
Classification of fires

Classes de feux

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3941 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 21, *Equipment for fire protection and fire fighting*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Manually transportable fire extinguishers*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 3941:1977), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

This International Standard defines classes of fires according to the nature of the material undergoing combustion. In consequence, it does not define a particular class of fire involving an electrical risk.

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Classification of fires

1 Scope

This International Standard classifies, into five categories, the different kinds of fires defined in terms of the nature of the fuel. Such a classification is particularly useful in the context of fire-fighting by means of an extinguisher.

2 Definitions and designation of classes of fire

The following designations are for the purpose of classifying fires of different natures and of simplifying spoken and written reference to them:

- **Class A** Fires involving solid materials, usually of an organic nature, in which combustion normally takes place with the formation of glowing embers;
- **Class B** Fires involving liquids or liquefiable solids;
- **Class C** Fires involving gases;
- **Class D** Fires involving metals; [ISO 3941:2007](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/a69f716e-6043-48a1-8ff8-3bd0ad542dhh/iso-3941-2007)
- **Class F** Fires involving cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats) in cooking appliances.

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