

## **IS 14561:2014 Fire Resisting (Insulating) Filing Cabinets — Specification** *(Second Revision)*

Fire-resistant filing cabinets are specialized storage units designed to protect important documents from fire damage. These cabinets are built with durable materials like mild or galvanized steel and insulated with fire-resistant layers. They can maintain a safe internal temperature even when exposed to high heat. These cabinets may be kept either in strong rooms/book rooms for added protection against theft and fire or may be kept in open halls.

They are particularly valuable in settings where sensitive paper media must be safeguarded from both fire and potential physical impact. They are available in different types, such as vertical and lateral models, and are rated for specific durations (e.g., 60, 120, 180, or 240 minutes) of fire protection. This rating indicates how long the cabinet can prevent internal temperatures from reaching levels that could harm paper documents, ensuring that valuable information remains legible and usable after exposure to a fire event.

BIS first published IS 14561 for fire resisting filing cabinets in the year 1998. This standard has been revised first in 2007 and second in 2014 to incorporate and modify the requirements needed as per current practices. The need for this standard stems from the importance of protecting vital records in various settings, such as offices, banks, and archives, against fire hazards.

This standard specifies the materials, sizes, details of construction and performance test of fire resisting filing cabinets which insulates the paper media stored in files against fire. Various design requirements are specified to ensure durability, including using mild or galvanized steel with specific thickness requirements for both the outer body and drawers.

Key performance tests are also specified in the standard to validate fire resistance and to ensure their performance, durability, and safety in potential fire incidents.