

Agrichemical Warehousing Standard Association
WAREHOUSING STANDARDS BULLETIN

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**WHO MUST MEET THE AWSA's
WAREHOUSING STANDARDS?**

In Canada pesticides are stored for sale by a dealer network comprising independent dealers and local representatives of larger multi-branch retail organizations. The Agrichemical Warehousing Standards Association Certified Warehousing Standards represents a united and co-operative effort by the crop protection industry to safeguard the future. It is a proactive industry initiative designed to minimize the risks of chemical warehousing to employees, the public and the environment.

Background

All pest control products for which federal registration is granted are classified under one of three categories: Domestic, Commercial or Restricted.

1. **Domestic** - these products are sold for non-commercial purposes for use in and around the home.
2. **Commercial** - designed for commercial operators in agriculture, forestry and industry.

Also classified as:

- (a) agricultural
 - (b) industrial
3. **Restricted** - commercial-level products with certain limitations regarding storage, display, distribution, usage or qualification of users.

Who must meet the AWSA's Warehousing Standards?

The AWSA Standards apply to distributors and retailers that are storing crop protection products classified as agricultural or industrial (i.e. commercial pesticides) based on their registration classification, and on their user. The Standards also apply to the storage facilities of custom applicators (ie: ground or aerial crop sprayers). The Standards also apply to distribution/retail facilities that re-package pest control products.

What products must be stored in a certified warehouse?

All crop protection products classified as agricultural or industrial (i.e., commercial pesticides) based on their PCP registration classification, must be stored by distributors, retailers or custom applicators in a certified warehouse. There is no distinction based on the volume or weight of pesticides in storage or on the length of time agrichemicals are in storage. Also included are commercial-level restricted pesticides. Industrial includes pesticides used in forestry or for structural pest control use.

There also may be provincial, federal or municipal legislation, regulation, bylaws or Codes that might apply to a specific location which may supersede the AWSA Standards. Vendors, warehouseurs, custom applicators and users of pesticides should be aware of any of these that might apply to their situation.

Exclusions:

There are some storage facilities to which the Standards may not apply, *at this time*. Nevertheless, anyone storing pesticides should do so in a way that will minimize risk to human health and the environment, to the greatest degree possible.

The Standards *do not* apply, at this time, to storage facilities that only contain:

1. Domestic pesticides - home and garden pesticides fall into this category with the exception of fertilizer impregnation for domestic use.
2. Agricultural pesticides (and products containing pesticides) that are used for animals or animal health purposes.
3. Barn fly spray, fly tags and rodenticides, and other similar products.

However, if the storage facilities contain pesticides other than, or in addition to those listed in (1) and (2) above, the Standards do apply.

The Standards **do not** apply to the storage facilities of someone who is only an end user in the following categories:

- farmers/growers
- seed treaters
- fertilizer impregnators (agricultural)
- railways
- utilities
- golf course operators
- forestry end users
- industrial/structural pest control applicators and end users
- lawn and garden pest control applicators/landscapers
- governments (federal, provincial municipal, Crown corporations)
- universities, post-secondary education institutions, schools.

However, the Standards do apply to the storage facilities of any end user who is also a vendor; that is, sells to someone else for their application or use, or resells or redistributes. Examples here include farmers and seed treaters who are also dealers, or rural municipalities who are also vendors.