
British Standard

Recharging fire extinguishers

(manufactured to BS 5423 'Specification for portable fire extinguishers')

Part 1. Specification for procedure and materials

Extincteurs d'incendie rechargeables
(selon BS 5423 'Spécification des extincteurs d'incendie portatifs')
Partie 1. Mode opératoire et matériaux — Spécifications

Aufladelöschers
(nach BS 5423 'Spezifikation für tragbare Feuerlöscher')
Teil 1. Verfahren und Löschmittel

Confirmed January 2010

Foreword

This Part of BS 6643, published under the direction of the Fire Standards Committee, is complementary to and amplifies the brief recommendations for the recharging of extinguishers complying with BS 5423 given in BS 5306 : Part 3. The procedures and requirements of this standard may to a large extent be applied to extinguishers still in service that comply with British Standards now withdrawn.

Portable fire extinguishers correctly maintained and serviced can have a long service life and may be recharged after use several times during that life. The use of incorrect refill chemicals or recharging procedures can result in the recharged extinguisher having a performance lower than when originally charged, and insufficient to meet service needs and the requirements of this standard when the recharged extinguisher is returned to service. In drafting the requirements of this standard, account has been taken of the need to maintain fire extinguishing performance and safety in particular and, in so far as it is possible, to provide a means of assessing the equivalence of recharged and new extinguishers.

This standard specifies that materials used for recharging be as specified by the extinguisher manufacturer or comply with British Standards for extinguishing media. There is no British Standard for extinguishing powders and BS 6643 : Part 2 specifies requirements and describes test methods to demonstrate the equivalence of powder refill charges to the original powder charge.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.