when the liquid in a dip tank creates an exposure hazard. See Air contaminants, WAC 296-62-075 through 296-62-07515.

**Note:** You may use a tank cover or material that floats on the surface of the liquid to replace or assist ventilation. The method or combination of methods you choose has to maintain the airborne concentration of the hazardous material and the employee's exposure within safe limits.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11010, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**WAC 296-835-11015 Take additional precautions if you recirculate ventilation system exhaust air into the workplace.**

**You must:**

• Only recirculate air that contains no substance at a concentration that could pose a health or safety hazard to employees.
  • Make sure any exhaust system that recirculates air into the workplace:
    – Passes the air through a device that removes contaminants
    – Sounds an alarm and automatically shuts down the dip tank operation, if the vapor concentration of any substance in the exhaust air exceeds twenty-five percent of its LFL
    – Monitors the concentration of vapor from flammable or combustible liquids with approved equipment.
WAC 296-835-11020  Take additional precautions when using an exhaust hood.

You must:
- Make sure each room with an exhaust hood has a source of outside air that:
  - Enters the room in a way that will not interfere with the function of the hood
  - Replaces at least ninety percent of the air taken in through the hood.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11020, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-11025  Periodically inspect your dip tanks and associated equipment and correct any deficiencies.

You must:
- Inspect or test your dip tanks and associated equipment periodically, including:
  - Covers
  - Overflow pipes
  - Bottom drains and valves
  - Electrical wiring, equipment, and grounding connections
  - Ventilating systems
  - Fire extinguishing equipment
- Inspect the hoods and ductwork of the ventilation system for corrosion and damage and make sure the airflow is adequate:
  - At least quarterly during operation
  - Prior to operation after a prolonged shutdown
- Promptly fix any deficiencies found.

Note:
- To assist you in tracking your inspections and actions taken from those inspections, you may want to keep a written record.
- It is recommended that inspections be at least quarterly even if the system is not operating. Depending on the chemicals in use more frequent inspection may be required.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. 07-03-163, § 296-835-11025, filed 1/24/07, effective 4/1/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11025, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-11030  Make sure employees working near dip tanks know appropriate first-aid procedures.

You must:
- Make sure your employees know the appropriate first-aid procedures for the hazards of your dipping and coating operations.

Note:
- First-aid procedures are contained in the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for the chemicals used in the dip tank.
- First-aid supplies appropriate for the hazards of the dipping or coating operation need to be located near the dip tank to be considered "readily available" as required by WAC 296-800-15020.

Reference: There are additional requirements that may include providing emergency washing facilities and employee training. See first aid, WAC 296-800-150, and employer chemical hazard communication, WAC 296-800-170, in the safety and health core rules, chapter 296-800 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11030, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-11035  Prepare dip tanks before cleaning.

You must:
(1) Drain the contents of the tank and open any cleanout doors.
(2) Ventilate the tank to clear any accumulated hazardous vapors.

Reference: There may be requirements that apply before an employee enters a dip tank. See chapter 296-809 WAC, Confined spaces.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. 07-03-163, § 296-835-11035, filed 1/24/07, effective 4/1/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11035, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-11040  Safeguard cyanide tanks.

You must:
- Provide a dike or other safeguard(s) to prevent cyanide from mixing with an acid if a dip tank fails.

Note: This would also apply to spills or other means by which cyanide could come in contact with an acid in sufficient quantity to produce a hazardous gas.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11040, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-11045  Protect employees during welding, burning, or other work using open flames.

You must:
- Make sure the dip tank and the area around it are thoroughly cleaned of solvents and vapors before performing work involving:
  - Welding
  - Burning
  OR
  - Open flames

Reference: There are additional requirements for this type of work. See Welding, cutting and brazing, chapter 296-24 WAC, Part I, and Respiratory protection, chapter 296-842 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. 05-03-093, § 296-835-11045, filed 1/18/05, effective 3/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-11045, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]
LIQUIDS HARMFUL TO SKIN

WAC 296-835-11050  Protect employees that use liquids that may burn, irritate, or otherwise harm the skin.

You must:
(1) Make sure washing facilities, including hot water, are available for every ten employees that work with dip tank liquids.
(2) Satisfy medical requirements:
   • Make sure an employee with any small skin abrasion, cut, rash, or open sore receives treatment by a properly designated person.
   • Make sure an employee with a sore, burn, or other skin lesion that needs medical treatment, has a physician's approval before they perform their regular work.
   • Make sure employees who work with chromic acid receive periodic examinations of their exposed body parts, especially their nostrils.

   Note: • Periodic means on a yearly basis unless otherwise indicated.
   • Any time chromic acid spills on to an employee's skin or their clothing is saturated, a physician should be responsible for evaluating and monitoring the area where chromic acid made contact with the skin.

You must:
(3) Provide lockers or other storage space to prevent contamination of street clothes.

Reference: You have to do a hazard assessment to identify hazards or potential hazards in your workplace and determine if PPE is necessary to protect your employees. See Personal protective equipment (PPE), WAC 296-800-160, in the safety and health core rules, chapter 296-800 WAC.

WAC 296-835-120 Additional requirements for dip tanks using flammable or combustible liquids. Summary.

IMPORTANT:
This section applies to:
• Flammable and combustible liquids (flashpoint below 200°F)  
• Liquids that have a flashpoint of 200°F (93.3°C) or higher if you:
  – Heat the liquid
  – Dip a heated object in the tank

Reference: Store flammable and combustible liquids as required by Flammable and combustible liquids, WAC 296-24-330, in the general safety and health standards.

Your responsibility:
Safeguard employees working with dip tanks containing flammable or combustible liquids

You must:
CONSTRUCTION
Include additional safeguards when constructing dip tanks
WAC 296-835-12005  Provide additional fire protection for large dip tanks
WAC 296-835-12025  ELECTRICAL WIRING AND EQUIPMENT AND SOURCES OF IGNITION
Prevent static electricity sparks or arcs when adding liquids to a dip tank
WAC 296-835-12035  Control ignition sources in the vapor area and adjacent area
WAC 296-835-12040  Provide safe wiring and electrical equipment where the liquid can drip or splash
WAC 296-835-12045  HOUSEKEEPING
Keep the area around dip tanks clear of combustible material and properly dispose of waste
WAC 296-835-12050
HEATING LIQUID
Make sure heating the liquid in your dip tanks does not cause a fire
WAC 296-835-12055
HEAT DRYING
Make sure a heating system used for drying objects does not cause a fire
WAC 296-835-12060
CONVEYORS
Make sure the conveyor system for dip tanks is safe
WAC 296-835-12065.

WAC 296-835-12005  Include additional safeguards when constructing dip tanks.

You must:
(1) Make sure the dip tank, drain boards (if provided), and supports, are made of noncombustible material.
(2) Make sure piping connections on drains and overflow pipes allow easy access to the inside of the pipe for inspection and cleaning.

Reference: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-120, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.

CONSTRUCTION
WAC 296-835-12010  Provide overflow pipes.
You must:
• Provide an overflow pipe on dip tanks that:
  – Hold more than one hundred fifty gallons of liquid
  – Have more than ten square feet of liquid surface area
• Make sure the overflow pipe is:
  – Properly trapped
  – Able to prevent the dip tank from overflowing
  – Three inches or more (7.6 cm) in diameter
  – Discharged to a safe location.

Note: Discharged to a safe location could be a:
  – Safe location outside the building
  OR
  – Closed, properly vented salvage tank or tanks that can hold more than the dip tank.
You must:
• Make sure the bottom of the overflow pipe is at least six inches (15.2 cm) below the top of the tank.

Note: The overflow pipe should be large enough to remove water applied to the liquid surface of the dip tank from automatic sprinklers or other sources in the event of fire. Smaller dip tanks should be equipped with overflow pipes, if practical.

WAC 296-835-12015 Provide bottom drains.
Exemption: A bottom drain is not required if:
– The viscosity of the liquid makes it impractical to empty the tank by gravity or pumping
OR
– The dip tank has an automatic closing cover that meets the requirements of WAC 296-835-12025.

You must:
• Provide a bottom drain on all dip tanks that hold more than five hundred gallons of liquid.
• Make sure the bottom drain:
  – Is properly trapped
  – Will empty the dip tank during a fire
  – Has pipes large enough to empty the tank within five minutes
  – Uses automatic pumps if gravity draining is not practical
  – Is capable of both manual and automatic operation
  – Discharges to a safe location.

Note: Discharges to a safe location could be a:
– Safe location outside the building
OR
– Closed, properly vented salvage tank or tanks that can hold more than the dip tank.

You must:
• Make sure manual operation of the bottom drain is performed from a safe and easily accessible location.

WAC 296-835-12020 Provide fire protection in the vapor area.
You must:
• Provide a manual fire extinguisher near the tank that is suitable for putting out flammable and combustible liquid fires.

WAC 296-835-12025 Provide additional fire protection for large dip tanks.
You must:
• Provide at least one automatic fire extinguishing system or an automatic dip tank cover if the tank:
  – Holds one hundred fifty gallons or more of liquid
OR
  – Has four square feet or more of liquid surface area.
• Make sure automatic fire extinguishing systems or automatic dip tank covers meet the requirements of Table 1.

Exemption: An automatic fire extinguishing system or an automatic dip tank cover is not required for a hardening or tempering tank that:
• Holds less than five hundred gallons
OR
• Has less than twenty-five square feet of liquid surface area.

Table 1: Automatic Fire Protection System Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF YOU PROVIDE:</th>
<th>THEN YOU MUST:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An automatic fire extinguishing system</td>
<td>• Use extinguishing materials suitable for a fire fueled by the liquid in the tank</td>
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<td>• Make sure the system protects the:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Tanks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Drain boards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Stock over drain boards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A dip tank cover</td>
<td>• Make sure the cover is:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Closed by approved automatic devices in the event of fire</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Able to be manually activated</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Kept closed when the tank is not being used</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Made of noncombustible material or tin-clad material with locked metal joints.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Reference: Automatic fire extinguishing systems have specific requirements. See:
– WAC 296-24-622 for automatic dry chemical extinguishing system requirements
– WAC 296-24-623 for automatic carbon dioxide extinguishing system requirements
– WAC 296-24-627 for automatic water spray extinguishing system and automatic foam extinguishing system requirements.
(1) Make sure the vapor areas and adjacent areas do not have any:
• Open flames.
• Spark producing devices.
• Heated surfaces hot enough to ignite vapors.
(2) Use explosion-proof wiring and equipment in the vapor area.

Reference: Electrical wiring and equipment has to meet the requirements of the applicable hazardous (classified) location. See Hazardous (classified) locations, WAC 296-24-95613. Electrostatic equipment has specific electrical requirements. See WAC 296-835-13010.

You must:
(3) Prohibit smoking in any vapor area:
• Post an easily seen "NO SMOKING" sign near each dip tank.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12040, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-12045 Provide safe electrical wiring and equipment where the liquid can drip or splash.

You must:
• Make sure all electrical wiring and equipment in the vapor area is approved for areas that have:
  – Deposits of easily ignited residue
  – Explosive vapor

Exemption: This does not apply to wiring that is:
  – In rigid conduit, threaded boxes or fittings
  – Has no taps, splices, or terminal connections.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12045, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

HOUSEKEEPING

WAC 296-835-12050 Keep the area around dip tanks clear of combustible material and properly dispose of waste.

You must:
(1) Make sure the area surrounding dip tanks is:
  – Completely free of combustible debris
  – As free of combustible stock as possible.
(2) Provide approved metal waste cans that are:
  – Used for immediate disposal of rags and other material contaminated with liquids from dipping or coating operations
  – Emptied and the contents properly disposed of at the end of each shift.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12050, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

HEATING LIQUID

WAC 296-835-12055 Make sure heating the liquid in your dip tanks does not cause a fire.

You must:
• Keep the temperature of the liquid in the dip tank:
  – Below the liquid's boiling point
  – At least 100°F below the liquid's autoignition temperature.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12055, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

HEAT DRYING

WAC 296-835-12060 Make sure a heating system used for drying objects does not cause a fire.

You must:
• Make sure the heating system used in a drying operation that could cause ignition:
  – Has adequate mechanical ventilation that operates before and during the drying operation
  – Shuts down automatically if a ventilating fan fails to maintain adequate ventilation

Note: Some, or all, of the consensus standards (such as ANSI and NFPA) may have been revised. If you comply with a later version of a consensus standard, you will be considered to have complied with any previous version of the same consensus standard.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12060, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

CONVEYORS

WAC 296-835-12065 Make sure conveyor systems are safe.

You must:
• Make sure the conveyor system shuts down automatically if:
  – The ventilation system fails to maintain adequate ventilation
  OR
  – There is a fire.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-12065, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-130 Additional requirements for dip tanks used for specific processes. Summary.

Your responsibility: Safeguard employees working with dip tanks used for specific processes

You must:
HARDENING OR TEMPERING
Meet specific requirements if you use a hardening or tempering tank
WAC 296-835-13005

ELECTROSTATIC EQUIPMENT
Meet specific requirements if you use electrostatic equipment
WAC 296-835-13010

FLOW COATING
Meet specific requirements if you use flow coating
WAC 296-835-13015

ROLL COATING
Take additional precautions if your roll coating operation uses a liquid that has a flashpoint below 140°F (60°C)
WAC 296-835-13020

VAPOR DEGREASING
Provide additional safeguards for vapor degreasing tanks
WAC 296-835-13025

SPRAY CLEANING OR DEGREASING
Control liquid spray over an open surface cleaning or degreasing tank
WAC 296-835-13030.
[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-130, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

HARDENING OR TEMPERING

WAC 296-835-13005 Meet specific requirements if you use a hardening or tempering tank.

You must:
(1) Provide an automatic fire extinguishing system or an automatic dip tank cover for any hardening and tempering tank that uses flammable or combustible liquids and:
– Holds five hundred gallons (1893 L) or more of liquid
OR
– Has twenty-five square feet (2.37 m²) or more of liquid surface area.
(2) Prevent fires.
• Make sure hardening and tempering tanks are:
– Not located on or near combustible flooring.
– Located as far away as practical from furnaces.
– Equipped with noncombustible hoods and vents (or equally effective devices) for venting to the outside.
• Treat vent ducts as flues and keep them away from combustible material, particularly roofs.
(3) Make sure air under pressure is not used to:
• Fill the tank
OR
• Agitate the liquid in the tank.
(4) Equip each tank with an alarm that will sound when the temperature is within 50°F (10°C) of the liquid's flash point (alarm set point).
(5) Make sure a limit switch shuts down conveyors supplying work to the tank when the temperature reaches the alarm set point, if operationally practical.
(6) Have a circulating cooling system if the temperature of the liquid can exceed the alarm set point.

Note: The bottom drain of the tank may be combined with the oil circulating system if the requirements for bottom drains in WAC 296-835-12015 are satisfied.

ELECTROSTATIC EQUIPMENT

WAC 296-835-13010 Meet specific requirements if you use electrostatic equipment.

ELECTRICAL
You must:
(1) Provide safe electrical equipment.
• Make sure electrodes in your equipment are:
  – Substantial
  – Rigidly supported
  – Permanently located
  – Effectively insulated from ground by insulators
• Make sure the insulators are:
  – Nonporous
  – Noncombustible
  – Kept clean and dry
• Make sure high voltage leads to electrodes are effectively:
  – Supported on permanent, suitable insulators
  – Guarded against accidental contact or grounding.
(2) Make sure transformers, powerpacks, control apparatus, and all other electrical parts of the equipment:
  – Are located outside the vapor area
OR
  – Meet the requirements of WAC 296-835-12040.
Exemption: High voltage grids and their connections may be located in the vapor area without meeting the requirements of WAC 296-835-12040.

PAINT DETEARING
You must:
(3) Safeguard paint detearing operations.
• Use approved electrostatic equipment in paint detearing operations.
(4) Make sure goods being paint deteared are:
  – Supported on conveyors
  – Not manually handled.
(5) Keep a minimum safe distance (twice the sparking distance) between goods being paint deteared and the electrodes or conductors of the electrostatic equipment at all times by:
  – Arranging the conveyors to provide the necessary distance
  – Supporting the goods to prevent swinging or movement, if necessary
• Post a sign that shows the minimum safe distance (twice the sparking distance) near the equipment, where it can be easily seen.
(6) Keep paint detearing operations separate from storage areas and people by using fences, rails or guards that are:
  – Made of conducting material
  – Adequately grounded.
(7) Protect paint detearing operations from fire by installing:
  – Automatic sprinklers
OR
  – An approved automatic fire extinguishing system.
(8) Collect and remove paint deposits by:
  – Providing removable drip plates and screens
  – Cleaning these plates and screens in a safe location.

AUTOMATIC DISCONNECT REQUIREMENT
You must:
(9) Make sure electrostatic equipment has automatic controls that immediately disconnect the power supply to the high-voltage transformer and signal the operator, if:
• Ventilating fans or equipment stop or fail for any reason
• Conveyors do not work properly
• A ground (or imminent ground) occurs anywhere in the high-voltage system
OR
• Goods being paint deteared come within twice the sparking distance of the electrodes or conductors of the equipment.

FLOW COATING

WAC 296-835-13015 Meet specific requirements if you use a flow coating process.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-130, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]
Dipping and Coating Operations (Dip Tanks)

You must:
(1) Make sure all piping is substantial and rigidly supported.
(2) Make sure the paint is supplied by a:
• Gravity tank that does not hold more than ten gallons (38 L)
OR
• Direct low-pressure pumping system.
(3) Have an approved heat-actuated device that shuts down the pumping system if there is a fire.

Note: The area of the sump, and any areas on which paint flows, should be included in the area of dip tank.

**ROLL COATING**

WAC 296-835-13020 Take additional precautions if your roll coating operation uses a liquid that has a flashpoint below 140°F (60°C).

**IMPORTANT:**
This section applies to the processes of roll coating, roll spreading, or roll impregnating that use a liquid having a flashpoint below 140°F (60°C). Material may be passed directly through a tank or over the surface of a roller that revolves partially submerged in the liquid.

You must:
• Prevent sparks from static electricity by:
  – Bonding and grounding all metallic parts (including rotating parts) and installing static collectors
  OR
  – Maintaining a conductive atmosphere (one with a high relative humidity, for example) in the vapor area.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050.02-15-102, § 296-835-13015, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**VAPOR DEGREASING**

WAC 296-835-13025 Provide additional safeguards for vapor degreasing tanks.

You must:
(1) Make sure, if the tank has a condenser or a vapor-level thermostat, that it keeps the vapor level at least:
• Thirty-six inches (91 cm) below the top of the tank if the width of the tank is seventy-two inches or more
OR
• One-half the tank width below the top of the tank if the tank is less than seventy-two inches wide.

(2) Make sure, if you use gas as a fuel to heat the tank liquid, that the combustion chamber is airtight (except for the flue opening) to prevent solvent vapors from entering the air-fuel mixture.

(3) Make sure the exhaust flue:
• Is made of corrosion-resistant material
• Extends to the outside
• Has a draft diverter if mechanical exhaust is used.
(4) Take special precautions to keep solvent vapors from mixing with the combustion air of the heater if chlorinated or fluorinated hydrocarbon solvents (for example, trichloroethylene or freon) are used in the dip tank.

(5) Keep the temperature of the heating element low enough to keep a solvent or mixture from:
• Decomposing
OR
• Generating excessive vapor.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050.02-15-102, § 296-835-13025, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

**SPRAY CLEANING OR DEGREASING**

WAC 296-835-13030 Control liquid spray over an open surface cleaning or degreasing tank.

You must:
• Control the spray to the greatest extent feasible by:
  – Enclosing the spraying operation as completely as possible
  – Using mechanical ventilation to provide enough inward air velocity to prevent the spray from leaving the vapor area.

Note: Mechanical baffles may be used to help prevent the discharge of spray.


[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050.02-15-102, § 296-835-13030, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]

WAC 296-835-140 Definitions. ACGIH: American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

Adjacent area: Any area within twenty feet (6.1 m) of a vapor area that is not separated from the vapor area by tight partitions.


Approved: Approved or listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. Refer to federal regulation 29 C.F.R. 1910.7, for definition of nationally recognized testing laboratory.

Autoignition temperature: The minimum temperature required to cause self-sustained combustion without any other source of heat.

Combustible liquid: A liquid having a flashpoint of at least 100°F (37.8°C) and below 200°F (93.3°C). Mixtures with at least ninety-nine percent of their components having flashpoints of 200°F (93.3°C) or higher are not considered combustible liquids.

Detearing: A process for removing excess wet coating material from the bottom edge of a dipped or coated object or material by passing it through an electrostatic field.

Dip tank: A container holding a liquid other than plain water that is used for dipping or coating. An object may be immersed (or partially immersed) in a dip tank or it may be suspended in a vapor coming from the tank.

Flammable liquid: Any liquid having a flashpoint below 100°F (37.8°C), except any mixture having components with flashpoints of 100°F (37.8°C) or higher, the total of which make up ninety-nine percent or more of the total volume of the mixture.

Flashpoint: The minimum temperature at which a liquid gives off a vapor in sufficient concentration to ignite when tested by any of the measurement methods described in

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the definition of flashpoint in the safety and health core rules, WAC 296-800-370.

**Lower flammable limit:** The lowest concentration of a material that will propagate a flame. The LFL is usually expressed as a percent by volume of the material in air (or other oxidant).

**NFPA:** National Fire Protection Association.

**Vapor area:** Any area in the vicinity of dip tanks, their drain boards or associated drying, conveying, or other equipment where the vapor concentration could exceed twenty-five percent of the lower flammable limit (LFL) for the liquid in the tank.

**You:** Means the employer. See the definition of employer in the safety and health core rules, WAC 296-800-370.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. 02-15-102, § 296-835-140, filed 7/17/02, effective 10/1/02.]