Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 3
Proposed Regulations

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has illustrated changes to the original text in the following manner: regulation language originally proposed is underlined; deletions from the language originally proposed are shown in double strikeout using a "="; and additions to language originally proposed are double-underlined.

557.1 "A" Definitions.

(a) Accurate Scales, Extinguisher Maintenance.

(1) An accurate scale for extinguishers with a gross weight of 60 lbs (27.24 kg) or less must have a minimum graduation not larger than 4 ounces (0.114 kg) and must be accurate to plus or minus 4 ounces (0.114 kg).

(2) An accurate scale for extinguishers with a gross weight of 61 lbs (27.69 kg) or more must be weighed on scales that have a minimum graduation not larger than 8 ounces (0.227 kg) and shall be accurate to plus or minus 8 ounces (0.227 kg).

(3) An accurate scale is one that can demonstrate accuracy by the use of a 10 lb (4.54 kg) Class 7 test weight as defined by ASTM E617-97. The test weight shall accompany the scale at all times.

(4) Accurate scales must have a maximum weight that equals or exceeds the gross weight of any extinguishers being maintained.

(b) Accurate Scales, Cartridge Maintenance

(1) An accurate scale for weighing cartridges is one with a minimum graduation not larger than 1/100 of the cartridge being weighed and that is accurate to plus or minus one scale graduation.

(2) An accurate scale is one that can demonstrate accuracy by the use of a 1 lb (0.454 kg) Class 7 test weight as defined by ASTM E617-97. The test weight shall accompany the scale at all times.

(c) Accurate Scales, commercial applications (legal for trade)

(1) An accurate scale for commercial applications is one that complies with Sections 12500 (a) and 12501.1 of the California Business and Professions Code and Section 4000, Title 4 of the California Code of Regulations.

(a) AFFE. Aqueous Film Forming Foam.

(b) ANSI. American National Standards Institute, Inc.
(e f) Approved. Refers to approval by the State Fire Marshal as a result of investigations or tests conducted or supervised by him, or by reason of tests by recognized testing laboratories, national authorities, technical or scientific organizations.

(d g) Annual Maintenance. The type of fire extinguisher maintenance that is required to be performed annually, pursuant to Section 575.1. For annual maintenance, the year shall start on the first day maintenance is performed and end one calendar year later.


561.2. Fire Test and Performance Standards.

(a) Portable fire extinguishers used to comply with these regulations this regulation shall be listed and labeled and meet or exceed all of the requirements of the fire test standards and one of the appropriate performance standards shown below:


(2) Performance Standards:


(b) The identification of the listing and labeling organization, the fire test and performance standard which the extinguisher meets or exceeds shall be clearly marked on each extinguisher.
EXCEPTION: Extinguishers manufactured prior to January 1, 1986.

(c) An organization listing, labeling and marking extinguishers used to comply with the requirements of this chapter shall utilize a third party certification program for portable fire extinguishers which meets or exceeds ANSI/UL 1803, 2nd Edition, 1997.

EXCEPTION: Extinguishers manufactured prior to January 1, 1986.


565.2. Selection by Hazard.

(a) Extinguishers shall be selected for the specific class or classes of hazards to be protected in accordance with the following subdivisions.

(b) Extinguishers for protecting Class A hazards shall be selected from the following: Water-type, halogenated agent types, multipurpose dry chemical and wet chemical type.

(c) Extinguishers for protection of Class B hazards shall be selected from the following: carbon dioxide, dry chemical types, halogenated agent types, and water-type and water chemical extinguishers rated for Class B hazards.

(d) Extinguishers for protection of Class C hazards shall be selected from the following: carbon dioxide, dry chemical types, halogenated agent types, and water mist types rated for Class C. Carbon dioxide extinguishers equipped with metal horns are not considered safe for use on fires in energized electrical equipment and, therefore, are not classified for use on Class C hazards.

(e) Extinguishers and extinguishing agents for the protection of Class D hazards shall be of types approved for use on the specific combustible-metal hazard.

(f) Fire extinguishers and extinguishing agents for the protection of Class K hazards shall be selected from either a wet chemical type or dry chemical type.


566. Application for Specific Hazards.

(a) Class B Fire Extinguishers for Pressurized Flammable Liquids and Pressurized Gas Fires. Fires of this nature are considered to be a special hazard. Class B fire extinguishers containing agents other than dry chemical are relatively ineffective on this type of hazard due to stream and agent characteristics. Selection of extinguishers for this type of hazard shall be made on the basis of recommendations by manufacturers of this
specialized equipment. The system used to rate extinguishers on Class B fires (flammable liquids in depth) is not applicable to these types of hazards.

It has been determined that special nozzle design and rates of agent application are required to cope with such hazards. Caution: It is undesirable to attempt to extinguish this type of fire unless there is reasonable assurance that the source of fuel can be promptly shut off.

(b) Fire extinguishers provided for the protection of cooking appliances that use combustible cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats) shall be listed and labeled for Class K fires.

EXCEPTION: Fire extinguishers installed specifically for hazards in this section prior to January 1, 2002.

(c) Three-dimensional Class B Fires. A three-dimensional Class B fire involves Class B materials in motion such as pouring, running or dripping flammable liquids and generally includes vertical as well as one or more horizontal surfaces. Fires of this nature are considered to be a special hazard. Selection of extinguishers for this type of hazard shall be made on the basis of recommendations by manufacturers of this specialized equipment. The system used to rate extinguishers on Class B fires (flammable liquid in depth) is not directly applicable to this type of hazard.

(d) Water Soluble Flammable Liquid Fires (Polar Solvents). Extinguishers used for the protection of water soluble flammable liquids, such as alcohols, acetones, esters, ketones, etc., shall be selected in accordance with Section 565.2. AFFF type and FFFP type fire extinguishers shall not be used for the protection of water soluble flammable liquids, such as alcohols, acetone, esters, ketones, etc., unless specifically referenced on the extinguisher nameplate.

(e) Electronic Equipment Fires. Extinguishers for the protection of delicate electronic equipment shall be selected from the following: carbon dioxide type or a halogenated agent type, or a distilled water mist type with a minimum Class A: C Rating.

(f) In patient care areas and sleeping rooms of health care facilities, fire extinguishers, including the agents and expelling means, should be selected and utilized which would not be detrimental to patients and are appropriate for the type of fire expected, such as distilled water mist type fire extinguishers with a minimum "2-A: C" Rating.


568. Fire Extinguisher Size and Placement for Class A Hazards.
(a) Minimum sizes of fire extinguishers for the listed grades of hazards shall be provided on the basis of Table 2, except as modified by Section 568(d). Extinguishers shall be located so that the maximum travel distances shall not exceed those specified in Table 2, except as modified by Section 568(d).

(b) Certain smaller fire extinguishers which are charged with a multipurpose dry chemical or halogenated agent are rated on Class B and Class C fires, but have insufficient effectiveness to earn the minimum 1-A rating even though they have value in extinguishing smaller Class A fires. They shall not be used to meet the requirements of Table 2.

TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Light (Low) Hazard Occupancy</th>
<th>Ordinary (Moderate) Hazard Occupancy</th>
<th>Extra (High) Hazard Occupancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum rated single extinguisher</td>
<td>2-A</td>
<td>2-A</td>
<td>4-A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum floor area per unit of A</td>
<td>3,000 sq ft</td>
<td>1,500 sq ft</td>
<td>1,000 sq ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum floor area for extinguisher</td>
<td>11,250 sq ft</td>
<td>11,250 sq ft</td>
<td>11,250 sq ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum travel distance to extinguisher</td>
<td>75 ft</td>
<td>75 ft</td>
<td>75 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two 2 1/2 gal (9.46 L) water type extinguishers can be used to fulfill the requirements of one 4-A rated extinguisher.

NOTE: 1 ft. = 0.305 m
1 sq ft = 0.0929 m²

(c) Extinguishers as specified in Table 2 may be replaced by uniformly spaced 1 1/2 inch (3.810 cm) hose stations for use by the occupants of the building. When hose stations are so provided they shall conform to Part 9, Title 24, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 9. The location of hose stations and the placement of fire extinguishers shall be in such a manner that the hose stations do not replace more than every other extinguisher.

(d) Where the floor area of a building is less than that specified in Table 2, at least one extinguisher of the minimum size recommended shall be provided.

(e) The protection requirements may be fulfilled with extinguishers of a higher rating provided the travel distance from anywhere in the building to such larger extinguishers shall not exceed 75 ft (22.7m), as shown in Table 2 above.

(a) Fire extinguishers with a Class K rating shall be provided for hazards where there is a potential for fires involving combustible cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats).
(b) Maximum travel distance shall not exceed 30 ft (9.15m) from the hazard to the extinguishers.
(c) Additional fire extinguishers, required for the control of other classes of fires, shall be provided for commercial cooking areas as required by Section 567.

574.1. Frequency of Inspection—General.

Fire extinguishers shall be manually inspected when initially placed in service. Thereafter extinguishers shall be manually inspected at least monthly by the building owner, occupant, or his/her authorized agent or electronically monitored. Fire extinguishers shall be inspected at more frequent intervals when circumstances require as determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

574.2. Inspection Procedures.

(a) In addition to 574.1 fire extinguishers shall be manually inspected in accordance with this section if they are located where any of the following conditions exist:
   (1) High frequency of fires in the past.
   (2) Extra (high) hazard areas.
   (3) Locations that make fire extinguishers susceptible to mechanical or physical damage.
   (4) Exposure to abnormal temperatures or corrosive atmospheres.

(b) Manual Monthly inspection of extinguishers shall include a check of at least the following items:
   (1) Located in the designated place.
   (2) No obstruction to access or visibility.
   (3) Operating instructions on nameplate legible and facing outward.
   (4) Safety seals and tamper indicators not broken or missing.
(5) (e) Examine for obvious physical damage, corrosion, leakage or clogged nozzle.
(6) (f) Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position.
(7) (g) Fullness determined by weighing or hefting, and, if needed, by weighing.
(8) (h) For wheeled units, the condition of the tires, wheels, carriage, hose, and nozzle shall also be checked.
(9) For non-rechargeable extinguishers using push-to-test pressure indicators, test the indicator.

(c) Electronic monitoring shall include monitoring of the following items:
   (1) Located in the designated place.
   (2) No obstruction to access or visibility.
   (3) Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position.


574.3. Corrective Action.

When an inspection of any extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in (a), (b), and (h) Section 574.2(b)(c), immediate corrective action shall be taken.


574.4. Rechargeable Extinguishers.

When an inspection of any rechargeable extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of Section 574.2, it shall be subjected to applicable maintenance procedures.


574.4. Nonrechargeable Extinguishers.

When an inspection of any nonrechargeable fire extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (9) of Section 574.2(b), it shall be discharged and removed from service.

EXCEPTION: Nonrechargeable extinguishers containing a halon agent shall be removed from service, not discharged, and returned to the manufacturer or
local fire extinguisher distributor having the capability of recovering the halon agent.


574.5 Nonrechargeable Extinguishers.

When an inspection of any nonrechargeable extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 574.2, it shall be discharged and removed from service. Exception: Nonrechargeable extinguishers containing a halon agent shall be removed from service, not discharged, and returned to the manufacturer or local fire extinguisher distributor having the capability of recovering the halon agent.


574.5. Inspection Record Keeping.

(a) The fire extinguisher owner shall maintain records of all fire extinguishers inspected, including those extinguishers that were found to require corrective actions. Records shall be maintained until next required maintenance.

(b) At least monthly, the date the manual inspection was performed and the initials of the person performing the inspection shall be recorded on a tag or label attached to the fire extinguisher, or an inspection checklist maintained on file, or an electronic system (e.g. bar coding) that provides a permanent record.

(c) Fire extinguishers being inspected via electronic monitoring, whereby the extinguisher causes a signal at a control unit when a deficiency in any of the conditions listed in Section 574.2(c) occurs shall provide record keeping in the form of an electronic event log at the control panel.

574.6 Recordkeeping

(a) Personnel making inspections shall keep records of all fire extinguishers inspected, including those extinguishers that were found to require corrective actions.

(b) At least monthly, the date the inspection was performed and the initials of the person performing the inspection shall be recorded on a tag or label attached to the fire extinguisher, or an inspection checklist maintained on file, or an electronic system (e.g., bar coding) that provides a permanent record.


575.1 Maintenance and Required Service Intervals.

(a) Fire extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance annually as described in this chapter or immediately after use or when specifically indicated by an inspection or at the time of hydrostatic test. For purposes of maintenance, hydrostatic tests required during the same calendar year shall be performed at the time of the annual maintenance or recharge.

(b) Non-rechargeable fire extinguishers shall not be recharged or hydrostatically tested but shall be discharged and removed from service at a maximum interval of 12 years from the date of manufacture.

EXCEPTION: Non-rechargeable fire extinguishers containing a halon agent shall be removed from service, not discharged, and returned to the manufacturer or fire extinguisher distributor having the capability of recovering the halon agent.

(c) When additional fire extinguishers are installed in excess of those required, the additional extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance and hydrostatically tested in the same manner and at intervals as set forth in this chapter for required extinguishers.

(d) New fire extinguishers that are fully charged by the manufacturer shall, after being sold, be subjected to maintenance within one year from the date of manufacture in accordance with this chapter. If only the year is shown, the new extinguisher shall be due for maintenance by January 1st of the year following the year of manufacture in accordance with this chapter.

EXCEPTION: A licensed fire extinguisher concern may attach the tag described in Section 596.1(a) and punch the new extinguisher block and date the extinguisher was sold. Extinguishers tagged in this manner shall be subjected to maintenance one year from the date on the tag in accordance with this chapter. Extinguishers more than two years old from date of manufacture shall not be tagged as new extinguishers.
(e) At the time of installation and at each annual maintenance, extinguishers shall be placed in a fully charged and operable condition free from defects which may cause malfunctions.

(f) At the time of service, hydrostatic testing, or at any time when parts are replaced, an itemized invoice showing work performed and parts replaced shall be provided by the licensee to the owner or possessor of the fire extinguisher.

(g) The licensee shall offer, in writing, to return all replaced parts to the portable fire extinguisher owner or owner's representative, except such parts as the licensee is required to return to the manufacturer of the portable fire extinguisher under any warranty arrangement. Text of offer must be in capital letters of at least 10 pt. boldface type or legible printing of comparable size.

(h) Annual maintenance or recharging service shall not be performed more than 30 days before the date the maintenance or recharge is due, unless approved and initialed by the owner or owner's representative in writing. Text must be capital letter in at least 10 pt. boldface type or legible printing of comparable size stating that service was performed more than 30 days prior to the due date. This section shall not rule out the maintenance required by Section 575.1 (a).


575.3 Maintenance Procedures.

(a) Maintenance procedures shall include a thorough examination of the three basic elements of an extinguisher:

1. mechanical parts
2. extinguishing agent
3. expelling means

EXCEPTION: During annual maintenance, it is not necessary to internally examine non-rechargeable fire extinguishers, carbon dioxide fire extinguishers, stored pressure dry chemical or dry powder fire extinguishers that require a 12 year hydrostatic test, halogenated agent fire extinguishers, wet chemical fire extinguishers or AFFF/FFFP fire extinguishers that use a pre-mixed charge. However, such extinguishers shall be thoroughly examined externally in accordance with the applicable items of 575.3 (a) (1) and Table 4.

For Stored Pressure Dry Chemical and Dry Powder Fire Extinguishers, see Section 575.4

For Carbon Dioxide Fire Extinguishers, see Section 575.5

For Stored Pressure Halogenated Agent Fire Extinguishers, see Section 575.6
For Stored Pressure Water Type Fire Extinguishers, see Section 575.7

For AFFF and FFFP Fire Extinguishers that use a pre-mixed charge, see Section 575.8.

For Stored Pressure Wet Chemical Fire Extinguishers, see Section 575.16.

(b) Fire extinguishers shall be thoroughly examined externally and the appropriate corrective action performed in accordance with the applicable items of Table 4, External Examination Maintenance Checkpoints.

(c) Fire extinguishers shall be weighed on accurate scales, as defined in 557.1(a), and it shall be verified that the total weight is within the allowable tolerances specified by the manufacturer.

EXCEPTION: Water-type and wet chemical fire extinguishers that have the liquid amount specified on the extinguisher shell, a fill level mark or an anti-overfill tube.

(d) Scales used for maintenance of fire extinguishers shall be checked for accuracy prior to each use. The accuracy of the scales shall be confirmed with the appropriate test weight as defined in 557.1(a) and 557.1(b).

(e) Straight faced spring scales (i.e. fish scales) shall not be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 4</th>
<th>External Examination Maintenance Checkpoints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shell</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Hydrostatic test date or date of manufacturer*</td>
<td>1. Retest, if needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Corrosion*</td>
<td>2. Conduct hydrostatic test and refinish, or discard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mechanical damage (denting or abrasion)*</td>
<td>3. Conduct hydrostatic test and refinish, or discard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Paint Condition</td>
<td>4. Refinish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Presence of repairs (welding, soldering, brazing, etc.)</td>
<td>5. Discard or consult manufacturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Broken hanger attachment, carrying handle lug</td>
<td>6. Discard or consult manufacturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nameplate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Illegible wording</td>
<td>1. Clean or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Corrosion or loose plate</td>
<td>2. Inspect shell under plate and reattach plate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nozzle or Horn</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Damaged (cut, cracked, or worn)</td>
<td>1. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Blocked openings</td>
<td>2. Clean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Damaged threads (corroded, crossed, or worn)</td>
<td>3. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Aged (brittle)</td>
<td>4. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hose Assembly</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Damaged (cut, cracked, or worn)</td>
<td>1. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Damaged coupling or swivel joint (cracked or corroded)</td>
<td>2. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Damaged threads (corroded, crossed, or worn)</td>
<td>3. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Inner tube cut at couplings</td>
<td>4. Repair or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Electrically nonconductive between couplings (CO₂ hose only)</td>
<td>5. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hose obstruction</td>
<td>6. Remove obstruction or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Damaged or missing hose retainer</td>
<td>7. Repair or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pull Pin or Valve Locking Device</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Damaged (bent, corroded, or binding)</td>
<td>1. Repair and lubricate, or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Missing</td>
<td>2. Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gauge or Pressure-Indicating Device</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corrective Action</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Damaged or missing pointer*</td>
<td>1. Perform internal maintenance and replace gauge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Missing, deformed, or broken crystal*</td>
<td>2. Perform internal maintenance and replace gauge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Illegible or faded dial*
4. Corrosion*
5. Dented case or crystal retainer*
6. Immovable or corroded pressure-indicating stem (nongauge type)*

**Shell or Cylinder Valve**
1. Corroded, damaged or jammed lever, handle, spring, stem, or fastener joint*
2. Damaged outlet threads (corroded, crossed, or worn)*

**Corrective Action**
1. Perform internal maintenance and repair or replace as necessary
2. Perform internal maintenance and replace

**Agent and Expelling Means**
1. Improper extinguisher weight
2. Improper gauge pressure

**Corrective Action**
1. Perform internal maintenance and recharge
2. Perform internal maintenance and recharge

**Nozzle Shutoff Valve**
1. Corroded, damaged, jammed or binding lever, spring, stem, or fastener joint
2. Plugged, deformed, or corroded nozzle tip or discharge passage

**Corrective Action**
1. Repair and lubricate, or replace
2. Clean or replace

**Nonrechargeable Shell**
1. Corrosion*
2. Damaged seal disc (injured, cut, or corroded)*
3. Damaged threads (corroded, crossed, or worn)
4. Illegible weight markings*

**Corrective Action**
1. Discard shell
2. Discard shell
3. Discard shell
4. Discard shell

**Carriage and Wheels**
1. Corroded, bent, or broken carriage
2. Damaged wheel (buckled or broken spoke, bent rim or axle, loose tire, low pressure, jammed bearing)

**Corrective Action**
1. Repair or replace
2. Clean, repair, and lubricate, or replace

**Carrying Handle**
1. Broken handle lug
2. Broken handle
3. Corroded, jammed, or worn fastener joint

**Corrective Action**
1. Discard shell or valve, or consult manufacturer
2. Replace
3. Clean or replace

**Seal or Tamper Indicator**
1. Broken or missing

**Corrective Action**
1. Perform internal maintenance
Brackets
1. Corroded, worn, or bent
2. Loose or binding fit
3. Worn, loose, corroded, or missing screw or bolt
4. Worn bumper, webbing, or grommet

Corrective Action
1. Repair and refinish, or replace
2. Adjust fit or replace
3. Tighten or replace
4. Replace

Safety Relief Device
1. Corroded or damaged*
2. Broken, operated, or plugged*

Corrective Action
1. Depressurize and replace or consult manufacturer
2. Depressurize and replace or repair

Electronic Monitoring Device
1. Battery
2. Unit not sending signal
3. Signal at receiver

Corrective Action
1. Replace battery
2. Check battery and check sensor, consult manufacturer's maintenance procedures
3. Consult manufacturer's maintenance procedures

For nonrechargeable extinguishers, those items indicated with an asterisk cannot be inspected and serviced. If the corrective action requires the depressurization of the extinguisher, nonrechargeable halogenated agent fire extinguishers shall not be depressurized but shall be returned to the manufacturer or fire extinguisher distributor having the capability of recovering the halogenated agent.


575.4. Dry Chemical and Dry Powder Portable Fire Extinguishers.

(a) Stored Pressure Extinguisher

(1) Every 6 years stored pressure dry chemical and dry powder fire extinguishers that require a 12 year hydrostatic test shall be discharged, emptied and subjected to the applicable maintenance procedures as specified by the manufacturer’s requirements.

(2) Stored pressure dry chemical and dry powder extinguishers shall be fully discharged to check the operation of the discharge valve and pressure gauge.

(3) The dry chemical agent may be reused provided an approved closed recovery system is used and the agent is stored in a sealed container to prevent contamination.

(4) Prior to reuse, the dry chemical or dry powder agent shall be thoroughly checked to insure:
(A) Appropriate type agent.

(B) Agent is not contaminated.

(C) Agent is in a free flowing powdery condition.

(5) Where doubt exists with respect to the type, contamination, or condition of the dry chemical or dry powder agent, the agent shall be discarded.

(b) Cartridge and Cylinder Operated Extinguishers.

(1) At the time of annual maintenance, cartridge and cylinder operated dry chemical and dry powder fire extinguishers shall be emptied.

(2) Prior to reuse, the dry chemical or dry powder agent shall be thoroughly checked to insure:

(A) Appropriate type agent.

(B) Agent is not contaminated.

(C) Agent is in a free flowing powdery condition.

(3) Where doubt exists with respect to the type, contamination, or condition of the dry chemical or dry powder agent, the agent shall be discarded.

(4) Cartridges of cartridge operated portable fire extinguishers shall be replaced when the loss of weight as compared with the original weight as stamped on the cartridge is equal to or more than that as permitted in instructions on the label.

(5) Cartridges of every cartridge-operated extinguisher shall be weighed annually in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations, on an accurate scale as defined in Section 557.1(b). The minimum graduation for the scale shall not be larger than 1/100 of the cartridge being weighed and shall be accurate to plus or minus one scale graduation. Scales used in commercial applications (legal for trade) shall comply with Sections 12500(a) and 12501.1, of the California Business and Professions Code and Section 4000, Title 4, of the California Code of Regulations. Straight faced spring scales (i.e. fish scales) shall not be used.

(6) Replacement cartridges for cartridge operated extinguishers shall conform to the manufacturer’s requirements.

(7) Cylinders of wheeled cylinder operated dry chemical extinguishers shall maintain a pressure of not less than 1,500 P.S.I. Wheeled pressurized dry chemical extinguishers shall maintain proper expelling pressure as indicated on the pressure gauge.

(c) Multipurpose dry chemicals shall not be mixed with alkaline-based dry chemicals.
578.1. Recharging, General:

(a) All rechargeable type extinguishers shall be recharged after use or as indicated by an inspection or when performing maintenance.

(b) When performing the recharging, the recommendations of the manufacturers shall be followed. For recharge chemicals, see Section 578.2.

(c) The amount of recharge agent shall be verified by weighing on an accurate scale. The total weight shall be within the allowable tolerances specified by the manufacturer. When agent is sold by weight, the scale used must meet the definition of accuracy as defined in Section 557.1(c).

EXCEPTION: Water-type and wet chemical fire extinguishers that have the liquid amount specified on the extinguisher shell, a fill level mark or an anti-overfill tube.

591.5. Replacement Extinguisher. Portable fire extinguishers shall not be removed from the premises for hydrostatic testing or any other purpose, without first replacing the extinguisher with a comparable unit rated for the hazard being protected. The customer’s original unit shall be returned within 60 calendar days.

594.3. Test Equipment for Low Pressure Non-D.O.T. Specification Cylinders and Hose Assemblies.

(a) The required equipment for testing low pressure non-D.O.T. specification cylinders and hose assemblies consists of the following:

(1) Cylinders and hose assemblies shall be tested within a protective cage device, or placed behind a protective shield, that will permit visual observation while under pressure for leaks, bulges, and other harmful defects.

(2) A hydrostatic test pump, hand or power operated, shall be capable of producing not less than 150 percent of the test pressure. It is to include appropriate check valves and fittings.

(3) A flexible connection between the test pump and the test cylinder shall be provided with necessary fittings to test through the extinguisher nozzle, test bonnet, or hose outlet, as applicable.
Licensed individuals and licensed companies performing this service shall maintain a license and Certificate of Registration in conformance with Sections 595.5(a) and 595.9(a).


§595.1. Document Transfers.

(a) A license or a Certificate of Registration is not transferable except by the State Fire Marshal.
(b) The State Fire Marshal may transfer a license upon submission of a new license application form and payment of appropriate fees.


596.1. Required Information.

(a) Annual Maintenance tags shall bear the following information machine printed on them:

1. The words "Do Not Remove by Order of the State Fire Marshal" shall be placed at the top of the tag.
2. Concern Name as listed on license.
3. Concern Business Location in accordance with Section 595.7.
4. License Number ("E" Number.) and License Type.
5. Service Maintenance/New Extinguisher Block.
6. Date service performed.
7. Certificate of Registration. Provide printed "EE" number followed by space for individuals number (note format Sec. Section 596.4.)
8. The Seal of Registration of the Office of State Fire Marshal. (See Section 596.11).
9. Space or line for signature of person performing or supervising the service work.
10. Valid local telephone number for the licensed concern.

(b) The above information shall appear on one side of the Annual Maintenance tag. All other desired printing or information except association or company logos shall be placed on the reverse side of the tag. Association and company logos if printed on the information side of the tag shall be confined to the area of the tag used for the name and address of the licensee.
(c) Verification of Service Collars shall bear the following information machine printed on them:

1. The words “Do Not Remove by Order of the State Fire Marshal.”
2. The words “Verification of Service.”
3. License Number (“E” Number).
4. Date (month and year) maintenance performed.
5. Certificate of Registration. Provide printed “EE” Number followed by space for individuals’ number (note format Section 596.4).
6. Space for signature of person performing or supervising the service work.
7. Concern name as listed on license.

(d) Hydrostatic Test Labels shall bear the following information machine printed on them:

1. Concern Name.
2. Concern Address.
3. License Number (“E” Number).
4. D.O.T. RIN (if applicable).
5. Date (month and year) test performed.
6. Means to record the hydrostatic test pressure used in PSI.
7. The letter “S” (for modified test method, if applicable).
8. 6-year maintenance


596.2. Size Color and Material.

(a) Annual Maintenance Tags shall be machine-printed, four and three-fourths inches (4 3/4”) in length and two and three-eights inches (2 3/8”) in width with a one-fourth (1/4”) one-half inch (1/2”) deviation for each dimension permissible.

(b) Verification of Service collars shall be made from a single circular piece of uninterrupted material forming a hole of a size that will not permit the collar assembly to move over the neck of the container unless the valve is completely removed. The collar shall not interfere with the operation of the fire extinguisher.
(c) Hydrostatic Test Labels shall be three inches (3") in width and two and one-fourth inches (2 1/4") in length with a one-fourth inch (1/4") deviation for each dimension permissible.

(d) Annual Maintenance Tags, Verification of Service collars and Hydrostatic Test Labels shall not be red in color.