

# Global Industrial Releases Guide on Cabinet Material Selection for Industrial Applications

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PORT WASHINGTON, NY, UNITED STATES, June 10, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Global Industrial, a value-added distributor of industrial-strength equipment and supplies, has released an educational resource titled [How to Select the Perfect Cabinet Material for Your Industrial Needs](#), which examines common cabinet construction materials and their performance characteristics across industrial, commercial, and institutional environments.

The guide outlines how cabinet material selection relates to factors such as load capacity, corrosion resistance, regulatory requirements, and long-term durability. It presents material comparisons and use cases relevant to storage applications in warehouses, laboratories, healthcare facilities, foodservice environments, offices, and light retail settings.

The guide explains how cabinet materials perform under these conditions and how material choice can affect durability, safety, and regulatory compliance.

It also identifies risks associated with improper material selection, including corrosion, structural failure, contamination, and noncompliance with safety standards.

According to the guide, cabinet performance is primarily influenced by load capacity and corrosion resistance.

Steel cabinet strength is determined in part by gauge thickness, with lower gauge numbers indicating thicker and stronger steel. Heavy-duty steel [cabinets](#) may support shelf loads ranging from approximately 150 lbs. to more than 1,000 lbs., depending on design. Cabinets constructed from laminate, polypropylene, or acrylic are generally intended for lighter-duty storage.

Global Industrial's guide also covers how environmental exposure influences material requirements and gives a brief explanation for each:

**Steel:** Powder-coated or painted steel offers durability in dry environments but may be unsuitable for areas with high humidity or chemical exposure.

**Stainless Steel:** Grade 304 stainless steel provides resistance to rust and oxidizing acids, making it suitable for humid, sanitary, or food-grade environments.

**Polypropylene:** A nonmetallic material with high resistance to acids and bases, commonly used for chemical storage applications.

The guide connects cabinet materials to common industry applications:

**Warehousing and Manufacturing:** Heavy-gauge steel cabinets are commonly used for storing tools, parts, and equipment due to their load-bearing capacity.

**Laboratories and Chemical Facilities:** Polypropylene cabinets are used for corrosive chemical storage, while stainless steel cabinets are used for clean storage and frequent sanitization.

**Foodservice and Healthcare:** Stainless steel cabinets are commonly selected for their nonporous surfaces and compatibility with sanitation protocols.

**Office and Light Retail:** Laminate cabinets are typically used for light-duty storage where aesthetics and lower load requirements are prioritized.

Considering material selection plays a role in meeting workplace safety and regulatory requirements, the guide also includes several considerations:

**Fire Safety:** NFPA and OSHA standards for flammable liquid storage apply to approved heavy-gauge steel cabinets.

**Chemical Containment:** OSHA guidance for corrosive material storage supports the use of nonmetallic materials, such as polypropylene, to prevent degradation.

**Sanitation:** Stainless steel is commonly used in environments requiring resistance to bacterial growth and repeated cleaning, such as medical labs and foodservice.

**Load Rating Compliance:** Adhering to manufacturer-specified load capacities helps reduce the risk of tipping or structural failure.

Additionally, the guide discusses cabinet material selection in the context of total cost of ownership, including durability, maintenance requirements, and replacement frequency.

**Upfront and Long-Term Costs:** Steel and polypropylene cabinets may have higher initial costs but offer improved resistance to damage and can last longer in demanding environments where durability is required.

**Performance in Harsh Conditions:** Stainless steel is commonly used in wet or humid environments, while polypropylene maintains integrity in chemically aggressive conditions.

**Replacement Considerations:** Selecting materials appropriate for the operating environment can reduce the likelihood of premature failure, leading to fewer replacements.

The guide presents a structured approach to cabinet material selection, including:

Identifying storage load requirements.

Assessing environmental conditions.

Reviewing applicable safety and sanitation standards.

Evaluating durability relative to expected use.

The guide also addresses common questions related to cabinet materials, including gauge thickness, chemical resistance, stainless steel cost considerations, and the suitability of laminate [cabinets in industrial settings](#).

By outlining cabinet materials, specifications, and industry applications, the guide provides a reference for organizations evaluating storage solutions across different operating

environments.

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