

Fire Extinguishers

W. Richard Oss

Manager, Safety and Loss Prevention

Risk Management and Safety

Objectives

- Recognize the different classes of fires and determine when to use each type of extinguisher.
- Identify all the parts of a fire extinguisher.
- Understand the precautions that must be taken before using a fire extinguishers.
- Explain how to extinguish a fire using the P-A-S-S technique.

Classes of Fire Extinguishers

Fire Class & Symbol	Pictogram	Types of Fires
		Ordinary solid combustibles (paper, wood, cardboard and most plastics)
		Flammable liquids and gases (gasoline, kerosene, grease or oil)
		Energized electrical equipment (appliances, wiring, circuit breakers or outlets)
	Not Commonly Used 	Combustible metals found in labs (magnesium, titanium, potassium or sodium)
		Oils and fats (cooking oils, trans-fats, or fats in cooking appliances)

Class A Type Fires

- A = ASH
- Fires involving common solid fuels such as wood, paper and fabric products.
- Any product that leaves ashes when burned.

Class B Type Fires

- B = BOIL
- Fires involving flammable liquids, gases and greases.

Class C Type Fires

- C = CURRENT
- Involves anything with electrical current.

Class D Type Fires

- D = DANGEROUS
- Involves any combustible metal material.
- These fires are rare but burn at extremely high temperatures.

Class K Type Fires

- K = KITCHEN
- Involves combustible cooking fluids such as oils and fats.
- Usually only found in food nutrition or culinary class areas.

Fire Extinguisher Class Labels

- Some fire extinguishers are designed to suppress more than one type of fire.



Fire Extinguisher Class Labels

- All classes of fire extinguishers share a common design.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher

- Recognizing the different parts of a fire extinguisher will help you utilize it during an emergency.

Parts of a Fire Extinguisher - Cylinder

- The cylinder contains the extinguishing agent.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher - Label

- The label describes the class or classes of fire it is designed to put out.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher – Pressure Gauge

- The pressure indicator gauge tells the user if the extinguisher has appropriate pressure for use.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher – Carrying Handle

- The carrying handle should be used to transport the extinguisher.



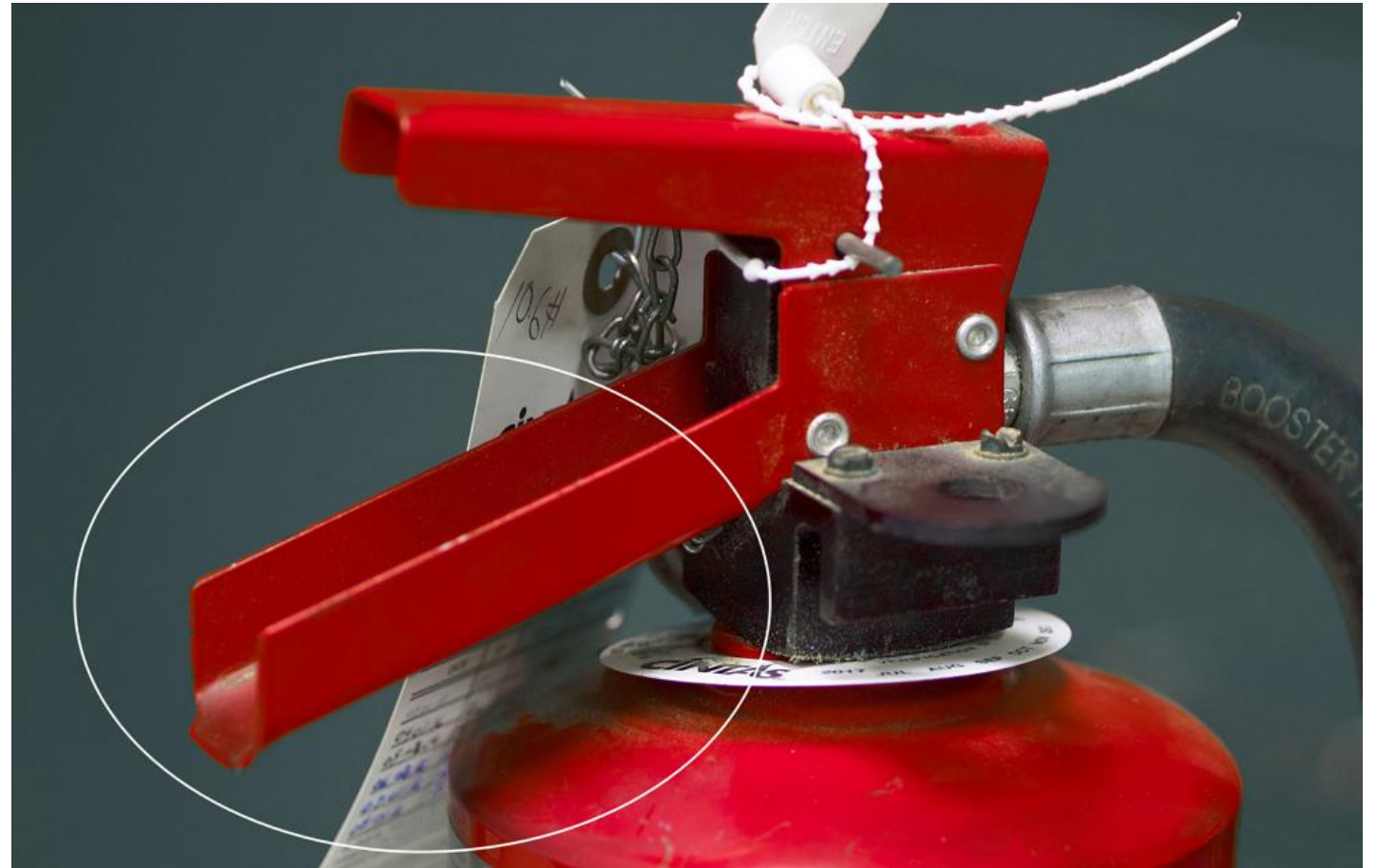
Parts of a Fire Extinguisher – Locking Pin

- The locking pin prevents accidental discharge of the extinguishing agent.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher – Operating Lever

- The operating lever gets squeezed to release the extinguishing agent.



Parts of a Fire Extinguisher – Hose

- The hose sprays the extinguishing agent.



Using a Fire Extinguisher Procedure

- Before Use Be Sure That:
 - 9-1-1 has been called.
 - People are evacuating the building.
 - Fire is small and contained.
 - You know the source of the fire.
 - A safe exit for you is behind you.
 - You have the correct extinguisher type.
 - You are trained and confident in using the extinguisher.

Using a Fire Extinguisher Technique

- If outside, keep the wind at your back.
- Stand about 8 to 10 feet from the fire.
- Use the P-A-S-S technique.

Using a Fire Extinguisher - Skill

- **P – PULL**
- **A – AIM**
- **S – SQUEEZE**
- **S - SWEEP**



Using a Fire Extinguisher - Pull

- Pull the pin.
- Avoid squeezing the operating lever.



Using a Fire Extinguisher - Aim

- Aim by pointing the nozzle on the end of the hose at the base of the fire.



Using a Fire Extinguisher - Squeeze

- Squeeze the operating lever to release extinguishing agent.



Using a Fire Extinguisher - Sweep

- Sweep the hose nozzle from side to side at the base of the fire.



Fire Extinguisher Limitations



Fire Extinguisher Inspections

- Fire extinguishers are to be inspected by building managers on a monthly basis.
- Inspections are required by International Fire Code.
- Inspections shall be documented on tags on each individual extinguisher.
- Any issues that need corrected should be submitted via a work order. Brian Garcia from Facilities will address.

Questions?