
**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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

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

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 11601:2008), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous editions are as follows:

- new requirements for four clean agents have been added;
- marking requirements for water-based extinguishers found suitable for use on polar solvents has been added.

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Fire fighting — Wheeled fire extinguishers — Performance and construction

1 Scope

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

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 5923, *Equipment for fire protection and fire fighting — Fire extinguishing media — Carbon dioxide*

ISO 7165:2017, *Fire fighting — Portable fire extinguishers — Performance and construction*

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*

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

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

range of the extinguisher when 50 % of its media has been expelled

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

Class F fires involving cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats) in cooking appliances

Note 1 to entry: Class definitions are in accordance with ISO 3941.

3.7

clean agent

electrically non-conducting gaseous or vapourizing liquid fire extinguishant that does not leave residue upon evaporation

Note 1 to entry: For conductive properties and amount of residue, see [Annexes A, B, C and D](#).

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 1 to entry: 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 extinguishment

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****LOAEL**

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

<low-pressure wheeled extinguishers> 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 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,
- carbon dioxide, and
- clean agent.

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

4.2 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 International Standards covering additives added to water to produce antifreeze, wetting or other special characteristics.

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

4.4 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 [Annex A](#) for FK-5-1-12, [Annex B](#) for HCFC Blend B, [Annex C](#) for HFC-227ea or [Annex D](#) for HFC 236fa as appropriate or shall be regulated by the national environmental regulatory body of a country.

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 $-60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

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 [Annex A](#), [Annex B](#), [Annex C](#) or [Annex D](#), as appropriate.

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, 50 kg and 70 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:

- a) +5 °C to +60 °C;
- b) –5 °C to +60 °C;
- c) –10 °C to +60 °C;
- d) –20 °C to +60 °C;
- e) –30 °C to +60 °C;
- f) –40 °C to +60 °C;
- g) –55 °C to +60 °C.

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 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 maybe 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.

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 $(+0, -2) ^\circ\text{C}$	Store at $(60 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$
24 ± 1	Store at $(20 \pm 5) ^\circ\text{C}$	Store at $(20 \pm 5) ^\circ\text{C}$
24 ± 1	Store at $(60 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$	Store at minimum storage and use temperature $(+0, -2) ^\circ\text{C}$
^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.

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.