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Abstract

The OSHA Fire Protections standards (29 CFR 1910.155) establish uniform requirements for fire brigades, and all portable and fixed fire suppression equipment, fire detection systems, and fire or employee alarm systems installed to meet the fire protection requirements of 29 CFR Part 1910.

fire / explosion protection

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**A. GENERAL POLICY**

1. The Company will provide emergency type fire-fighting equipment (fire extinguishers) where practical at all Company office locations for the purpose of protecting all personnel, employees, contractors and Company’s property and equipment. In addition, all Company vehicles will be equipped with fire extinguishers.

**B. RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Responsibility for compliance with the requirements for fire hazard detection and fire prevention rests with each Company employee and contractor.
2. Each person is responsible for fire hazard identification, fire prevention and fire-fighting duties that they have been trained in as well as for observing all fire safety requirements and regulations.

**C. FIRE HAZARDS**

Efforts will be made to identify all fire hazards within a facility by performing each of the following activities:

1. Smoking regulations will be established based on work site requirements and strictly enforced by disciplinary measures. Smoking is not permitted in any Company office building. Only designated and posted SMOKING AREAS outside the building structure can be used to smoke in or around.
2. Proper housekeeping will be strictly enforced to minimize the accumulation of combustible materials and any debris that could impede firefighting or evacuation efforts. Materials susceptible to spontaneous combustion will be properly disposed of.
3. Adequate precautions shall be taken to prevent the ignition of flammable vapors. Sources of ignition include, but are not limited to, open flames, lightning, smoking, cutting and welding, hot surfaces, frictional heat, static, electrical and mechanical sparks, spontaneous ignition including heat-producing chemical reactions and radiant heat.

*Class I* liquids shall not be dispensed into containers unless the nozzle and container are electrically

**D. FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING**

1. Designated employees will be trained in the use of hand held or portable fire extinguishers upon initial employment and annually thereafter, as required under 29 CFR 1910.157.
2. Training will familiarize designated employees with the general principles of fire extinguisher use and the hazards involved with initial stage firefighting. It will also include the following classification of fires and type of extinguisher used on each:
3. *Class A* fires - Ordinary combustible materials such as paper, wood, cloth and some rubber and plastic materials.
4. *Class B* fires - Flammable or combustible liquids, flammable gases, greases and similar materials and some rubber and plastic materials.
5. *Class C* fires - Energized electrical equipment where safety to the person requires the use of electrically non-conductive extinguishing media. For fires involving de-energized electrical equipment, extinguisher for *Class A or Class B* may be used.

**E. FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION**

1. Fire extinguishers will be given annual maintenance checks. (Stored pressure extinguishers **do not** require an internal examination). A record of the maintenance date will be kept for one year after the last maintenance date entry.
2. Stored pressure, dry chemical extinguishers requiring a 12-year hydrostatic test will be emptied and subjected to applicable maintenance procedures every 6-years. Dry chemical extinguishers with disposable containers are exempt.
3. An alternative means of protection will be provided while extinguishers are removed from service for maintenance, recharging, testing, etc.

**F. EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

1. Each Company employee and contractor is responsible reporting any size fire immediately to the local Fire Department and then sounding the alarm to notify all office, building and/or facility personnel.
2. Attempts to extinguish any size fire should only be undertaken by personnel who

have been trained in the proper use and handling of a portable fire extinguisher

unit designed to extinguish the class and size of fire being fought.