



Technical Memo

I.F.E.D.A. MEMBERS INFORMATION/TECHNICAL UPDATE

From Ray Griffin.

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Number 7

The latest edition of BS 5306 part 3 has recently been published and if you require a copy this can be obtained via Judith at a reduced fee.

Some of the main differences are as follows: -

6.2 Gas cartridges

These should conform to BS EN3-3 : 1996, clause 9 unless the extinguisher was made to BS5423 in which case a cartridge conforming to BS5423 may be used instead.

All cartridges should be hydraulically tested 10 years after date of manufacture or date of test hydraulic test. If the cartridge is not dated it must be tested,

8. Evaluation of fitness for service of extinguishers and actions to be taken.

8.1 General Defective extinguisher should be placed in one of the following categories. "Condemned" or "Not Maintained".

Annex A Table A1

The maximum maintenance period in respect of overhaul & recharge of a CO₂ extinguisher is now 10 years from the stamped date of manufacture or last hydraulic test. There is no requirement to discharge test a CO₂ extinguisher at 5 yearly intervals.

The intervals between extended service & recharge or overhaul & recharge may be shortened on the recommendation of the competent person where inspection reveals environmental and/or special hazards.

Table B

Action number 14

This requires seals ('O' rings/washers) & diaphragms to be replaced as stated.

Annex C Table D1

This section requires CO₂ valves/headcaps to be removed and destroyed at the time of overhaul & recharge & replaced with new.

There is now no requirement to automatically replace CO₂ horn/elbow or CO₂ hose/horn at the time of overhaul & recharge

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