

Site Shipping Container Hazard Awareness

Shipping Containers are regularly used to provide secure storage on site for tools and equipment but can also give rise to hazards which are easily overlooked.



Storage of flammable and asphyxiating gases.

Gas Cutting Equipment must not be stored inside containers unless it is specifically designed for this purpose.

Containers are generally well sealed; any gas leakage can cause a build up of flammable gases, creating an un-breathable atmosphere, explosion or fire risk.

Manual handling, Loading / Unloading ramps.

Containers can be used to store light weight tool and equipment or goods on pallets, welding equipment and other heavy weight articles.

When loading and unloading containers manual handling methods must be given consideration. Use of fork lift trucks or handling aids such as ramps must be used where possible to prevent injury.



Storage Racking

Racking used in containers must be designed, tested and inspected to ensure it can support the loads placed upon it. If container stores are moved from location to location stored tools and equipment must be removed or secured to prevent possible incidents of falling tools and equipment used within.

Fuel & Solvent Storage

Storage containers can become a dumping ground for petrol, diesel, aerosols, cleaning chemicals and paints: If products are stored, always ensure products are stored in suitable sealed containers.

Regularly inspect site containers and correctly dispose of left over products. (*Editors Note: see HSE Guidance <http://www.hse.gov.uk/fireandexplosion/storageflammliquids.htm>. Such materials should not be stored in a gas cylinder store*)

