Rules for use of peroxide-forming chemicals

Peroxides are a group of chemical compounds containing two connected oxygen atoms. Hydrogen-peroxide is an example of a simple non-explosive peroxide (H-O-O-H). Certain compounds can be transformed into explosive peroxides. Normally, aquatic solutions of organic substances cannot form explosive peroxides.

Peroxides are usually formed via reaction with oxygen from air. It is therefore important that a container with a peroxide-forming chemical is not open more than is strictly necessary. The risk of explosion of peroxide-forming chemicals is particularly strongest during evaporation.

A container which contains a peroxide-forming chemical with visible crystal formation is considered an explosion risk.

The Danish Emergency Management Agency's list of peroxide-forming chemicals shows that alcohols such as isopropanol and 2-butanol also can be peroxide-forming.

It is important that peroxide-forming chemicals are stored and delivered separately.

It is important to note on the container when it was taken into use.

It is important to check for peroxide formation (with a stick) once a month for chemicals used every day and every 3rd month for chemicals randomly used.

The supplier must ensure that ether is stabilised for peroxide formation and has an expiry date. This must be observed!

Other peroxide-forming chemicals that are not stabilised must be handed over to a person responsible for waste management *within* a year from the date it was brought into use.