

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS INSPECTION AND MAINTAENANCE

Classifications of Fires:

Class A Fires. Fires in ordinary combustible materials, such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber and many plastics.

Class B Fires. Fires in flammable liquids, combustible liquids, petroleum greases, tars, oils, oil-based paints, solvents, lacquers, alcohols and flammable gases.

Class C Fires. Fires that involve energized electrical equipment.

Class D Fires. Fires in combustible metals, such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium, sodium, lithium and potassium.

Class K Fires. Fires in cooking appliances that involve combustible cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats).

Extinguisher Inspection. A “quick check” that a fire extinguisher is available and is in operating condition. It is intended to give reasonable assurance that the fire extinguisher is fully charged. This is done by verifying that it is in its designated place, that it has not been actuated or tampered with, and that there is no obvious physical damage or condition to prevent its operation.

Fire extinguishers shall be provided for the protection of both the building structure and the occupancy hazards contained therein.

Inspection

Frequency. Fire extinguishers shall be inspected when initially placed in service and thereafter at approximately 30-day intervals. Fire extinguishers shall be inspected, manually or by electronic monitoring, at more frequent intervals when circumstances require.

Procedures. Periodic inspection of fire extinguishers shall include a check of at least the following items:

- (1) Location in designated place.
- (2) No obstruction to access or visibility
- (3) Operating instructions on nameplate legible and facing outward
- (4) Safety seals and tampers indicators not broken or missing
- (5) Fullness determined by weighing or “lifting”
- (6) Examination for obvious physical damage, corrosion, leakage, or clogged nozzle
- (7) Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position

- (8) Condition of tires, wheels, carriage, hose, and nozzle checked (for wheeled units)
- (9) HMIS label in place

6.2.3 Corrective Action. When an inspection of any fire extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any or the conditions listed in 6.2.2 immediate corrective action shall be taken.

6.2.3.1 Rechargeable Fire Extinguishers. When an inspection of any rechargeable fire extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in 6.2.2 (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8), it shall be subjected to applicable maintenance procedures.

6.2.3.2 Nonrechargeable Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher. When an inspection of any non-rechargeable dry chemical fire extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in 6.2.2 (3), (5), (6) and (7), it shall be removed from further use, discharged, and destroyed at the direction of the owner or returned to the manufacturer.

Inspection Recordkeeping

Personnel making inspections shall keep records of all fire extinguishers inspected, including those found to require corrective action.

At least monthly, the date the inspection was performed and the initials of the person performing the inspection shall be recorded.

Records shall be kept on a tag or label attached to the fire extinguisher, on an inspection checklist maintained on file or by an electronic method that provides a permanent record.

Fire Extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance at intervals of not more than 1 year, at the time of hydrostatic test, or when specifically indicated by an inspection or electronic notification.