

Electronic Cigarettes:

Explosion and Fire Hazards

Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)

- vaporizers (vapes)
- vape pens
- hookah pens
- electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes)
- e-pipes



These products can ignite or explode spontaneously at any time, creating a fire hazard and presenting the risk of severe personal injury and/or property damage.

Explosions and Ignitions

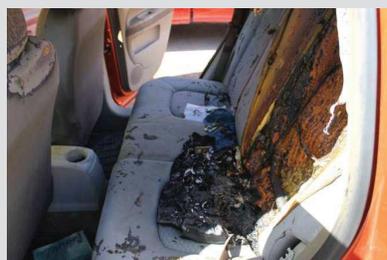


- NFPA identified 15 separate ENDS fires and explosions from media reports in 2015.
- Twenty-five media reports from 2009 to 2014 identified ENDS as the cause of explosions, fires, and injuries.
- Explosions and ignitions can occur anytime the battery is installed in the device, while vaping, or while the battery is charging.

Injuries

- severe burns to face, hands, neck
- fractures, including broken neck
- lung damage
- broken teeth
- lacerations requiring stitches
- amputation of fingers
- tongue injuries requiring surgery

Property Damage



- house fires
- building fires
- car fires
- aircraft evacuations
- ship fires

Remember

Smoking and vaping are prohibited in the interior of all GSA-controlled spaces, all courtyards, and within 25-feet of doorways on GSA-controlled properties.

ENDS are classified as Portable Electronic Devices and may be prohibited from secure areas.

How Can I Protect Myself? Fires and explosions resulting from ENDS are rare, and there are ways to reduce your risk.

1. Buy American products, which are subject to stricter manufacturing standards.
2. Select a device that has a battery that is removable from the atomizer to charge, as these appear to be safer than other models.
3. Never use a substitute or 'off-brand' charger to charge your device.
4. Never use a standard USB port to charge your device.
5. Never alter, modify, or rebuild an ENDS.
6. Never leave a charging device unattended.
7. Never overcharge your device.

Additional Information

FEMA <https://www.usfa.fema.gov>

NFPA <http://www.nfpa.org>

FAA <https://www.faa.gov>