



Facilitator:

Read:



ANG Total Force Awareness Training (TFAT)
FIRE EXTINGUISHER SAFETY

OVERVIEW

- Fire Triangle and Tetrahedron
- Fire Extinguisher Ratings
- S.P.E.E.D. & P.A.S.S

Facilitator:

Read: In this course you will learn how to properly use fire extinguishers and you will develop a general understanding of fire and safety procedures.



ANG Total Force Awareness Training (TFAT) FIRE EXTINGUISHER SAFETY

Fire Triangle and Tetrahedron

- Fuel
- Heat
- Oxygen



TEC: Please insert a Picture of the Fire Triangle

Facilitator:

Read: People first learn about fire as children. They know fire consumes fuel, needs air, and gives off heat and light. Normally, that degree of understanding is all that one needs. The portable fire extinguisher, one of the most common fire protection appliances in use today, is found in fixed facilities, vehicles, special work equipment, job sites, tent cities, and fire apparatus, just to name a few. A portable fire extinguisher is excellent to use on incipient fires. In many cases, a portable extinguisher can extinguish a fire in much less time than it would take to deploy a hose line.

Most of us learn about fire at an early age. We learn what makes fire and the damage it can cause. The fire triangle is one of the most common graphics that we use to learn what is present to produce a fire.

In the past, we learned that fuel, heat and oxygen are the three elements necessary for fire to start and continue burning. Hence the fire triangle concept.

Fuel, Heat, and Oxygen are the three elements necessary for fire to start and continue burning.

Discuss:



TEC: Please see if you can find a better PIC similar to this with the same info that is not grainy.

Facilitator:

Read:

There are basically five different types or classes of fire extinguishers, each of which extinguishes specific types of fire. This system incorporates the use of letters and symbols to help users select an extinguisher suitable for the type of material involved in the fire.

Class A- Water is used for its cooling or quenching effect to reduce the temperature of the burning material below its ignition temperature.

Class B- The smothering or blanketing effect of oxygen exclusion is most effective for extinguishment. Other extinguishing methods include removal of fuel and temperature reduction when possible

Class C- A non-conducting extinguishing agent such as Halon, dry chemical, or carbon dioxide can sometimes control these fires. The

safest procedure is to first de-energize high voltage circuits and then to treat the fire as a Class A or Class B fire depending upon the fuel involved.

Class D- Special extinguishing agents are available for control of fire in each of the metals and are marked specifically for that metal. These agents are used to cover up the burning material and smother the fire.

Class K- Class K extinguishers are specifically designed to supplement fire suppression systems in kitchens. These extinguishers are designed for cooking oil, fat, and grease fires.

Multi-Class- Extinguishers suitable for more than one class of fire should be identified by multiples of the symbols A, B, and /or C. The three most common combinations are Class A-B-C, Class A-B and Class B-C. There is NO extinguisher with a Class A-C rating

Discuss:



Facilitator:

Read: When confronting a fire, it's crucial that you use **SPEED** effectively.

S.P.E.E.D. represents: Sound the Alarm, Phone the Fire Department, Evacuate the Building, Extinguish the Fire if Possible, and Direct the Fire Fighters to the Fire.

P.A.S.S. represents: Pull the pin, Aim at the base of the fire, Squeeze the top handle or lever, Sweep the nozzle from side to side.

--Make sure the fire is within reach for the particular extinguisher before discharging the extinguishing agent. Otherwise, the agent will be wasted. Smaller extinguishers require closer approach to the fire because they have less of a stream reach than do larger extinguishers.

Discuss:



Facilitator:

Read: A fire extinguisher inspection should verify that:

- The extinguisher is in its designated location
- It has not been used or tampered with
- There is no obvious physical damage or condition present to prevent its operation

Fire extinguishers should be thoroughly inspected at least once a year to ensure they are accessible and operable. Such an inspection is designed to provide maximum assurance that the extinguisher will operate effectively and safely. A thorough examination of the extinguisher determines if any repairs are necessary or if the extinguisher must be replaced.

Discuss:

Has anyone had any real world experience with putting out a fire? If so, how did it go and what would you have done differently, if anything.



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REFERENCES

- AFI 91-202 – *The US Air Force Mishap Prevention Program*
- AFI 91-203 – *Air Force Consolidated Occupational Safety Instruction*

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Discuss: You don't have time to look at the graphic on the extinguisher bottle — you need to know instinctively how to operate the fire extinguisher. It could be a matter of minor damage turning into a catastrophic event.

This course only touched the tip of fire safety — there are numerous resources where you and your family can get more info. Contact your Local Fire Department — they are there to help, educate, protect and serve.