



SUB-TOPIC

FIRE PREVENTION, Continued

Extinguishers come in a wide variety of classes, each designed to combat certain kinds of fires. Each extinguisher is clearly marked as to its class and should be used to fight fires only as indicated. Classes of fire extinguishers are:

Class "A" extinguishers are used on common fires: wood, paper, rubber and many plastics. They contain water, loaded stream, foam or a combination of dry chemicals.

Class "B" extinguishers are suitable for fires of flammable liquids, gasses, and greases. They hold loaded stream, foam, compressed gases (bromotrifluoromethane and carbon dioxide), dry chemicals, multipurpose dry chemicals, and vaporizing liquids.

Class "C" extinguishers are designed primarily for fires stemming from or surrounding electrical equipment. Spraying water on this kind of blaze could electrocute the fire fighter; what is needed is an extinguisher with nonconducting flame suppressants.

Class "D" extinguishers work well on fires involving combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium, sodium, and potassium. The nameplate on each extinguisher should explain its relative effectiveness for each kind of metal fire.

Contact the Safety Office (Ext. 2141) if fire extinguisher training, the addition of units, or servicing is required.

- C. Use of Fire Hoses: Fire hoses may be located in building corridor areas. They should only be used by trained personnel.