

TABLE 43-C
EXTINGUISHERS SUITABLE FOR CLASS
B FIRES, FOR FIRES IN FLAMMABLE
LIQUIDS ¼ INCH AND UNDER IN DEPTH

<i>Type of Hazard</i>	<i>Basic Minimum Extinguisher Rating</i>	<i>Maximum Travel Distance to Extinguishers</i>
For Extinguishers Labeled Prior to June 1, 1969		
Light	4B	50 ft
Ordinary	8B	50 ft
Extra	12B	50 ft
For Extinguishers Labeled After June 1, 1969		
Light	5B	30 ft
	10B	50
Ordinary	10B	30 ft
	20B	50
Extra	20B	30 ft
	40B	50

Note For flammable liquid hazards of depth greater than ¼ in., Class B fire extinguishers shall be provided on the basis of one numerical unit of Class B extinguishing potential per square foot of flammable liquid surface of the largest tank hazard within the area

From National Fire Protection Association Standard No 10, Table 4210

the availability of the extinguisher for such protection. Scattered or widely separated hazards shall be individually protected if the specified travel distances in Table 43-C are exceeded. Likewise, extinguishers in the proximity of a hazard shall be carefully located so as to be accessible in the presence of a fire without undue danger to the operator.

- Extinguishers with Class C ratings are required where energized electrical equipment may be encountered which would require a nonconducting extinguishing media. This will include fire either directly involving or surrounding electrical equipment. Since the fire itself is a Class A or Class B hazard the extinguishers are sized and located on the basis of the anticipated Class A or B hazard.

Whenever possible, electrical equipment

should be deenergized before attacking a Class C fire.

- Extinguishers used for Class D protection and other special fires are installed according to the size and type of the special hazard. The type of combustible material, the quantity, and its physical form are all determining factors that must be considered when selecting the proper type of agent and the method of application.

Selection of extinguishers. Operating characteristics that make one type of portable fire extinguisher suitable for certain fire hazards may make the same type dangerous for others.

The purchaser and user of extinguishers should secure on-the-job advice from fire inspection bureaus, fire insurance carriers, and fire protection engineers.

Choosing the right extinguisher is extremely important. All too frequently cost is given more consideration than adequate protection. Remember, good extinguishers are worth their cost because of the protection they give. Obviously, only extinguishers listed by nationally recognized agencies such as Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or Factory Mutual Engineering Corp. should be purchased.

Although suitable types and sizes are installed in conformance with NFPA Standard No. 10, there is a certain flexibility that can be used to the purchaser's advantage. For example, if a certain condition calls for B extinguishers, the required units could be obtained by using various size dry chemical, foam or carbon dioxide (CO₂) extinguishers. The relative advantages and disadvantages of each of these units should be considered with respect to all the conditions in the area. It is also wise to investigate the relative merits of any particular extinguisher available on the market, as the UL classification can vary widely for extinguishers of the same size but of different manufacture.

The design and operating features, ease of maintenance, and the availability of repair service should be considered too. If possible, actually operating and testing the extinguisher may make a great deal of difference in the final selection.

The following discussion of portable ex-

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