



LP or CNG Powered Equipment in Buildings



What rules pertain to LP or CNG powered equipment in buildings?

The 2021 International Fire Code Chapter 3 Section 309, Chapter 61 and NFPA 58 govern the use of powered industrial equipment and floor maintenance equipment.

Are forklifts powered by LP or CNG allowed inside of buildings?

Yes, in areas that are classified as hazardous locations in accordance with NFPA 70 and NFPA 505. Generally, the occupancy must be fully sprinklered, fully alarmed and have a Use Group consistent with the hazard such as certain specific Group F, Group H and Group S occupancies.

Where this equipment is allowed, spare fuel cylinders shall be stored outside in a secure cage.

Are floor buffers and floor maintenance equipment powered by LP or CNG allowed inside of buildings?

No. NFPA 58 Section 11.12.2.3(B) states, *“the use of floor machines in buildings frequented by the public, including the times when such buildings are occupied by the public, shall require the approval of the the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).”* West County EMS & Fire Protection District is the AHJ in our District and contracted areas, alongside any municipal, county and state AHJ entities.

West County EMS & Fire Protection District does NOT allow LP or CNG powered equipment to be operated or stored inside of any Group A, Group B or Group E occupancies. Certain LIMITED variances may be granted, with advance approval, for certain pieces of equipment required for the construction, remodeling or repair of a facility, where no other practical options exists, that is under a valid permit from the District.



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