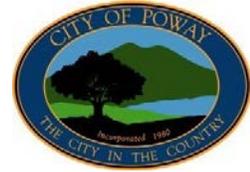




Fire Prevention Division Policies and Procedures



Rack Storage

All rack storage greater than 8-feet requires a permit from the City of Poway Building Department prior to installation. Determination of height includes any storage above the top horizontal bar. This will ensure proper design methods required for the minimum compliance of seismic anchoring, structural design and load bearing capabilities, as well as, proper aisle spacing and related exiting requirements. These requirements can be found in Chapter 22 of the California Building Code.

The City of Poway Fire Department requires an annual permit to operate for high-piled combustible storage when the rack storage area exceeds 500-square feet and is 12-feet or greater in height. Special attention is applied to the commodity being stored, the density of the fire sprinkler system, shelving, aisles, and longitudinal and transverse flue spaces.

Definitions

- Commodity - a combination of products, packing materials and containers to be stored on racks.
- High-Piled Combustible Storage - storage of combustible materials on pallets, on racks or on shelf's where the top of storage is greater than 12-feet.
- Longitudinal Flue Space - the space between back-to-back rows of rack storage or between the rack and wall perpendicular to the direction of loading.
- Solid Shelving - shelving located within racks that obstruct fire sprinkler water penetration through the racks.
- Transverse Flue Space - the space between rows of storage parallel to the direction of loading.
- Aisle - the designated floor space separating rows of rack storage as well as the end cap of a row of rack storage.

Permitting Process

The City of Poway's Building Department requires the following for plan submittals:

- Permit application
- Payment of applicable fees
- Four sets of building plans to include; plot plan; floor plan and structural details of racks
- Two sets of structural calculations for rack installation
- The plans and calculations must be stamped and wet signed by a California Licensed Structural Engineer
- A special inspection report is required by a third party for the seismic anchoring
- A technical report may be required for the storage of plastics and hazardous materials.



The Building Department will coordinate the permitting process with the Fire Department. The Fire Department will determine the need for an annual permit to operate during this permitting process.