



SAFETY SUPPORT SHEET

Providing Safe and Responsible Guidance for Factories

Best practices for aligning your requests with safety standards

Contradicting or non-compliant requests and guidance from clients can cause confusion, introduce hazards and risks, compromise worker and workplace safety, and have other unintended consequences at a factory.

Before sending a request or giving guidance to your factory partners, ask yourself these questions:

- **Does my request conflict with engineering regulations?**
- **Does it conflict with international safety standards?**
- **Will it require complex engineering solutions to implement safely?**
- **Does it align with the guidelines and outcomes of Nirapon's Safety Management Program?**

If the answer is *yes*, (or *I don't know*) consider how to make your request align with the international safety standards and regulations we uphold as part of Nirapon.

Examples of contradicting or non-compliant directives include:

Requirements to install dehumidifiers, fans, and other equipment in factory storage areas to protect raw materials, packaging, and finished goods from humidity. New electrical equipment can introduce fire hazards in storage areas. It must be installed correctly, by a specialist.

Placing fire exit signs on doors that are not fire exits and do not follow the means of egress. This could lead to confusion during an emergency and people being trapped in a building.

Inconsistent fire extinguisher height and placement. All factories should follow [OSHA standards](#) for positioning fire extinguishers to avoid user injury or damage to the extinguisher.

Placing locks on doors that are part of the means of egress (ie: the way out of a factory in case of emergency). Doors in the means of egress should not have locks, so they are always operable.

Removing locks from doors that lead to electrical rooms or other areas containing hazardous materials or equipment such as generators or chemicals. Doors that lead to electrical rooms, generators, or other areas containing hazardous materials or equipment should remain locked when not in use.

Requirements to store materials from different hazard classes together. [Hazardous materials](#) of different classifications should be stored in separate rooms in order to avoid confusion, contamination, and serious accidents.

Allowing excessive working hours. Consistent, reasonable factory and worker hours should prioritize worker health and safety and allow time for maintenance work and other safety management protocols.

Canceling orders. When orders are not canceled in a responsible way, product may be stored in ways that pose hazards and compromise worker or factory safety.

Help your factory partners prioritize worker and workplace safety by making sure your requests align with safety standards, regulations, and best practices.

For more detailed information and guidance on these topics, visit the [Learning Center](#) on Nirapon.org.