Hose Storage Guideline

Proper storage conditions can significantly improve and extend the lifespan of hose products. Rubber hoses in storage can be negatively impacted by factors such as temperature, humidity, ozone, sunlight, oils, solvents, corrosive liquids and fumes, insects, rodents, and radioactive materials. The best storage method for hoses depends largely on their size (diameter and length), the quantity being stored, and how they are packaged. Hoses should not be stacked or piled so high that the weight of the stack causes deformation in the lengths at the bottom. Since hoses vary widely in size, weight, and length, it is not practical to provide specific guidelines for all cases. Hoses with thinner walls, for example, cannot support as much weight as those with thicker walls or wire reinforcement. Hoses shipped in coils or bales should be stored with the coils placed horizontally.

Hose Shelve Life – Hose should be kept as short as possible through proper program rotation. When long-term storage is unavoidable, the user must perform a thorough inspection of the hose before use, as outlined in ISO 8331. The following guidelines should be followed:

- A maximum of two years for assembly storage.
- A maximum of four years for hose storage.

Hose Storage Do's

a) Whenever possible, rubber hose products should be stored in their original shipping containers, as these offer protection against the damaging effects of oils, solvents, and corrosive liquids. The containers also help shield the hoses from ozone and sunlight.
b) Certain rodents and insects can harm rubber hose products, so proper protection should be ensured. Make sure the ends are capped to prevent insects, rodents, and other contaminants from damaging the hose.
c) Hoses shipped in coils or bales should be stored with the coils positioned horizontally.
d) Store items using a first-in, first-out system. Keep in mind that, even under optimal conditions, extended shelf life can cause some rubber products to deteriorate. Before using the hose assembly, ensure it is inspected and tested. Typically, any wear or damage will be noticeable during this process.
e) Rubber products should be stored at temperatures between 50°F and 70°F (10°C to 21°C), with a maximum temperature of 100°F (38°C). If stored below 32°F (0°C), some rubber products may become rigid and will need to be warmed up before use.

f) Storage areas should be cool, dark, and dry, with no signs of dampness or mildew. Items should be stored using a first-in, first-out method, as even under optimal conditions, an extended shelf life can cause some rubber products to deteriorate.

Hose Storage Don'ts

a) Avoid piling or stacking hoses too high, as the weight of the stack could cause the hoses at the bottom to become distorted. Keep in mind that hoses with thinner walls cannot support as much weight as those with thicker walls or wire reinforcement.
b) Avoid storing rubber products near heat sources like radiators and baseboard heaters, or close to electrical equipment that could produce ozone. Additionally, do not store hoses for extended periods in areas with high ozone concentrations, as ozone accelerates the aging of rubber.
c) Avoid exposing hoses to direct or reflected sunlight while in storage, as this can accelerate the aging of the rubber.
d) Do not store uncovered hoses under fluorescent or mercury lamps, as the light they emit can be harmful to rubber.
e) Avoid hanging hose assemblies on hooks, nails, or other items that could cause cuts or damage to the hose.