

# High-Piled Combustible Storage Packet

## ARTICLE 23 AS AMENDED FOR BUSINESSES PLANNING TO STORE COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE BUT NOT INTENDING TO HIGH-PILE

### City of Chico Fire Department



**January 2008**

**If you have any questions or comments regarding the information contained within,  
or if you need assistance interpreting these requirements, please contact:**

**Chico Building Department  
Fire Code Enforcement  
411 Main Street, 2nd floor  
Chico, California 95928  
Tel: (530) 879-6700  
Fax: (530) 895-4726**

# ARTICLE 23 PACKET

There are a large number of buildings with ceiling heights above 12 feet that are occupied by businesses which, for one reason or another have bought, rented, or leased a structure that is **capable of high-piled combustible storage**, but will not be using the building for this purpose. For these types of structures the C.F.D. has adopted an amendment to Uniform Fire Code that is specifically designed for this. We call it our "NO STORAGE ABOVE 12 FEET" amendment, or in the case of **high-hazard** materials, "NO STORAGE ABOVE 6 FEET." It is actually found under Article 23 as amended through the Fire Code. Utilization of this amendment **does require an annual permit and inspection**. There is no charge for the permit or the annual inspection.

With this, a business who needs a high ceiling, (usually above 14 feet) such as for steel fabrication where a crane will be used within the structure, is permitted to do this as long as they obtain their required permit, and have posted the appropriate signs. If a business wants to use this building for high-piled stock, then the structure would be required to meet all applicable high piled stock requirements. Let's say, however, this occupant only wishes to store up to eight feet. With this amendment they are allowed to do this, provided they comply with the following:

## **Information required on plans to be submitted**

The construction plans for any existing structure or proposed new building that **is not** intended for the storage of high-piled combustibles but has ceiling heights over 12 feet must indicate the following statement:

*According to Article 23 of the California Fire Code as amended:*

*"This Facility is not approved for any high-piled storage of combustible materials, and therefore, will not be required to meet California Fire Code Article 23 requirements. No storage of any Type I - IV commodities will be permitted above 12 feet, and no storage of any high-hazard commodity will be permitted above 6 feet unless otherwise accepted, in writing, by the Chico Fire Department ."*

*Prior to the conversion of the building into a "High-Piled Combustible Storage Facility" at a later date, the owner will be required to comply with all applicable code requirements for the storage of high-piled combustibles which are in effect at the time.*

One must keep in mind, however, that this is an **agreement** made between the owner and the Chico Fire Department. If a business wishes to conduct high-piled storage activity, and/or is found to be doing so, the fire department will require the owner to bring the facility into full compliance with the provisions of Article 23 of the Fire Code.

## **Storage Limitation Signs**

Signs shall be visibly displayed in all buildings or areas that meet the following criteria:

- Have the capabilities for high-piled combustible storage, but the building use does not meet the requirements or intent for high-piled storage.
- Are approved for high-piled combustible storage but have a height limitation for that storage. (For example: fire protection systems have been designed for 20 ft high storage, but ceiling heights are 30 ft).
- Are not approved for high-piled storage, and a permit has not been issued for such activity.

## **Location of sign**

Signs shall be mounted at the height where the storage has been limited to, at 50 feet on center intervals on all walls starting 25 feet from any corner, and on two sides of each column. Signs shall be visibly located.

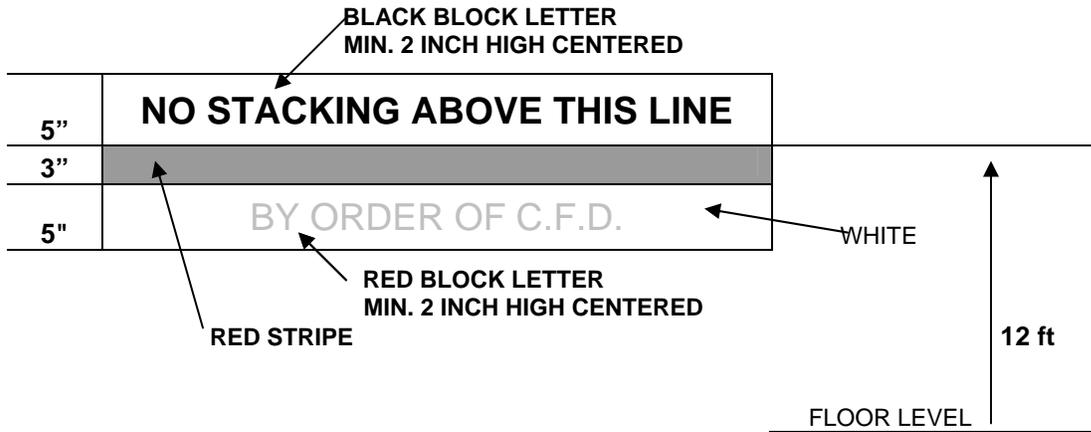
**ATTENTION: The following pages contain two forms, one for ordinary high-piled combustible storage, and the other for high-hazard commodities. Please complete and return the applicable form if your business meets the conditions of this section.**

# CHICO FIRE DEPARTMENT ARTICLE 23 AS AMENDED

FOR

**BUILDINGS CAPABLE OF STORING HIGH-PILED  
COMBUSTIBLE STOCK, BUT NOT INTENDED TO BE USED  
FOR SUCH PURPOSE OVER 12 FEET**

## **CLASS I – IV COMMODITIES ONLY**



I, the responsible party for this business, understand that these signs are required to be posted throughout all areas meeting the description of high-piled capable areas described in Article 23 of the California Fire Code, as amended. I agree not to store combustible materials above this line.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party Signature

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Office

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number – Fax

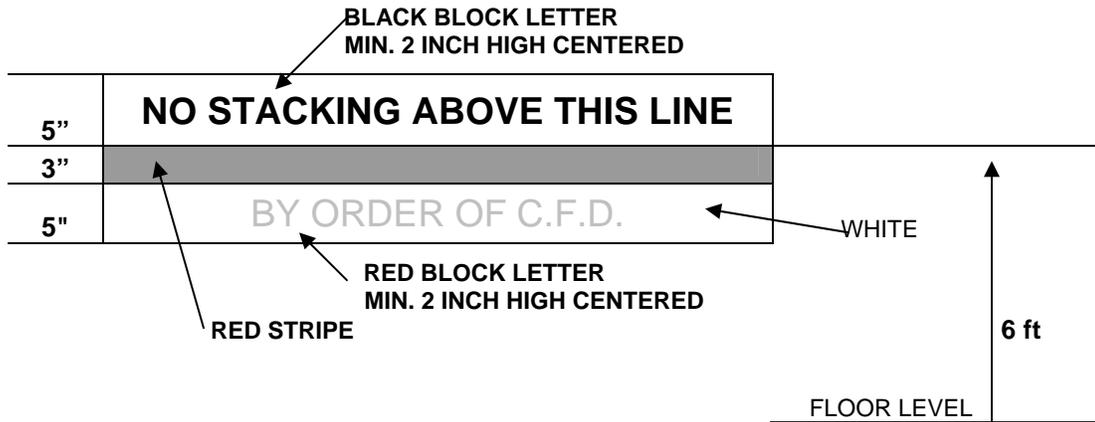
(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Home

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Emergency

# CHICO FIRE DEPARTMENT ARTICLE 23 AS AMENDED

FOR

## BUILDINGS CAPABLE OF STORING HIGH-HAZARD COMBUSTIBLE STOCK BUT NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR SUCH PURPOSE OVER 6 FEET



I, the responsible party for this business, understand that these signs are required to be posted throughout all areas meeting the description of high-piled capable areas described in Article 23 of the California Fire Code, as amended. I agree not to store high-hazard combustibile materials above this line.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party Signature

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Office

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Fax

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Home

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Emergency