



FIRE WIRE

January 2007

A supplement to *Firewatch!* magazine

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National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors

104 S. Michigan Ave.
Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60603
Tel (312) 263-8100
Fax (312) 263-8111
www.nafed.org

NFPA Issues Errata 10-07-1 for 2007 Edition of NFPA 10

The NFPA released Errata number 10-07-1 for the recently released new edition NFPA 10. The Errata corrects an error in Section 7.1.2.3. The correct compliance date for technicians to be certified is August 17, 2008. This date is two years after the release date of the 2007 Edition of NFPA 10 (August 17, 2006).

The 2007 Edition has many significant changes that will affect your operations. Some of the changes include:

The addition of a new Chapter 4 *General Requirements*, which contains information that was located in other chapters in the previous edition. This caused many sections to be renumbered.

A definition for a "Certified Person" was added to Chapter 3: "A person that has been certified by a recognized organization through a formal certification program or by an equipment manufacturer that has a certification program, that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction."

The list of obsolete extinguishers was expanded to include: Pressurized water fire extinguishers manufactured prior to 1971; any extinguisher that needs to be inverted to operate; any stored pressure extinguisher manufactured prior to 1955; any extinguishers with 4B, 6B, 8B, 12B, and 16B fire ratings; and any fire extinguisher that can no longer be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's maintenance manual is considered obsolete and shall be removed from service.

Additionally, the following requirement was added: "Dry chemical stored pressure extinguishers manufactured prior to October 1984 shall be removed from service at the next six-year maintenance interval or the next hydrotest interval, whichever comes first."

Specific fire extinguisher types, capacities and flow rates were added to for the protection of

pressurized flammable liquid and gas fires, three-dimensional fires, and obstacle fires.

For areas containing oxidizers only water type fire extinguishers are allowed.

The requirements for certified service personnel have been added for all maintenance, servicing, and recharging of fire extinguishers effective August 17, 2008. Note service personnel are still required to be properly trained, have the proper service manuals, tools, recharge materials, lubricants, etc.

Another major change in the 2007 Edition of NFPA 10 involves the thirty-day inspection procedures. Under certain conditions the inspection procedures can be reduced and can also be accomplished using an electronic monitoring device or system. Maintenance requirements for any electronic monitoring device and system have also been added.

Section 7.3.1.2.3 added the following requirement: "When subjected to temperatures at or about its listed rating, stored-pressure fire extinguishers that require a twelve-year hydrostatic test shall be emptied and subjected to the applicable maintenance and recharge procedures on an annual basis." ❖

These are just some of the changes that are included in the revised NFPA 10. You should review the entire standard and comply with the new requirements. You can purchase a copy of the 2007 NFPA 10 from NFPA at www.nfpa.org or by calling 1-800-344-3555.

Why are Pre-1984 Extinguishers Obsolete?

The 2007 Edition of NFPA 10 has a new requirement that states, “4.4.1 Dry chemical stored pressure extinguishers manufactured prior to October 1984 shall be removed from service at the next six-year maintenance interval or the next hydrotest interval, whichever comes first.”

Many distributors and end users are wondering what the reason is for this new requirement. First, please understand that the addition of this requirement followed the full NFPA process; it was submitted as a proposal, and was reviewed and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the NFPA 10 committee. No one presented a challenge to this requirement at the public presentation of the revised standard.

In October of 1984 the UL 299 listing requirements for fire extinguishers changed. Many of these changes were brought about by an extensive series of fire tests that were called “Novice Fire Extinguisher Tests.” In these tests, untrained people were selected to extinguish fires with fire extinguishers. Based on these tests and problems associated with the novice’s use, several changes were incorporated into the listing requirements.

Underwriters Laboratories highlighted some of these changes as follow:

- ⇒ Extinguishers with a 2-A or 20-B or higher must be equipped with a discharge hose.
- ⇒ Revisions were made to the maximum force required to remove pull pin and the minimum amount of force required to shear the pull pin.

- ⇒ New marking requirements for the extinguishers were added.
- ⇒ The minimum area used to provide operating instructions was revised.
- ⇒ New marking, use, and operating instructions and pictograms were introduced.
- ⇒ Recharging instruction information was revised.
- ⇒ New requirements for service manuals was introduced.

Two questions that are often asked are:

Do we really have to replace these extinguishers? Yes, if you want to be in compliance with the latest edition of NFPA 10 you should replace dry chemical, stored pressure fire extinguishers that were manufactured prior to October 1984, at their next scheduled six-year maintenance or hydrostatic test.

Don’t these older units work? If properly maintained these older units should work. However, they do not represent the current technology and user features that are now required. The argument is similar to saying that soda acid and inverting chemical foam units still work, but we know that they had to be replaced by extinguishers that provided superior fire extinguishing characteristics and operator safety. Remember that a fire extinguisher provides first line of defense to control incipient stage fires. Users of fire extinguishers have to have confidence in the units and must be able to operate them with limited training. ❖



NAFED’s Surveys

NAFED staff wishes to thank everyone who is participating in the two fire extinguisher surveys that we are collecting data on: **Internal Maintenance Survey Form** and **Portable/Wheeled Unit Fire Extinguisher Incident Report**. Don’t stop, keep sending the information! And if you aren’t participating yet, start now...we need your input.! It is up to our industry to keep the public and authorities informed of the value of properly maintained fire extinguishers.

We have made two changes to the Internal Maintenance Survey Form. The first change was based on discussions with several distributors. When performing internal maintenance many of the extinguishers serviced are of the same type and have the same results for the survey. Instead of having to list the same data for

identical extinguishers and results, we added space at the top of the page to write in the quantity of extinguishers that specific data applies to.

Secondly, we added another condition in the section Conditions Observed, Unit Condemned Prior to Internal to record extinguishers that are condemned because of obsolescence or factory recall.

You can complete these surveys on the forms included in this mailing and mail or fax them back to NAFED or you can submit the data on NAFED’s website at www.nafed.org/surveys. ❖

Certification Exams and Training

NAFED's certification program is going strong as many companies are having their employees take the NAFED certification exam training and exams so that they can be in compliance with the new NFPA 10 certification requirements as well as the current NFPA 96 technician certification requirement (NFPA 96, 2004 Edition, Reference Sections 3.3.9, A3.3.9, and 11.2.1).

Check NAFED's website for additional information regarding the certification program and our training seminars designed to prepare individuals to take the exam. ❖

Fire Extinguisher Scam

Fire extinguisher suppliers across the country have recently been targeted by scam artists using stolen credit cards and a tale of an orphanage to rip off the companies.

A Georgia extinguisher company recently received a call regarding the purchase of extinguisher in Ghana. An attempt was made to pay for the product with stolen credit card information. The perpetrator also requested that shipping costs be wire transferred to Ghana.

"In cases we've seen, the credit card numbers belong to an unsuspecting individual," Atlanta Insurance and Fire Commissioner John Oxendine said. "By the time the extinguisher company becomes aware of the scheme, they may have already wired funds for alleged shipping. The shipping costs are simply a way for criminals to use a legitimate company to generate illegal cash for them."

"Any extinguisher company that gets a similar call or request via email requesting product to be shipped out of the country should check the purchaser's information carefully," Oxendine said. The important thing to remember is that the credit card purchase may initially appear to go through just as it should, but the credit card information will not match the purchaser's information because the card is stolen. The scam artists are making their money off of the bogus shipping charges they are asking the extinguisher companies to wire to them before the company may realize the order is fraudulent.

In one case the scam artist gave the shipping address of the orphanage as OSU Children's Home, 1524 Orphanage Rd., Accra, Ghana 00233. The "shipping company" was listed as Diamond Star Shipping. ❖

New CGA Pamphlets

The Compressed Gas Association (CGA) has revised several of their publications. These include:

CGA P-1—2006, *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*

CGA C-1—2006, *Methods for Hydrostatic Testing of Compressed Gas Cylinders*

CGA C-6—2005, *Standards for Visual Inspection of Steel Compressed Gas Cylinders*

CGA C-6.1—2006, *Standards for Visual Inspection of High Pressure Aluminum Compressed Gas Cylinders*

CGA C-6.2—2005, *Standards for Visual Inspection and Requalification of Fiber Reinforced High Pressure Cylinders*

TB-19—2001 Reaffirmed 2006, *Uses of Eddy Current to Detect Imperfections in Refillable High Pressure Vessels*

These pamphlets can be purchased from the CGA at www.cganet.com or calling (703) 788-2700. ❖

AHJ Training Presentation

This past year NAFED released its AHJ Training Program for Portable Fire Extinguishers (order form enclosed) to great reviews. Many companies that ordered this training program stated that it was very helpful in presenting training programs for Authorities, end-users, and employees. However, we found out that some companies had a problem with slide seven of the presentation. That slide would appear to be a blank black slide. We determined that the artwork on that slide was a problem for some versions of Microsoft® PowerPoint®. We still do not know why, but we solved the problem by redoing that slide. If you purchased this presentation and have this problem, go to NAFED's website at www.nafed.org and download a new slide seven that you can insert into your program. Please note that you will have to copy your presentation CD onto a hard drive and replace the slide there. We apologize for any inconvenience. ❖

Calendar of Events

February 2—4

FFEDA's 2007 February Board Meeting and Educational Seminar, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, FL. Room reservation deadline is January 21. Call (800) 627-8258 or visit www.ffeda.org for more details.

March 8—9

NAFED's 2007 Sectional Conference, Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas, NV. Room reservation deadline is February 2. Call (800) 732-2111 for hotel reservations and visit www.nafed.org/calendar for conference details.

April 5—6

NAFED's 2007 Sectional Conference, Bally's Park Place, Atlantic City, NJ. Room reservation deadline is March 10. Call (609) 340-2000 for hotel reservations and visit www.nafed.org/calendar for conference details.

April 19—21

PAFED's Spring Conference, Holiday Inn, Lehigh Valley, PA. Visit www.pafed.org for details.

May 11—12

NAFED's 2007 Annual Conference, Westin Hotel, Indianapolis, IN. Room reservation deadline is April 7. Call (317) 262-8100 for hotel reservations and visit www.nafed.org/calendar for conference details.

June 1—3

FFEDA's Annual Conference and Trade Show, Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa, Weston, FL. Room reservation deadline is May 15. Call (800) 627-8258 or visit www.ffeda.org for more details.

June 3—7

NFPA World Safety Conference and Exposition
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Boston, MA. Visit www.nfpa.org for more details.



Though compiled with care, the information in this calendar is subject to change without notice. It is not possible to guarantee a complete absence of errors. Therefore, NAFED does not take responsibility for the correctness of the information made available, and users are advised that they make use of this information strictly at their own risk.

Fire Extinguisher Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Ansul®, has announced a voluntary replacement program for the following product (to view the Consumer Product Safety Commission's press release in its entirety, visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml07/07507.html>):

Name of Product: K-GUARD®, SENTRY®, and FLAG FIRE® Model Fire Extinguishers

Units: About 154,000

Hazard: If the fire extinguisher is dropped horizontally from a height of approximately two to three feet, the pick-up tube adaptor and the stainless steel tube. If a pick-up tube is cracked, the extinguisher can fail to discharge properly when activated.

Incidents: None reported.

Description: The recall involves K-GUARD® Wet Chemical, FLAG FIRE® Water and SENTRY® Water Fire Extinguishers manufactured and shipped between May 2003 and September 9, 2005.

For Further Information: Call your Ansul® or Pyro-Chem® distributor or Ansul Incorporated's and Pyro-Chem's Quality Assurance Department at (800) 906-3575 (US/Canada) or (715) 732-3575 (Outside US/Canada) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday. Or you can find additional information by visiting the Ansul® website at www.ansul.com or the Pyro-Chem® website at www.pyrochem.com. ❖

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