



**sikkens**  
WOOD COATINGS

*Passion for wood*

## Safety advice

Everybody knows that you don't check the fuel level in your car tank with a burning match. Why is this so? - Negative experience? - Hardly.

We also want to avoid negative experiences on your part, by introducing, in a brief and understandable way, the most important safety rules that every industrial processor of lacquers and stains must be familiar with.

The basis for these safety instructions is VBG 23, the accident prevention regulations of the trade association of the chemical industry in Germany.

### The key facts at a glance

1. In rooms where there is a risk of fire, only store the quantity of coating material that you actually need to continue your work. Never store empty material containers here.
2. During processing of coating materials, ensure a sufficient exchange of air (15 times/h).
3. Dip tanks and application equipment must be made of non-combustible materials. They must be designed, and it must be possible to operate them, such that a fire cannot spread. If the surface area of the liquid in the dip tank is greater than 0.25m<sup>2</sup>, then an extractor must be used.
4. Open dip tanks must be covered after completing your work.
5. Processing of coating materials (e.g., alkyd resin varnishes) that develop heat when drying, and materials whose deposits are highly flammable, is only permitted if the entire system and extraction line, as well as the support, suspension and transport devices are regularly and thoroughly cleaned. **Risk of spontaneous combustion.**
6. When cleaning spraying equipment, ensure that the loosened deposits of coating materials and cleaning materials that have become unusable are collected in sealable, non-flammable containers. **Risk of spontaneous combustion.**
7. Avoid sources of ignition.

This list of suggestions does not claim to be exhaustive. It only provides a brief summary of the most common sources of problems based on lessons learned.

**Your contact here is your local trade association.**