

Company Name

SAFE WORK PRACTICE

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

None

INTRODUCTION

Various portable fire extinguishers are located and used in the shop and on equipment. They are an integral part of the firefighting system. All fire extinguishers must be regularly inspected, fully charged, strategically located, and readily accessible for use in an emergency. Fire extinguishers are the first line of defense in the event of a fire.

PRACTICES

1. Know the locations of the portable fire extinguishers in the work area.
2. Always keep access to fire extinguishers and firefighting equipment clear of obstructions.
3. Inspect fire extinguishers at least once a month during facilities and equipment inspections.
4. Keep fire extinguishers clean.
5. Maintain all mechanical parts on fire extinguishers to ensure their proper operation.
6. Check the hose, and other dispensing components to ensure against blockage.
7. Know the types of fire extinguishers used in the work area and their specific applications.
 - 7.1. Dry chemical extinguishers contain a powder that is expelled under nitrogen or carbon dioxide (CO₂) pressure. It extinguishes a fire by smothering or blanketing the fire and cutting off the oxygen supply. Dry chemical extinguishers are used to extinguish most types of fires; however, they are most effective on paper, trash, electrical, oil, gas, and chemical fires.
 - 7.2. CO₂ extinguishers contain liquid carbon dioxide under approximately 850 psi (5,800 kPa) pressure. When released, the CO₂ turns into a gas, lowering the temperature of the fire and smothering it. This extinguisher can be used effectively on any type of fire.
 - 7.3. Water extinguishers contain water under air pressure. They extinguish a fire by soaking or wetting the burning material. Water extinguishers may be used only on paper or trash fires.

SAFE WORK PRACTICE



Do not use water extinguishers on electrical fires.

8. Use fire extinguishers and fire equipment only for firefighting purposes.
9. Immediately report any incident in which the use of a fire extinguisher was necessary.
10. Report all fire hazards. Every employee is responsible for fire safety.

Work Practice Review Records

Last Review Date	Leader (person responsible)	How (eg: Safety meeting)