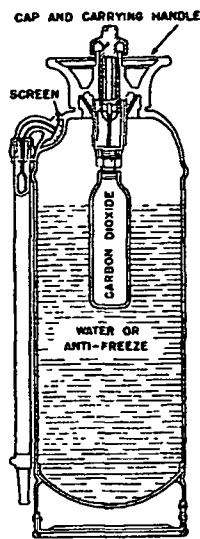


Fire Extinguishment and Control

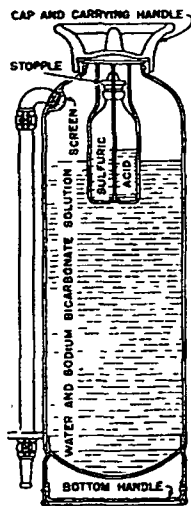


Operation Contains a small metal cylinder of carbon dioxide gas under pressure. To release the gas, which provides the pressure to expel the water, invert the extinguisher and bump it gently on the floor while holding it by the bottom handle. (In some models, bumping is not necessary because the weight of the gas cartridge causes it to fall against a puncturing device.) Direct the stream at the base of the fire, then follow up after the flames while working from side-to-side or around the fire if possible.

Maintenance. Annually inspect for corrosion of shell, proper liquid level, defects in rubber gasket, clogging or damage to hose or nozzle, and bent discharge elbow. Weigh the gas cartridge, replace if it has lost $\frac{1}{2}$ oz of the weight stamped on the shell. See that cartridge slides freely in its cage when inverted. After use, simply refill with water or antifreeze solution.

Caution. Protect from freezing. Do not charge unit above the level mark because unless the gas has room to expand, it may burst the shell. Do not refill with loaded-stream charge unless extinguisher is designated as loaded-stream type.

FIG 36-13 – Gas cartridge water extinguisher. May be labeled “loaded stream” if charged with a special alkali-metal salt solution instead of water.



Operation. Invert extinguisher, hold by bottom handle. The lead stopple will drop from the bottle and allow the two chemicals to mix. CO_2 gas will be generated and will supply the pressure necessary to discharge contents through the hose and nozzle. Direct the stream at the base of the fire, then follow up after the flames while working from side-to-side or around the fire if possible.

Maintenance. Periodic external inspection and yearly discharge and recharge. During recharge, check hose and nozzle for obstructions and defects, bent discharge elbow, corrosion, or other mechanical injury, and thoroughly wash out metal shell, hose, and nozzle. Mix sodium bicarbonate and water solution in separate, clean container and strain into extinguisher. The loose-fitting lead stopple must be on acid bottle to reduce hygroscopic action.

Caution. Store in heated cabinet because antifreeze solution cannot be used to protect from temperatures below 40 F, do not subject to temperatures above 120 F.

FIG 36-14 – Soda-acid fire extinguisher