## **OPERATION OF SUMP TRAYS IN SAFETY CABINETS**

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION 4

According to German legislation, operators as well as manufacturers of plants or systems for the storage of hazardous substances are responsible for the fact that in construction-related areas only building products are used which have appropriate proof of suitability.

In Germany, in addition to the planning, dimensioning and execution of buildings, the use of building products (proof of usability) is also regulated in the state building regulations. For the technical requirements, DIBt publishes the model administrative regulation Technical Building Regulations (MVV TB), which concretises the general requirements of the state building regulations. The MVV TB must be sent to each federal state by implement the administrative provision.

The MVV TB comprises 4 areas:

- A Specification of basic requirements for buildings
- B Components and special constructions
- C Building products and building types with a general test certificate issued by the building authorities as proof of usability
- D Construction products for which no proof of usability is required

Sump pallet with a capacity of < 1,000 1 fall into the MVV TB area C. Production and use of such sump trays are described in the StawaR. They are marked with a  $\ddot{U}$  sign (conformity mark), with which the manufacturer assures that he meets the requirements for the production according to StawaR and the construction product has been accepted by a recognized testing institute.

When deviating from the requirements of StawaR, e.g. in the restraint volume or in the use of the material, the sump tray requires a general type approval of the DIBt. The DIBt's test basis also includes requirements related to the water law in order to protect bodies of water as a usable good by means of sustainable water managment. To ensure this, the legislator has defined a suitability assessment for plants or plant parts. This is not required if the building product has a Building Inspectorate Suitability Cerification that includes the examination of issues of the water law, e.g. sump trays acc. to StawaR or sump trays with a general building inspection certificate. In the national area, the proof of usability is issued as a general technical approval (abZ) or general design approval (aBG) or a combined decision (abZ + aBG).

Generally, a differentiation must be made between:

- a) Collection sump trays made from steel in hazardous substances cabinets according to DIN EN 14470-1
  - these collection sump trays are tested by an independent certified testing institute according to standardization
  - since safety cabinets for storing flammable liquids are limited regarding their size, execution and operation, special simplifications have been permitted in the StawaR.

and

b) Collection sump trays made from steel in other hazardous substances cabinets

• there is no separate normative regulation

the quantity stored in the cabinet can be arbitrarily large.
Consequently, the collection sump

tray ≤1.000 l sump capacity must be interpreted in a constructive way according to StawaR

In order to provide our customers with maximum quality and legal certainty when storing hazardous substances, we have decided to equip all LaCont hazardous-material cabinets with steel collection sump trays with tested and approved collection sump tray systems according to StawaR as standard:

- This frees our customers from a possible obligation to determine the suitability of the collection sump trays in accordance with the water law
- and certifies full compliance with the principle of concern according to WHG.



TüV-Nord