



YACHT TIPS

Fire Extinguisher Commissioning & Service

How to Commission & Service a portable fire extinguisher

Guidance on how to commission and carryout a basic service on a portable dry powder extinguisher

ANCHOR MARINE SURVEYS

tim@anchormarinesurveys.co.uk

Tel: 07973 836499

COMMISSIONING: Dry powder extinguisher – stored pressure

The extinguisher manufacturer's service instructions must be read in conjunction with these procedures. If there is any variance, the manufacturer's instructions should take precedence.

1. Check the safety pin/clip and tamper indicating device to ensure that the extinguisher has not been operated.
2. Examine the extinguisher body externally for corrosion or damage that could impair the safe function of the extinguisher.
3. Ensure the operating labels are correct, in good condition, legible and printed in English.
4. Check the condition of the discharge hose and nozzle making sure that it meets the manufacturer's specifications. Fit to the extinguisher head cap if the discharge hose is supplied loose, checking that if appropriate O-ring is in place.
5. Check the pressure indicating device – where fitted. If the needle is not moving freely or the pressure is showing to be outside the normal operating range, return to the manufacturer for replacement. Fit a dust cover on the lens ensuring that it does not obscure the needle.
6. Weigh the extinguisher to check that the weight corresponds with the manufacturer's specifications. Return to the manufacturer for replacement if there is a loss in content of 10% or more.
7. With an extinguisher that can have the head cap removed without the loss of pressure and the contents being discharged, carefully remove the head cap and inspect the operating mechanism for free movement.
8. Remove the safety pin/clip and tamper indicating device. Check for free movement of the safety pin/clip and replace if necessary. Check that the operating lever freely operates and is not damaged.
9. Refit the safety pin/clip to the head cap and seal with a tamper indicator. Replace the pin/clip if it is designed to show that the extinguisher has been operated e.g., a plastic frangible pin.
10. Affix the maintenance label to the extinguisher body avoiding covering instruction labels with;
 - technicians name or identification mark
 - date (month & year) of service
 - mass of extinguisher in kg's
 - type of work carried out i.e., commissioning service
11. Wipe extinguisher down with a cloth.
12. Install the extinguisher using a proprietary stand or wall bracket, according to the customer's wishes. If an existing wall hanging bracket is to be utilised check it is appropriate for use and is secure.
13. Fit an extinguisher ID sign and if one is already in place check that it is appropriate for the extinguisher.
14. 14. Fill in the inspection report advising the responsible person of your actions and any recommendations.

BASIC SERVICE – Dry powder portable extinguisher – stored pressure

The extinguisher manufacturer's service instructions must be read in conjunction with these procedures. If there is any variance, the manufacturer's instructions should take precedence.

1. Check the maintenance label to be sure that the extinguisher is not due extended service.
2. Check the safety pin/clip and tamper indicating device to ensure that the extinguisher has not been operated.
3. Examine the extinguisher body externally for corrosion or damage that could impair the safe function of the extinguisher, in particular scrutinising the plastic head cap (if fitted) for signs of UV degradation.
4. Ensure the operating labels are correct, in good condition, legible and printed in English.
5. Check the condition of the discharge hose and nozzle making sure that it meets the manufacturer's specifications.
6. Weigh the extinguisher to check that the weight corresponds with the manufacturer's specifications and the recorded weight when first commissioned or last recharged (discharge and recharge if there is a loss of content of 10% or more).
7. With an extinguisher that can have the head cap removed without the loss of pressure and the contents being discharged, carefully remove the head cap and inspect the operating mechanism for free movement.
8. Check the pressure indicating device – where fitted. If the needle is not moving freely or the pressure is showing to be outside the normal operating range remove the extinguisher from service and refer to manufacturer's instructions for guidance. Fit a dust cover on the lens ensuring that this does not obscure the needle.
9. Remove the discharge hose and check that it is free from obstruction, cracks and damage. Pass air through the discharge hose checking for blockages.
10. Remove the safety pin/clip and tamper indicating device. Check for free movement of the safety pin/clip and replace if necessary. Check that the operating lever freely operates and is not damaged.
11. Refit the safety pin/clip to the head cap and seal with a tamper indicator. Replace the pin/clip if it is designed to show that the extinguisher has been operated e.g., a plastic frangible pin.
12. Fill in the maintenance label with;
 - technicians name or identification mark
 - date (month & year) of service
 - mass of extinguisher in kg's - *or the difference in weight to that when first commissioned*
 - type of work carried out i.e., basic service
 - dates (month & year) originally commissioned and the last extended service/overhaul was conducted
13. Wipe extinguisher down with a cloth.
14. Examine the stand or the security of the wall hanging bracket and rectify any faults.
15. Check that the extinguisher ID sign is in place and appropriate for the extinguisher.
16. Fill in the inspection report advising the responsible person of your actions, the state of maintenance and your recommendations (if any).