



Toolbox Talk

Name of Company Superior Waterproofing & Restoration Co., Inc.

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Fire Extinguisher – Limitations & Inspections

When a fire breaks out, the correct use of a fire extinguisher can be the difference between a minor loss or a major loss. They can also be an essential tool in helping a small fire from turning into a larger fire. The most important thing to remember during a fire is to get yourself to safety and call the proper authorities to help fight the fire. If the fire is small and it is something you can control with a fire extinguisher there are several things you need to consider before using it.

Fire Extinguishers Limitations

It is important to know the limitations of your fire extinguisher before you have to use it and put yourself in danger. Knowing the model and weight of the extinguishers located in your work area is crucial information when you are fighting a fire. Some limitations include:

A dry chemical fire extinguisher such as the common "ABC" red extinguisher will reach a distance between 5 and 20 feet. It is important for you to know what type of extinguisher is located in your work area and know the effective distance they can be used for in case of a fire at work.

A 10lb to 20lb dry chemical fire extinguisher will last anywhere from 10 to 25 seconds. The length the extinguisher is good for again depends on the model type and weight you are using. Make sure you are familiar with how long the extinguisher can last.

Fire extinguishers are designed to fight small fires. This means the fire should be about the size of a small trash can if you are looking to extinguish it with a basic fire

extinguisher. If it is any larger you should seek help immediately.

Fire Extinguisher Inspection Tips

In order to keep the fire extinguisher in safe working order, inspections should be done periodically. Here are some tips for proper fire extinguisher inspection:

The extinguisher should be checked every 30 days. There should be a formal check at least once a year onsite that is documented.

Ensure the pressure is okay when inspecting the fire extinguisher. There is a gauge that has an arrow, and the arrow should be pointing and located within the green section of the gauge. If the arrow is in the red the extinguisher needs to be flagged and out of service until it has been recharged.

Check to make sure the pin is still in place. Sometimes the pin can be bumped out of place leaving the chance of accidental discharge to occur.

Check for rust on the container and ensure the label is in good readable condition. Following these tips should ensure that the extinguisher in your work area will be ready in the case of an emergency.

SAFETY REMINDER

The PASS acronym is used to remember how to properly use a fire extinguisher in case of a fire – Pull the pin, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep.

Names of attendees:

Please print and sign your name. Thank you!

