

NFPA 480 Standard for the Storage, Handling, and Processing of Magnesium Solids and Powders

1998 Edition



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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA 480

Standard for the

Storage, Handling, and Processing of Magnesium Solids and Powders

1998 Edition

This edition of NFPA 480, *Standard for the Storage, Handling, and Processing of Magnesium Solids and Powders*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Combustible Metals and Metal Dusts and acted on by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., at its Annual Meeting held May 18–21, 1998, in Cincinnati, OH. It was issued by the Standards Council on July 16, 1998, with an effective date of August 5, 1998, and supersedes all previous edition.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule in the margin of the pages on which they appear. These lines are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition.

This edition of NFPA 480 was approved as an American National Standard on August 6, 1998.

Origin and Development of NFPA 480

This standard was begun in 1946, tentatively adopted in 1950, and adopted by the National Fire Protection Association in May 1951. Revisions were adopted by the Association in 1952, 1954, 1957, 1959, 1961, and 1967. The 1967 edition was reconfirmed in 1974.

The 1974 edition was completely revised in 1980, primarily to comply with the NFPA *Manual of Style*. Minor technical amendments were made at that time. This complete revision of the 1974 edition was acted on by the Association at its 1981 Fall Meeting, and the revision was designated the 1982 edition.

The 1987 edition was a reconfirmation of the 1982 edition. The only changes made were minor editorial improvements and redesignation of the standard as NFPA 480.

For the 1993 edition, the Committee completely revised the standard to update the requirements for safe handling of magnesium solids and powders as well to update the fire and dust explosion prevention measures for both. The Committee incorporated the requirements for safe handling of magnesium powder that were previously found in the 1987 edition of NFPA 651, *Standard for the Manufacture of Aluminum and Magnesium Powder* (retitled *Standard for the Machining and Finishing of Aluminum and the Production and Handling of Aluminum Powders* in 1998). The Committee revision also incorporated editorial and style revisions to comply with the NFPA *Manual of Style* and to assist in making the document more usable, adoptable, and enforceable.

The 1998 revision incorporates amendments to the entire document. Key changes have been made to Section 4-2 to consolidate requirements applicable to all dust collectors; to paragraph 7-1.2 to add requirements for vacuum cleaning systems; and to Chapter 9 to incorporate fire prevention concepts and fire protection methods developed for other combustible metals.