CHAPTER 34
TIRE REBUILDING AND TIRE STORAGE

User note:

About this chapter: Chapter 34 provides requirements that are intended to prevent or control fires and explosions associated with the remanufacture and storage of tires and tire by-products. Additionally, the requirements are intended to minimize the impact of indoor and outdoor tire storage fires by regulating pile volume and location, segregating the various operations, providing for fire department access and a water supply, and controlling ignition sources.

SECTION 3401
GENERAL

3401.1 Scope. Tire rebuilding plants, tire storage and tire byproduct facilities shall comply with this chapter, other applicable requirements of this code and NFPA 13. Tire storage in buildings shall also comply with Chapter 32.

3401.2 Permit required. Permits shall be required as set forth in Section 105.6.

SECTION 3402
DEFINITIONS

3402.1 Terms defined in Chapter 2. Words and terms used in this chapter and defined in Chapter 2 shall have the meanings ascribed to them as defined therein.

SECTION 3403
TIRE REBUILDING

3403.1 Construction. Tire rebuilding plants shall comply with the requirements of the International Building Code, as to construction, separation from other buildings or other portions of the same building, and protection.

3403.2 Location. Buffing operations shall be located in a room separated from the remainder of the building housing the tire rebuilding or tire recapping operations by a 1-hour fire barrier.

Exception: Buffing operations are not required to be separated where all of the following conditions are met:

1. Buffing operations are equipped with an approved continuous automatic water-spray system directed at the point of cutting action;
2. Buffing machines are connected to particle-collecting systems providing a minimum air movement of 1,500 cubic feet per minute (cfm) (0.71 m³/s) in volume and 4,500 feet per minute (fpm) (23 m/s) in-line velocity; and
3. The collecting system shall discharge the rubber particles to an approved outdoor noncombustible or fire-resistant container, which is emptied at frequent intervals to prevent overflow.

3403.3 Cleaning. The buffing area shall be cleaned at frequent intervals to prevent the accumulation of rubber particles.

3403.4 Spray rooms and booths. Each spray room or spray booth where flammable or combustible solvents are applied, shall comply with Chapter 24.

SECTION 3404
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE

3404.1 Open burning. Open burning is prohibited in tire storage yards.

3404.2 Sources of heat. Cutting, welding or heating devices shall not be operated in tire storage yards.

3404.3 Smoking prohibited. Smoking is prohibited in tire storage yards, except in designated areas.

3404.4 Power lines. Tire storage piles shall not be located beneath electrical power lines having a voltage in excess of 750 volts or that supply power to fire emergency systems.

3404.5 Fire safety plan. The owner or individual in charge of the tire storage yard shall be required to prepare and submit to the fire code official a fire safety plan for review and approval. The fire safety plan shall include provisions for fire department vehicle access. Not less than one copy of the fire safety plan shall be prominently posted and maintained at the storage yard.

3404.6 Telephone number. The telephone number of the fire department and location of the nearest telephone shall be posted conspicuously in attended locations.

SECTION 3405
OUTDOOR STORAGE

3405.1 Individual piles. Tire storage shall be restricted to individual piles not exceeding 5,000 square feet (464.5 m²) of continuous area. Piles shall not exceed 50,000 cubic feet (1416 m³) in volume or 10 feet (3048 mm) in height. Piles 2,501 – 4,999 square feet (232 m² – 464.5 m²) shall comply with Section 315.4. Tires shall be placed on solid, level ground.

3405.2 Separation of piles. Individual tire storage piles shall be separated from other piles by a clear space of not less than 40 feet (12 192 mm).
3405.3 **Distance between piles of other stored products.** Tire storage piles shall be separated by a clear space of not less than 40 feet (12,192 mm) from piles of other stored product.

3405.4 **Distance from lot lines and buildings.** Tire storage piles shall be located not less than 50 feet (15,240 mm) from lot lines and buildings.

3405.5 **Fire breaks.** Storage yards shall be maintained free from combustible ground vegetation for a distance of 40 feet (12,192 mm) from the stored material to grass and weeds; and for a distance of 100 feet (30,480 mm) from the stored product to brush and forested areas.

3405.6 **Volume more than 150,000 cubic feet.** Where the bulk volume of stored product is more than 150,000 cubic feet (4248 m³), storage arrangement shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Individual storage piles shall comply with size and separation requirements in Sections 3405.1 through 3405.5.
2. Adjacent storage piles shall be considered to be a group, and the aggregate volume of storage piles in a group shall not exceed 150,000 cubic feet (4248 m³). Separation between groups shall be not less than 75 feet (22,860 mm) wide.

3405.7 **Location of storage.** Outdoor waste tire storage shall not be located under bridges, elevated trestles, elevated roadways or elevated railroads.

3405.8 **Dead-end aisles.** No dead-end aisles shall be allowed within the facility.

3405.9 **Stacking.** The method of stacking shall be solid piles in an orderly, stable array.

3405.10 **Barriers.** When the number of tires stored exceeds 25,000 cubic feet, the storage area shall be surrounded by suitable barriers capable of containing liquid products of combustion resulting from a fire.

3405.11 **Drainage.** Means shall be provided that will prevent the drainage of liquid products of combustion from posing a threat to health or safety or the environment.

3408.1 **Water supply.** A public or private fire protection water supply shall be provided in accordance with Section 508. The water supply shall be arranged such that any part of the storage yard can be reached by using not more than 500 feet (152 m) of hose.

3408.2 **Fire extinguishers.** Buildings or structures shall be provided with portable fire extinguishers in accordance with Section 906. Fuel-fired vehicles operating in the storage yard shall be equipped with a minimum 2-A:20-B:C-rated portable fire extinguisher.

3409.1 **Pile dimensions.** Where tires stored on-tread, the dimension of the pile in the direction of the wheel hole shall not be more than 50 feet (15,240 mm). Tires stored adjacent to or along one wall shall not extend more than 25 feet (7620 mm) from that wall. Other piles shall be not more than 50 feet (15,240 mm) in width.