



## FIRE EXTINGUISHER OPERATION

### Fire Triangle

To understand how fire extinguishers work, you need to understand a little about fire. Fire is a very rapid chemical reaction between oxygen and a combustible material, which results in the release of heat, light, flames, and smoke.



**For fire to exist, the following four elements must be present at the same time:**

- Enough oxygen to sustain combustion.
- Enough heat to raise the material to its ignition temperature.
- Some sort of fuel or combustible material.
- The chemical reaction that is fire.

### How a Fire Extinguisher Works

Portable fire extinguishers apply an extinguishing agent that will either cool burning fuel, displace or remove oxygen, or stop the chemical reaction so a fire cannot continue to burn. When the handle of an extinguisher is compressed, agent is expelled out the nozzle.

All portable fire extinguishers must be approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory to verify compliance with applicable standards.

#### DO:

- Do know the locations of extinguishers on the job site.
- Do familiarize yourself with the types of fire and what to use for each.
- Do remember the P.A.S.S. method for fire extinguishers.
- Do identify a safe evacuation path before approaching the fire.
- Do evacuate immediately if you have any doubt about your ability to fight a fire.

#### DO NOT:

- Do not use water agents on grease and oil fires or use dry chemical extinguishers on electrical devices or anything with metal because it is corrosive.
- Do not aim at the flames of the fire.
- Do not stand too close to the fire or even plan to walk on those extinguished areas.
- Do not put extinguishers in areas where fire is most likely to happen making them unreachable.
- Do not leave extinguishers in corridors or on anything that is highly magnetic.
- Do not play with the device or even play with its substances because of the possibility of injuring yourself.
- Do not block access to fire extinguishers.



## PROPER USAGE

Use the PASS method when using a fire extinguisher:

- P** Pull the pin
- A** Aim hose at the base of the fire
- S** Squeeze the trigger
- S** Sweep back and forth with the extinguisher



**TOOLBOX TALKS**  
**FIRE EXTINGUISHER OPERATION**

Meeting Conducted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Attendees:

Print	Signature	Print	Signature
1.		11.	
2.		12.	
3.		13.	
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