

## Section: Fire Prevention

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**REVISION #1** 

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

#### PURPOSE

All workers must understand the fire prevention regulations for all worksites and vehicles.

#### SCOPE

## **Fire Emergency Responsibilities**

Regular inspection of all worksites is done to minimize any unusual fire hazards that may be present. All measures are taken to ensure that these hazards are removed or controlled. Special emphasis is placed on housekeeping and storage practices.

At DBRMX worksites, regular monthly safety inspections are conducted.

At the DBRMX office, monthly safety inspections are conducted as well as fire inspections conducted by professional third-party technicians.

## **Employee Procedures for Fire Emergencies**

- 1. Exit the fire area immediately
- 2. If possible, confine the fire by closing the door in the fire area. Close all doors when exiting.
- 3. Activate the fire alarm (only applicable at office)
- 4. Call 911
- 5. Go to the designated muster point

#### Supervisors:

- 1. Clear the area of all other personnel and visitors, instruct all employees and visitors to evacuate the area.
- 2. Delegate a responsible person to call 911 if not done already
- 3. Ensure that all employees and visitors have evacuated the area and assembled at the predetermined muster point.
- 4. Take count of all employees and visitors to ensure that everyone is present.
- 5. Act as a liaison to emergency service personnel.
- 6. Wait for instruction by emergency authorities before re-entering the work area.
- 7. Complete any required documentation

At the office building, a Fire Safety Plan has been developed. This plan details the fire prevention and protection devices and procedures for the building, including:

- Emergency contacts
- Procedures in case of fire
- Fire extinguishers
- First aid kits
- Fire alarm system: pull stations, heat detectors, smoke detectors, hose cabinets, 24-hour monitoring, emergency lighting
- Fire drills and logs
- Building diagrams



## FIRE PREVENTION

#### Fire extinguishers at worksites must be:

- readily accessible in marked locations
- inspected regularly
- promptly refilled after use

#### Extinguishers must be located:

- where flammable materials are stored, handled or used
- where temporary oil or gas fired equipment is being used
- where welding or open flame cutting is being done
- in mobile equipment

Fire extinguishers are classified according to their capacity to fight specific kinds of fire:

Class A – for fires in ordinary combustible materials such as wood and paper where you need a quenching, cooling effect.

Class B – for flammable liquid and gas fires such as oil, gasoline, paint, and grease where you need oxygen exclusion or flame interruption.

Class C – for fires involving electrical wiring and equipment where you need a non-conductive extinguishing agent.

Class D – for fires in combustible metals such as sodium, magnesium, and potassium.

## For most operations, a 4A40BC extinguisher is required.

## **Containing the Fire**

All fires can be very dangerous and life-threatening. Your safety should always be your first priority when attempting to fight a fire.

#### Before deciding to fight a fire, be certain that:

- 1. The fire is small and not spreading. A fire can double in size within two or three minutes.
- 2. You have the proper fire extinguisher for what is burning.
- 3. The fire won't block your exit if you can't control it. A good way to ensure this is to keep the exit at your back.
- 4. You know your fire extinguisher works. Inspect extinguishers once a month
- 5. You know how to use your fire extinguisher. There's not enough time to read instructions when a fire occurs.

#### How to Fight a Fire Safely:

- 1. Always stand with an exit at your back.
- 2. Stand several feet away from the fire, moving closer once the fire starts to diminish.
- 3. Use a sweeping motion and aim at the base of the fire.
- 4. If possible, use a "buddy system" to have someone back you up or call for help if something goes wrong.
- 5. Be sure to watch the area for a while to ensure it doesn't re-ignite.

#### **Never** Fight A Fire If:

1. The fire is spreading rapidly. Only use a fire extinguisher when the fire is in its early stages. If the fire is already spreading quickly, evacuate and call the fire department.



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# **FIRE PREVENTION**

- 2. You don't know what is burning. Unless you know what is burning, you won't know what type of fire extinguisher to use. Even if you have an ABC extinguisher, there could be something that will explode or produce highly toxic smoke.
- 3. You don't have the proper fire extinguisher. The wrong type of extinguisher can be dangerous or life-threatening.
- 4. There is too much smoke or you are at risk of inhaling smoke. Seven out of ten fire-related deaths occur from breathing poisonous gases produced by the fire.

When using an extinguisher remember...

- **P** Pull the pin
- A Aim the nozzle low at base of fire
- **S** Squeeze the handle
- S Sweep back and forth at base of fire

Once you've discharged an extinguisher, report it immediately to your supervisor.

#### Inspections:

A competent worker must inspect the fire extinguishers at least monthly and shall record the date of the inspection on the tag attached to it. Annual maintenance inspections will be completed by a 3rd party technician.

#### Check that:

- it is well supported; all hangers are fastened solidly;
- it is properly charged (read pressure gauge);
- the discharge opening is clear;
- the ring pin is attached properly;
- the inspection tag is attached and current and
- there are no apparent defects

#### REQUIREMENTS

#### Legislation:

Mining Regulations 854, S. 41

#### **Training:**

- All workers will review this section during new worker orientations. Office staff will also review the building "Fire Safety Plan"
- Every worker who may be required to use a fire extinguisher will be trained in its use. This section of the program will be reviewed with all workers.



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