
**Fire fighting — Wheeled fire
extinguishers — Performance and
construction**

*Lutte contre l'incendie — Extincteurs sur roues — Performances et
construction*

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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 11601 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 11601:1999), which has been technically revised.

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Fire fighting — Wheeled fire extinguishers — Performance and construction

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the principal requirements intended to ensure the safety, reliability and performance of wheeled fire extinguishers.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 37, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of tensile stress-strain properties*

ISO 3768, *Metallic coatings — Neutral salt spray test (NSS test)*

ISO 5923, *Fire protection — Fire extinguishing media — Carbon dioxide*

ISO 7165, *Fire fighting — Portable fire extinguishers — Performance and construction*

ISO 7201-1, *Fire protection — Fire extinguishing media — Halogenated hydrocarbons — Part 1: Specifications for halon 1211 and halon 1301*

ISO 7202, *Fire protection — Fire extinguishing media — Powder*

ISO 7203-1, *Fire extinguishing media — Foam concentrates — Part 1: Specification for low expansion foam concentrates for top application to water-immiscible liquids*

ISO 7203-2, *Fire extinguishing media — Foam concentrates — Part 2: Specification for medium and high expansion foam concentrates for top application to water-immiscible liquids*

ISO 14520-1, *Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems — Physical properties and system design — Part 1: General requirements*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

batch

group of the same products made on the same production line using the same lot of materials during one production shift

3.2

body

metal shell of an extinguisher designed to contain the extinguishing media including any skirt

3.3

bulk range

discharge range of an extinguisher when 50 % of its extinguishing medium has been expelled with the discharge valve fully open

3.4

burst pressure

P_b

pressure at which the extinguisher cylinder ruptures

3.5

charge of extinguisher

mass or volume of extinguishing medium contained in the extinguisher expressed in volume (litres) for water-based extinguishers and in mass (kilograms) for other extinguishers

3.6

classification of fires

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

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3.7

clean agent

electrically non-conductive gaseous or vaporizing liquid fire-extinguishing medium that does not leave a residue upon evaporation

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3.8

closure

component, other than a safety device or pressure indicator, subject to internal pressure and used to close off and seal the body

3.9

complete discharge

point in the discharge of an extinguisher when the internal pressure has equalized with the external pressure with the control valve being kept fully open

3.10

effective discharge time

time from the commencement of discharge of the extinguishing medium at the nozzle to the gas point of the discharge stream with the control valve fully open

3.11

extinguisher

appliance containing an extinguishing medium which may be discharged and directed onto a fire by the action of internal pressure

NOTE Discharge may be achieved by

- a) stored pressure (constant pressurization of the extinguishing media container), or
- b) cartridge or cylinder operated device (pressurization at the time of use by the release of a pressurizing gas stored in a separate high-pressure cartridge or container)

3.12**extinguishing medium**

substance contained in the extinguisher which causes extinction

3.13**fill density**

mass in kilograms of extinguishing medium per litre of container volume as fitted for use, complete with valve and internal fittings

3.14**gas point**

point where the medium discharge changes from predominately medium to predominately expellant gas

3.15**lowest observable adverse effect level****l.o.a.e.l.**

the lowest concentration at which an adverse physiological or toxicological effect has been observed

3.16**maximum service pressure**

P_{ms}

equilibrium pressure developed in a normally charged and pressurized extinguisher which is conditioned at 60 °C for at least 18 h

3.17**propellant**

non-flammable compressed gas used to expel the extinguishing medium

3.18**rechargeable extinguisher**

extinguisher designed and intended to be recharged after use

3.19**service pressure**

P_s

equilibrium pressure developed in a normally charged and pressurized extinguisher conditioned at 20 °C for at least 18 h

3.20**test pressure**

P_t

for low-pressure wheeled extinguishers, P_t is the higher of $1,43 \times P_{ms}$, $2,5 \times P_s$ or 2,0 MPa

3.21**wheeled fire extinguisher**

appliance on wheels having a total mass more than 20 kg but not greater than 450 kg, which is designed to be operated and transported to the fire by one person

4 Types of wheeled fire extinguishers**4.1 General**

4.1.1 Wheeled fire extinguishers are described by the type of extinguishing medium which they contain. At present, the types of wheeled fire extinguishers are:

- water-based;
- powder;

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- carbon dioxide;
- clean agent.

NOTE In some countries, the manufacture and use of clean agents is regulated by the Montreal Protocol or by national regulations.

4.1.2 Water-based wheeled fire extinguishers may contain plain water, or water with additives such as wetting agents, viscosity-increasing agents, or flame-retardant or foaming agents.

NOTE Currently there are no ISO International Standards covering additives added to water to produce antifreeze, wetting or other special characteristics.

4.1.3 Powders may be of the “BC” or “ABC” types, or may be specially prepared for Class D fires.

4.1.4 Wheeled fire extinguishers may have two extinguisher bodies per axle. Each extinguisher body may contain the same or a different extinguishing medium provided they are compatible with each other.

5 Extinguishing media, propellants and fill densities

5.1 Extinguishing media

5.1.1 Carbon dioxide

Carbon dioxide used in wheeled fire extinguishers shall comply with ISO 5923.

5.1.2 Clean agents

Clean agents used in wheeled fire extinguishers shall comply with ISO 7201-1 (alternatively, ISO 14520-1).

NOTE In some countries, the manufacture and use of clean agents is regulated by the Montreal Protocol or by national regulations.

5.1.3 Powder

Powder used in wheeled fire extinguishers shall comply with ISO 7202.

IMPORTANT — Exception: powders for use on Class D fires.

5.1.4 Foam concentrates

Foam concentrates used in wheeled fire extinguishers shall comply with ISO 7203-1 (alternatively, ISO 7203-2).

5.2 Propellants

The propellant for stored pressure and cartridge-operated wheeled fire extinguishers shall be air, argon, carbon dioxide, helium, nitrogen or mixtures of these gases having a maximum dewpoint of – 60 °C.

IMPORTANT — Exception: propellant for stored pressure water-based wheeled fire extinguishers need not meet the dewpoint requirement.

5.3 Fill density

The fill density for carbon dioxide wheeled fire extinguishers shall not exceed 0,75 kg/l.

The fill density for clean agent wheeled fire extinguishers shall not exceed the values given in ISO 7201-1 (alternatively, ISO 14520-1).

NOTE These fill densities may be modified subject to national pressure vessel regulations.

5.4 Filling tolerance

The actual charge of a wheeled fire extinguisher shall be the nominal charge within the following limits:

- a) water-based extinguishers: +0, –5 % by volume;
- b) powder-based extinguishers: ± 2 % by mass;
- c) carbon dioxide and clean agent extinguishers: +0, –5 % by mass.

5.5 Charges

5.5.1 Nominal charge

The following are the recommended charges for wheeled fire extinguishers:

- a) water-based extinguishers: 20 l, 45 l, 60 l and 125 l;
- b) powder-based extinguishers: 20 kg, 50 kg, 100 kg and 150 kg;
- c) carbon dioxide and clean agent extinguishers: 10 kg, 20 kg, 30 kg and 50 kg.

NOTE Other nominal capacities are allowed.

5.5.2 Gross weight

The gross weight of a wheeled fire extinguisher shall not exceed 450 kg.

6 Performance

6.1 Operating temperatures

Wheeled fire extinguishers shall be capable of operating reliably within one of the following temperature ranges:

- +5 °C to +60 °C
- 5 °C to +60 °C
- 10 °C to +60 °C
- 20 °C to +60 °C
- 30 °C to +60 °C
- 40 °C to +60 °C
- 55 °C to +60 °C

NOTE The temperature range selected from the above ranges shall be marked on the extinguisher (see 9.2.5).

6.2 Effective discharge time and bulk range of discharge

6.2.1 Effective discharge time

6.2.1.1 The effective discharge time of water-based type wheeled fire extinguishers shall be not less than 40 s or more than 210 s.

6.2.1.2 The effective discharge time of wheeled fire extinguishers with a Class A rating, except water-based types, shall be not less than 30 s.

6.2.1.3 The effective discharge time of wheeled fire extinguishers other than water-based types shall be not less than 20 s.

6.2.2 Bulk range

6.2.2.1 The bulk range of wheeled fire extinguishers with a Class A rating shall be not less than 6 m when tested in accordance with 6.2.2.2.

IMPORTANT — Exception: for water-based type wheeled fire extinguishers fitted with a spray nozzle, the bulk range may be reduced to 3 m.

6.2.2.2 Condition the extinguisher for not less than 18 h at a temperature of $(20 \pm 3) ^\circ\text{C}$ and place it in its normal operating position with the discharge nozzle held horizontally at a height of 1 m.

Fully discharge the extinguisher with the control valve fully open within 5 min of conditioning.

Record the bulk range at the time corresponding to 50 % of the effective discharge time.

NOTE If the range of effective discharge is difficult to determine visually, supplementary means, such as collection boxes for water, foam or powder extinguishers or condensing plates for carbon dioxide and clean agent extinguishers may be used.

6.3 Resistance to temperature changes

6.3.1 Requirements

Wheeled fire extinguishers shall be able to operate at temperatures between the minimum marked on the extinguisher (see 6.1) and $+60 ^\circ\text{C}$. After the test described in 6.3.2, they shall satisfy the following requirements:

- a) the extinguisher shall operate as intended;
- b) the extinguisher shall commence discharge within 5 s of the control valve being opened;
- c) not more than 10 % of the initial charge of media shall remain within the extinguisher after complete discharge.

6.3.2 Test procedure

Subject four extinguishers to the temperature cycles defined in Table 1, two extinguishers to each cycle.

Table 1 — Temperature cycles

Duration h	Cycle No. 1	Cycle No. 2 ^a
24 ± 1	Store at minimum storage ^a and use temperature (+0, -2) °C	Store at (60 ± 2) °C
24 ± 1	Store at (20 ± 5) °C	Store at (20 ± 5) °C
24 ± 1	Store at (60 ± 2) °C	Store at minimum storage and use temperature (+0, -2) °C

^a The storage temperatures refer to the ambient temperature within the conditioning chamber.

Operate the extinguisher with the control valve fully open within 5 min of its removal from the conditioning chamber.

NOTE If it is not possible to operate the extinguisher within 5 min after its removal from the conditioning chamber, suitable means, such as insulation shall be used to maintain the extinguisher at the conditioning temperature until discharge.

6.4 Retention of charge

6.4.1 Checking

6.4.1.1 Wheeled fire extinguishers and gas cartridges or cylinders shall be designed so as to permit their charge to be checked at regular intervals when they are installed.

6.4.1.2 The charge of the following types of wheeled fire extinguishers shall be measured by weighing:

- all types of gas cartridges for wheeled fire extinguishers;
- carbon dioxide wheeled fire extinguishers;
- stored pressure wheeled fire extinguishers of various types including some clean agents in which a loss of 1 % of total charged extinguisher mass is accompanied by a pressure loss of not more than 10 % of the service pressure at (20 ± 2) °C.

6.4.1.3 The charge of stored pressure wheeled fire extinguishers of types not covered by 6.4.1.2 b) and 6.4.1.2 c) and non-liquefied gas containers fitted with a gauge shall be checked by direct measurement of internal pressure at (20 ± 2) °C. For this purpose, the extinguisher shall be fitted with a pressure gauge ported into the extinguisher body.

NOTE If a connection is provided to which an independent pressure measuring appliance can be attached for checking the pressure gauge, the connection is equipped with a pressure retaining cap.

6.5 Intermittent discharge test

6.5.1 A wheeled fire extinguisher conditioned at (20 ± 5) °C and at (60 ± 2) °C shall operate in such a manner that not more than 1 s elapses from the time the control valve is operated until the extinguishing medium starts to discharge and shall cease the discharge of medium within 1 s after closing the control valve. Not more than 10 % of the initial charge remains within the extinguisher after complete discharge.

6.5.2 The test shall be conducted following conditioning at each of the temperatures specified in 6.5.1 for at least 18 h. The extinguisher shall be operated intermittently by opening and closing the control valve in cycles of 5 s open and 5 s closed until the end of discharge.

6.6 Resistance to corrosion

6.6.1 External corrosion test

Wheeled fire extinguishers shall be subjected to a salt spray test as defined in ISO 3768 for a period of 480 h and then shall be washed carefully to remove any salt deposits. Two samples shall be tested, either two of the same size or one sample each of two different sizes from the same family.

The operating forces, or energy if applicable, shall comply with the method of operation specified in 8.14.

The pressure gauge on stored pressure extinguishers shall remain watertight and functional. See 8.16.7.

There shall be no corrosion of the metal of the extinguisher likely to impair its operation or safety. Discolouration or superficial corrosion of non-ferrous materials is acceptable but galvanic corrosion between dissimilar metals is not permitted.

Test samples employing smaller extinguisher bodies are permitted to be used for this test provided they are fabricated using the same material and processes and have the same protective coatings or corrosion protection system.

The length of the discharge hose assembly is permitted to be reduced to 1,4 m for this test.

6.6.2 Internal corrosion test for water and foam extinguishers

Wheeled fire extinguishers, charged in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, shall be subjected eight times to the temperature cycle defined in Table 2.

Table 2 — Temperature cycles

Stage	Duration h	Conditioning chamber temperature °C
1	(24 ± 1)	a
2	(≥ 24)	(20 ± 5)
3	(24 ± 1)	(60 ± 5)
4	(≥ 24)	(20 ± 5)

^a Lowest temperature marked on extinguisher, (± 5) °C. See 6.1.

Test samples employing smaller extinguisher bodies are permitted to be used for this test provided they are fabricated using the same material and processes and have the same protective coatings or corrosion protection system.

A liquid bath shall not be used.

The duration of any one complete cycle shall not exceed 120 h.

On completion of the eight temperature cycles, the body shall be cut into two sections in a manner sufficient to permit internal examination. Detachment of any protective coating local to the plane of section shall be disregarded. There shall be no visible signs of corrosion of the metal or detachment, cracking, or bubbling of any protective coating. There shall be no visible change in the colour of the extinguishing media other than that resulting from the thermal cycling.