

## Storage of hand sanitisers

Understandably, hand sanitiser fluid is much in evidence these days. Equally understandable, employers are keen to buy in bulk to reduce the costs.

There is, however, a problem with this strategy that seems to have been overlooked, that of storage.



The law is clear. Under DSEAR (the Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations) flammable substances in the workplace (including sanitiser) must be stored suitably. This means either in a flammable cabinet or (preferably) in a suitably constructed flammable store. Most chemical stores (if constructed according to our guidance) do meet these requirements even though they usually have cabinets in as well.

Containers placed around the school are exempt from this as they are classed as 'out for use'. But larger quantities can pose a problem - we recently heard from a school that had a delivery of 1750 litres!

This is a matter that employers will need to consider, ideally before the purchase of large quantities of sanitiser.

