

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



SAFETY FACT SHEET

DEFINITIONS:

Classes of Fires:

In any reference to the types of a portable fire extinguisher, the letters refer to the following classes of fires:

- a) Class A fires: wood, cloth, paper, rubber and plastic;
- b) Class B fires: inflammable liquids, gases and greases;
- c) Class C fires: fires in energized electrical equipment
- d) Class K fires: fires in cooking appliances that involve combustible cooking media such as vegetable/animal oils or fats.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:

As per the Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations, July 201 https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/C.R.C.,_c._1486.pdf

- 3.18 1)** No person shall operate, or permit another person to operate, a fishing vessel unless the safety equipment required by this Division is carried on board the vessel and the equipment meets the requirements of this Division.
- 3.22 1)** The safety equipment required by these Regulations shall:
 - (a) be in good working order;
 - (b) be readily accessible and available for immediate use; and
 - (c) be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- 2)** Safety equipment shall not be altered in any way that compromises its performance or that diminishes the integrity or readability of a marking set out in a standard related to it.
- 3)** A portable fire extinguisher and a fixed fire extinguishing system required by these Regulations shall be kept fully charged.
- 3.37 1)** Fire Extinguisher carriage requirements (summarized):

Vessel Size (Hull Length)	Fire Extinguisher Equipment, Any Voyage Distance
Not more than 6m (19'8")	a) 1 of 1.5kg (3 lbs) MP-DC Portable Extinguisher AND b) 1 of 1.5kg (3 lbs) MP-DC if equipped with a fuel burning cooking , heating or refrigerating appliance
More than 6m Not more than 15m (49'2")	a) 1 of 2.25kg (5 lbs) MP-DC AND b) 1 of 2.25kg (5 lbs) MP-DC if equipped with a fuel burning cooking, heating or refrigerating appliance AND c) 1 of 2.25kg (5 lbs) DC OR 4.5kg (10 lbs) CO2 at the entrance to the engine space
More than 15m	a) 1 of 4.5kg (10 lbs) MP-DC AND b) 1 of 4.5kg (10 lbs) MP-DC at each access to a space fitted with a fuel burning cooking, heating or refrigerating appliance AND c) 1 of 4.5kg (10 lbs) MP-DC at the entrance to each accommodation space AND d) 1 of 4.5kg (10 lbs) DC or 9kg (20 lbs) CO2 at the entrance to the engine space

MP-DC = Multi-purpose Dry Chemical (Class A, B & C fires - ammonium phosphate)
DC = Dry Chemical, either Multi-purpose or Regular (Class B & C fires only - sodium bicarbonate)
CO2 = Carbon Dioxide (Class B & C fires only)

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REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:

- 3) The total number of portable fire extinguishers that must be carried on board a fishing vessel may be reduced by one if the remaining fire extinguishers are arranged so as to be readily accessible near the equipment or locations.

NOTE: Readily accessible means capable of being reached easily and safely under emergency conditions without the use of tools.

- 3.42 A portable fire extinguisher rated for Class B fires ... may be replaced with a portable fire extinguisher rated for Class K fires if it is intended for use in an area with cooking appliances that use combustible cooking media.
- 3.43 1) A portable fire extinguisher shall be mounted with a clamp or bracket that provides a quick and positive release.
- 2) A portable fire extinguisher intended for use in an accommodation space, or stored in an accommodation space, shall not contain a gas extinguishing agent.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Portable Fire Extinguishers must be type approved by a recognized product certification body.
2. Portable Fire Extinguishers must be kept fully charge at all times.
3. Requirements for the regular or annual inspection of Portable Fire Extinguishers installed on a fishing vessel are based on Sections found in the Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations and, in particular, information found in Section 3.22 of these Regulations (see above).
4. Portable Fire Extinguisher cylinders (bottles), if the contents are kept under pressure, must be tested periodically as per manufacturer's specification.
5. Transport Canada Marine Safety Inspectors will look for Inspection Certificates fixed to the Portable Fire Extinguishers showing the latest date of inspection by a recognized service provider. If the Extinguisher has a pressure gauge, the pressure gauge must show that it is fully charged.

NOTE: This Fact Sheet is being provided for information purposes only and requirements should be confirmed with a local Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security Inspector before making any modifications to a vessel or purchases of safety equipment. Some information provided on Regulatory Requirements and/or Carriage Requirements may be edited, summarized or somewhat generalized for the purpose of this Fact Sheet or for space in the document. Please refer to the Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations and any other Regulations referenced for full text.