

Unit of Competency

CPPFES2021 Inspect, test and maintain fire extinguishers

Modification history

Release	Comments
1	Supersedes and is equivalent to CPPFES2021A Inspect, test and maintain fire extinguishers. Unit updated to meet the Standards for Training Packages 2012. Updated licensing statement. This version first released with CPP Property Services Training Package Release 13.0.

Application

This unit of competency specifies the skills and knowledge required to inspect, test and maintain fire extinguishers at client premises. Service activities relate to the additional and permitted inspection, testing and preventive maintenance of fire extinguishers conducted only at three, five and six-yearly intervals according to the current Australian Standard for the maintenance of fire protection systems and equipment.

The unit includes repairing and servicing extinguisher valves and internal components, recharging or refilling extinguishers, and hydrostatic pressure testing of suitable extinguishers. It does not cover hydrostatic pressure testing of carbon dioxide or wheeled extinguishers which can only be tested at an approved gas cylinder test station.

The unit is suitable for those with basic skills and knowledge undertaking routine work tasks under the direction of more experienced workers.

Ozone depleting substances (ODS) and synthetic greenhouse gases (SGG) are gaseous fire-extinguishing agents listed in Schedule 1 of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989 and by law, can only be handled by people who hold an appropriate extinguishing agent handling licence (EAHL). This unit supports one or more EAHLs prescribed under the Act. For further information, check with the relevant regulatory authority.

Unit Sector

Fire Protection Inspection and Testing

Elements and Performance Criteria

1. Plan and prepare for service operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Read work instructions to clarify service timeframes, client needs, and site and equipment locations.1.2 Discuss planned service procedures with relevant persons to clarify client needs and expectations.1.3 Plan work activities to prevent ODS and SGG emissions and comply with relevant Australian Standards, regulatory, work health and safety (WHS) and workplace requirements.1.4 Identify potential and actual breaches of rules and regulations associated with work instructions and take required action to ensure compliance according to regulatory and workplace requirements.1.5 Select and use required spare parts, tools and equipment,
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	<p>including personal protective equipment (PPE).</p> <p>1.6 Arrange access to worksite and communicate with responsible entity and affected persons to advise duration and impact of planned service procedures and to ensure alternative safety arrangements are implemented.</p> <p>1.7 Identify and prepare to control hazards in the work area according to workplace requirements.</p>
2. Inspect and test fire extinguishers.	<p>2.1 Inspect and test fire extinguishers according to relevant Australian Standards, regulatory and workplace requirements.</p> <p>2.2 Inspect and maintain wheeled extinguisher carriage assemblies according to relevant Australian Standards.</p> <p>2.3 Rebuild extinguisher valve according to manufacturer requirements and relevant Australian Standards.</p> <p>2.4 Replace extinguisher valve according to manufacturer requirements and relevant Australian Standards.</p>
3. Finalise service operation.	<p>3.1 Complete service records and report outstanding defects and recommended rectifications according to Australian Standards, regulatory and workplace requirements.</p> <p>3.2 Check tools and equipment for faults, wear or damage and rectify or report problems according to workplace requirements.</p> <p>3.3 Leave client premises in a clean and tidy condition.</p>

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to CPPFES2021A Inspect, test and maintain fire extinguishers.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide:

<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=6f3f9672-30e8-4835-b348-205dfcf13d9b>

Assessment Requirements for CPPFES2021 Inspect, test and maintain fire extinguishers

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Performance Evidence

To demonstrate competency, a candidate must meet the elements and performance criteria of this unit by inspecting, testing and maintaining ten fire extinguishers involving three of the following types:

- water
- foam
- dry chemical
- wet chemical.

Knowledge Evidence

To be competent in this unit, a candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- action to take when a breach of regulation, work health and safety (WHS) or other policy occurs when inspecting, testing and maintaining fire extinguishers
- concept of hydrostatic pressure testing
- dangers of mixing powder extinguishing agents within extinguishers
- disposal requirements for waste products from recharging and testing procedures
- key features of legislation, regulations, codes and Australian Standards relevant to inspecting, testing and maintaining fire extinguishers:
 - environmental protection associated with discharge of foam and vaporising liquid agents that are listed as ozone depleting substances (ODS) and synthetic greenhouse gases (SGG)
 - key procedures and licence requirements detailed in ODS and SGG code of practice relevant to handling, transporting, inspecting and testing extinguishers with ODS and SGG agents
 - maintenance schedules
 - records and documentation
- implications of applying incorrect servicing procedures
- implications of not complying with regulatory requirements when inspecting, testing and maintaining fire extinguishers
- methods for handling, decanting, reclaiming and storing extinguishing agents
- methods for identifying:
 - componentry and agent fill requirements for an extinguisher to be maintained at original approval requirements

- o containers that do not comply with applicable Australian Standards, regulations and codes
 - o different powder extinguishing agents
 - o spare parts for extinguishers serviced, including how and where the spare part is applied
- purpose and operation of major extinguisher components
- reasons and methods for preventing ODS and SGG emissions in the workplace
- test pressures for different extinguishers
- types and purpose of tools and equipment used when inspecting, testing and maintaining fire extinguishers:
 - o hand and power tools
 - o hydrostatic test equipment
 - o recharge equipment
 - o safety cages
 - o scales
 - o personal protective equipment (PPE)
- types of permitted inspection and testing activities specified in the three, five and six-yearly maintenance schedules for fire extinguishers:
 - o inspecting the condition of all parts for damage, corrosion and blockages
 - o testing the discharge action and actuating devices
 - o depressurising and dismantling extinguishers
 - o repairing and replacing components and seals
 - o hydrostatic pressure testing of extinguishers as permitted
 - o reassembling, filling or recharging, pressurising and leak testing extinguishers
 - o reinstating extinguishers ready for use
- workplace requirements for inspecting, testing and maintaining fire extinguishers:
 - o maintenance of tools and equipment
 - o WHS, including hazard and risk identification and control.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must meet the requirements for assessors contained in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations.

Assessment must be conducted in the workplace or a simulated workplace using realistic conditions, materials, activities, responsibilities, procedures, safety requirements and environmental considerations.

Candidates must have access to documentation, tools, equipment, spare parts and fire extinguishers required to achieve the performance evidence.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide:

<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=6f3f9672-30e8-4835-b348-205dfcf13d9b>