

## 2019 NFPA 400 Organic Peroxides Storage Classifications Update

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recently published the 2019 edition of “NFPA 400: Hazardous Materials Code” (NFPA 400). This code is updated every three years and “consolidates fundamental safeguards for the storage, use, and handling of hazardous materials”. Members of the Organic Peroxide Producers Safety Division (OPPSD) of Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) are pleased to present important information regarding updates to storage classifications for organic peroxide formulations in this edition.

In the 2016 edition, OPPSD recommended a more objective and globally consistent method for organic peroxide classifications based on the leading, internationally accepted Dutch Code PGS 8 (Organic peroxides: Storage, Guideline for the labour-safe, environment-safe and fire-safe storage of organic peroxides, December 2011) using either large or small scale burning tests.

In 2019, Chapter 14 and the associated tables within Annex F of NFPA 400 were updated for a variety of reasons, including OPPSD’s recommendations. First, Class II organic peroxide formulations are now split into Class IIA, those with higher burning rates and Class IIB, those with lower burn rates, within the Class II burn rate range. Second, the tables in Annex F were updated to include most OP formulations available within the US at the time of this publication. Third, some of the products’ classifications were changed based on new burn rate tests sponsored by OPPSD. Fourth, errata for the 2016 edition tables has been identified and corrected. Fifth, where burn rate is not available, the classifications have been aligned with those in the European codes. While additional information on storage classifications can be found in the Chapters 3 (Definitions), 14 (Organic Peroxide Formulations) and Annex F of the NFPA 400: Hazardous Materials Code, for the most up to date version of this classifications table, please refer to the OPPSD website [plasticsindustry.org/oppsd](http://plasticsindustry.org/oppsd).

We advise owners or operators of storage facilities and facilities where these materials are stored, handled or used to consider how these revised classifications may impact their operations. This includes inventory limits, safety assessments and training, facility design, emergency response plans, work practices, and insurance carrier evaluations, among other points of concern. Although the products are available by different trade names dependent on your supplier, the technical name and CAS # can be found on the products’ Safety Data Sheets (SDS). Carefully check your purchased goods lists to determine if this notice is of importance to your company and site.

If you have questions about this notice or the changes, please contact your organic peroxide supplier or Patrick Krieger of PLASTICS at [pkrieger@plasticsindustry.org](mailto:pkrieger@plasticsindustry.org).

**About the OPPSD**

PLASTICS' OPPSD represents the producers of organic peroxides and works to promote the safe storage, transport, and handling of these products.

**About PLASTICS**

The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) is the only organization that supports the entire plastics supply chain, representing nearly one million workers in the \$418 billion U.S. industry. Since 1937, PLASTICS has been working to make its members and the industry more globally competitive while advancing recycling and sustainability. To learn more about PLASTICS' education initiatives, industry-leading insights and events, networking opportunities and policy advocacy, and North America's largest plastics trade show, NPE: The Plastics Show, visit [plasticsindustry.org](http://plasticsindustry.org). Connect with PLASTICS on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.