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PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD

RULES FOR CLASSIFICATION, FIRE TESTING AND RATING OF PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

PRODUCT STANDARDS AGENCY
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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Foreword

This Philippine National Standard was prepared by the Product Standards Agency and its Technical Committee on Fire Protection and Fire Fighting Equipment, PSA/TC 2.

This standard was formulated to develop a system of classification and rating of fire extinguishers by fire test in order that an extinguishing medium could be given a rating appropriate to the class of fire. The ultimate rating of an extinguisher or its prescribed use is based on its fire-extinguishing potential as determined by the appropriate fire test.
The Committee considered that water type extinguishers should have a classification and rating alloted without an actual fire test, provided that such extinguishers conformed to the appropriate design and performance requirements for capacity, effective range and duration of discharge. For Class A extinguishers, only the wood crib test fire is included in the standard.

In the preparation of this standard reference was made to the following:

AS 1850: 1981, Australian Standard, Portable Fire Extinguishers-Classification, Rating and Fire Testing

A N S I / U L 711:1977 American National Standard Institute/ Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., Standard for Rating and Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishers

Rules for Classification, Fire Testing and Rating of Portable Fire Extinguishers

Section One - Scope, Application, Classification And Rating

1 Scope

This standard gives rules for classification, fire testing and rating of fire extinguishers used in attacking fires as classified in clause 4.

2 Application

The materials, method of manufacture and performance requirements of the extinguisher shall conform with PNS 15:1983.

3 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

4 Classification

Extinguishers shall be classified by letter(s) designating the general class or classes of fire for which the extinguisher has been found to be effective.

For the purpose of classification the following letters apply:

4.1 Class A - Fires in ordinary combustible materials such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber and plastics.

4.2 Class B - Fires in flammable liquids, gases and greases.

4.3 Class C - Fires which involve energized electrical equipment where the electrical non-conductivity of the extinguishing medium is of importance.

4.4 Class D - Fires in combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium, sodium and potassium.

5 Rating

Extinguishers shall be rated by numeral designation in which the numeral indicates the approximate relative extinguishing potential of the extinguisher under prescribed test conditions (see section two).