



Technical Memo

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

From: The National Office

Date: 17th May 2004.

Number 17

RECONDITIONED AND SECOND HAND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Some members have requested guidance in respect of selling used/second hand fire extinguishers and refurbishing client's extinguishers during a service visit.

There is no restriction on selling second hand extinguishers provided the appliances in question are in fully serviceable condition as prescribed by BS5306-3 : 2003.

It must be clear to the purchaser that the equipment being sold is second hand and it is recommended that all documents relating to the sale such as a written or verbal quote, delivery note and sales invoice clearly show that the goods in question are second hand.

Careful consideration should be given to all the circumstances before water, foam or powder extinguisher bodies are refurbished and it is recommended that you only place this work with companies registered under BAFE Scheme SP103.

The MCA requirement in respect of all extinguishers on ships is for the appliance to be hydraulically tested after any refurbishment and it may be considered good practice to apply this to any extinguisher body being refurbished.

It is not uncommon for CO₂ extinguishers due for overhaul and recharge as prescribed by BS5306-3 : 2003 to be shot blasted and repainted. In these cases the shot blast and repaint process should be carried out before hydrostatic test.

The fact that an extinguisher body has been repainted will remove from that appliance any approval such as the Kite Mark but in view of the fact that CO₂ extinguishers must be revalved as part of the overhaul and recharge procedure any approvals relating to the extinguisher will no longer apply.

The whole question of refurbishing extinguishers is a contentious issue and there are many and varied opinions on the subject but we believe the overriding factor should be quality and in cases where refurbishing is carried out the performance of an extinguisher and its suitability for the risk it covers must not be diminished.

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