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# TCC FIRE REGULATIONS

EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS IN  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS

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## FIRE REGULATIONS

The purpose of these requirements is to maintain an acceptable level of fire safety within the TCC. The fire protection systems built into the TCC have been designed to protect against the hazards which are typical of conventions and exhibitions. The objective of these requirements is to limit the hazards of contents and operations within the TCC to a level which can be controlled by the building fire protection systems.

The requirements contained herein and the Ontario Fire Code will be strictly enforced by the Event Logistics staff of TCC and the Toronto Fire Prevention Division. These requirements apply to all conventions and trade shows whether or not open to the public. **ALL Exhibitors must have these requirements in their possession during booth occupancy.**

The requirements apply to the following:

1. Prohibited materials, processes and equipment;
2. Materials, processes and equipment requiring special approval from the TCC Event Logistics Director;
3. Acceptable booth configuration;
4. Acceptable material for booth configuration;
5. Interior finishes and furnishings;
6. Obstructions;
7. Combustion engines;
8. Electrical equipment and connections;
9. Portable spotlights;
10. Procedures during set-up and dismantling;
11. All items to be suspended from ceilings;
12. Emergency Procedures.

## PROHIBITED MATERIALS, PROCESSES, EQUIPMENT AND BOOTH CONFIGURATIONS

Use of the following materials, processes or equipment is strictly prohibited:

1. Acetate fabrics, corrugated paper box board, no-steam paper;
2. Paper backed foil unless glued securely to suitable backing;
3. Styrofoam and/or foamcore;
4. Fireworks (permit);
5. Blasting agents;
6. Explosives;
7. Flammable cryogenic gases;
8. Aerosol cans with flammable propellants;
9. Smoking in posted "No Smoking" area;
10. Fueling of motor vehicles;
11. Liquefied petroleum or natural gas;
12. Wood matches with "all surface" strikes;
13. Hazardous refrigerants such as sulfur dioxide and ammonia;
14. Cellulose nitrate motion picture film;
15. Portable heating equipment;
16. Flammable liquids or dangerous chemicals;
17. Electrical equipment or installation not conforming to the Ontario Electrical Code or CSA (Canadian Standards Association).

## **MATERIALS, PROCESSES AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRING SPECIAL PERMIT FOR USE**

The use of the following materials, processes or equipment is subject to approval from the TCC Event Logistics. If any materials, processes or equipment requiring approval are to be used the Exhibitor shall submit in writing to Show Management the nature of the process or equipment and any safeguards to be used to protect the hazard. Requests will be submitted by Show Management to the TCC who will review and return the request with their approval, rejection or limitations.

1. Propane or natural gas fired equipment;
2. Operation of any heater, barbecue, heat producing device, open flame device, candles or torches;
3. Exhibits involving hazardous processing or materials not previously listed;
4. Storage or display of ammunition and fire arms (subject to subsection 5.2 of the Ontario Fire Code and Criminal Code);
5. Pressure vessels including propane tanks;
6. Fossil fuel powered equipment using flammable fluids;
8. Radiation producing devices;
9. Natural Christmas trees.

## **ACCEPTABLE BOOTH CONFIGURATION**

The following booth configuration will be acceptable:

1. Open top booths;
2. Platforms not exceeding 400 square feet in area.

The following booth configuration will require approval from the TCC Event Logistics. A description of the booths requiring approval shall be submitted to the Show Management who in turn will submit the description to TCC for their approval. The TCC Event Logistics will discuss these configurations with the Toronto Fire Prevention Division:

1. Platforms exceeding 400 sq ft in area;
2. Exhibition booths with flame retardant fabric canopies not to exceed 200 sq ft;
3. Layouts of all meeting rooms used for exhibit.

## **ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS FOR BOOTH CONSTRUCTION**

The following types of materials will be acceptable for booth construction:

1. Wood;
2. Combustible materials including plastics having a flame spread rating not exceeding 150 and a smoke developed classification not exceeding 300;
3. Noncombustible materials as regulated by the Ontario Building Code.

## **INTERIOR FINISHES AND FURNISHINGS**

The limitations described below shall apply to all booth interior finishes and furnishings including:

- \*\*drapes;
- \*\*hangings;
- \*\*curtains;
- \*\*drops;
- \*\*Christmas trees;
- \*\*artificial flowers and foliage;
- \*\*paper, cardboard or compressed paperboard less than ¼" thick is considered paper

**\*\*ruscus**  
**\*\*split wood;**  
**\*\*textiles;**  
**\*\*all other decorative materials including plastic.**

## LIMITATIONS

1. Made from noncombustible materials, or
2. Treated and maintained in a flame retardant condition by an approved flame retardant solution or process;
3. Corrugated cardboard can be used only if fire retardant treated at the factory;
4. Plastics can be used only if approved by the TCC .

**Note:** *It is necessary to flameproof textiles, paper and combustible merchandise on display for sale but the quantity so used shall be limited to the displaying of one salvageable length. Each sample must differ in colour weave or texture.*

Booth Wallpaper is permissible if pasted to walls or wall board backing.

The following test (NFPA 701 Flame Test) may be used to determine if a material is flame resistant:

1. Cut off a small piece of the material (1 1/2' wide x 4" long) and hold it with a pair of pliers;
2. Hold a wooden match 1/2" below the bottom of the material 12 seconds;
3. If, when the match is taken away, the material stops burning within 2 seconds, it is flame resistant;
4. If the material goes up in flames immediately or continues to burn for more than 2 seconds after the match is removed, it is not flame resistant.

## OBSTRUCTIONS

Nothing shall be hung from or affixed to any sprinkler piping or heads. Construction or ceiling decorations of the booths must not impede the operation of the sprinkler system.

All exit doors shall be in an operable condition and shall remain unobstructed at all times. Exit signs, manual pull stations, fire department hand sets, fire hose cabinets and portable fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed in any manner.

If a fire hose standpipe is located in exhibit space, it shall be the responsibility of the Show Management or Exhibitor, as the case may be, to provide access to such equipment and, if the view to such equipment is obstructed, to provide designated signs for same.

All entrances, exits, aisles, stairways, lobbies and passageways shall be unobstructed at all times.

Roof construction shall be substantial and fixed in position in specified areas for the duration of the Show. Easels, signs, etc., shall not be placed beyond the booth area into the aisles.

Literature, supplies and handouts are permissible in reasonable quantities. Reserve quantities shall be kept in closed containers and stored in a neat, compact manner within the booth.

## COMBUSTION ENGINES

Vehicles or other flammable fueled engines displayed shall conform to the following requirements:

1. Fuel tanks containing fuel or which have ever contained fuel shall be maintained less than 3/4 full. Caps for fuel tank fill pipes shall be of the locking type and be maintained locked to prevent viewer inspection. If they cannot be locked, they shall be taped shut;

2. Garden tractors, chain saws, power plants and other gasoline powered equipment shall not contain any fuel and shall not be used for demonstrations without permission from the TCC ;
3. The electrical system shall be de-energized by either:
  - a) removing the battery, or
  - b) disconnecting both battery cables and covering them with electrical tape or other similar insulating material
4. Tanks containing propane shall be maintained less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. Vehicles may be driven in and positioned. The engine should remain running, with valve shut off. Allow engine to run until all of the fuel in the fuel line is used up. Turn ignition off.
5. Cylinders for barbecues and/or appliances within a vehicle such as stoves, refrigerators, etc., must be empty.

## **ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT & CONNECTION**

The Electrical Safety Code, Ontario Regulation 180/84 requires that all electrical equipment is approved before it may lawfully be advertised, displayed, offered for sale or sold, or otherwise disposed of or used in the Province of Ontario. Appropriate approval markings (CSA monogram or label) must appear on each device. If such markings are missing, the device must be considered unapproved and, therefore subject to special inspection and/or removal from TCC property.

It is the responsibility of each Exhibitor to ensure that all electrical equipment in, on or about their booth complies with the above Regulations. This includes electrical merchandise as well as lighting and display equipment. If you wish to display, offer for sale or use any electrical equipment which is not certified by the CSA you must complete an application to the Electrical safety Authority.

The application procedure for Electrical equipment approval is included in each Exhibitor Kit as part of the **TCC Exhibitor Rules & Regulations**. It is the responsibility of Show management to ensure each exhibitor receives a copy of the Exhibitor Rules & Regulations.

## **PORTABLE SPOTLIGHTS**

All clamp on types of portable spotlights should be protected from metal to metal contact by having electrical insulating pads or wrappings permanently attached to the lampholder clamps.

Where a spotlight may be subject to physical damage, dampness or where lamps may come in contact with combustible material, the spotlight shall be equipped with a guard attached to the lampholder or the handle.

Flexible cords (extension cords) may only be used for portable lamps or appliances that are of allowable amperage for this size and type of the three conductor cord used to power bars.

## **PROCEDURES DURING SETUP AND DISMANTLING OF SHOWS**

No smoking is allowed during the setup or dismantling of shows. TCC is a No Smoking facility.

Show Management must have the approval of the TCC Event Logistics for commencement of setup or dismantling of shows.

Access to and flow of vehicles or trucks on exhibition hall floor is limited and controlled. Drivers of vehicles must stand by vehicles at all times with parking lights on.

The idling of trucks while in the loading dock area of the building or on the exhibition floor is prohibited.

Crates and packaging materials must be removed promptly. The Exhibitor is to monitor this activity. Restriction on the use of materials, processes and equipment during setup and dismantling must be adhered to.

Any type of utility connection (i.e.: electrical, audio, video, water, compressed air, steam, etc.) must be carried out by the Licensor's authorized personnel or its appointees. This applies to any and all connections made which are not covered in the entree's "Electrical Rate Schedule" or "Water Drain or Compressed Air Rate Schedule".

The following equipment and operations are prohibited during show setup and dismantling:

1. Material handling equipment other than electrically powered will not be permitted in the facility during shows or overnight;
2. Tools and equipment powered by flammable fuels, except materials handling equipment;
3. Electrically powered tools and equipment other than those listed by ULC or labeled or listed by CSA, or by a nationally recognized testing laboratory;
4. Portable heating equipment;
5. Welding, cutting or blazing equipment without special permission from the TCC;
6. Painting with flammable or volatile paints and finishes;
7. Smoking in allposted "No Smoking" areas and where packing crates and debris are an obvious fire hazard.
8. Use of other equipment or operations that increase the risk of life safety.

#### **CEILING SUSPENDED ITEMS**

1. All items to be suspended from ceiling including signs, displays, light and sound equipment, etc., must be approved in advance;
2. Rigging of cable and other hanging devices on or near ceiling electrical buss ducts and conduits is strictly prohibited;
3. All ceiling equipment material and rigging must be removed immediately upon close of show.

#### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

The Toronto Congress Centre is equipped with sophisticated fire protection equipment including: automatic sprinkler, smoke and heat detection, fire alarm and public address system. Upon arrival, you should familiarize yourself with the building, particularly as to the nearest exit, manual pull station and fire extinguisher.

If you see fire, activate the nearest fire alarm manual pull station and leave the fire area closing all doors behind you. Do not attempt to fight a fire unless it is small enough to extinguish with one of the portable extinguishers located throughout the building. There are no fire hoses provided for use by occupants.