

CERTIFIED FIRE PROTECTION, INC.

Quick Check” Your Fire Extinguishers

A “quick check” is a brief inspection to determine that a fire extinguisher is available and will operate, when and if it is needed. The purpose is to give you reasonable assurance that the fire extinguisher is fully charged and operable. This is done by verifying that the fire extinguisher is in its designated place, that it has not been discharged or tampered with, and that there is no obvious physical damage or condition to prevent its operation.

How often: Fire extinguishers shall be inspected when initially placed in service and thereafter in **30 day intervals** as required by **OSHA re:1910-157d2** . Fire extinguishers shall be inspected at more frequent intervals when circumstances require.

What to check: Your “quick check” inspection of fire extinguishers at your facilities needs to include a check of at least the following items:

- Location in designated place.** Is the extinguisher where it should be? If not, this will need to be corrected immediately. Replace or reposition as needed.
- No obstruction to access or visibility.** Can you see the extinguisher? If not, this will need to be corrected immediately. Remove obstruction or reinstall in an unobstructed or more visible location.
- Operating instructions on nameplate legible and facing outward.** Can you see and easily read operating instructions? Adjust position, clean, or replace as needed.
- Safety seals, tamper indicators, and maintenance tag not broken or missing.** If any are broken or missing, have maintenance performed to insure that the extinguisher is charged and will operate properly. A maintenance tag with the year and month the maintenance was performed must be readily visible.
- Fullness determined by weighing or “hefting.”** Does it feel full when you pick it up? If it feels too light, have maintenance performed to insure that the extinguisher is charged and will operate properly.
- Examination for obvious physical damage, corrosion, leakage, or clogged nozzle or hose.** Replace damaged and leaking extinguishers. Clean clogged nozzles or hoses.
- Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position.** Can you read the gauge and is it in the proper range? Adjust position, clean, or replace as needed.

Remember, in the event of a fire: P.A.S.S. Pull - Aim - Squeeze - Sweep



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