INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO **3941**

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION •МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ •ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

Classification of fires

Classes de feux

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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3941 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 21, *Equipment for fire protection and fire fighting*, and was circulated to the member bodies in August 1975.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Belgium	Israel	Sweden
Brazil	Italy	Thailand
Canada	Mexico	Turkey
Denmark	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Finland	New Zealand	U.S.S.R.
France	Norway	
Germany	Poland	

The member bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

Australia
South Africa, Rep. of
U.S.A.

Classification of fires

0 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.

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard classifies, in four categories, the different kinds of fires which can be 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.

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