



# Toolbox TALK

## FIRE EXTINGUISHER BASICS

Fire extinguishers are a critical tool for stopping small fires before they grow. Extinguishers are designed to fight fires up to the size of a small trash can. For larger fires, evacuate and call 9-1-1.

When using a common ABC dry-chemical fire extinguisher, remember PASS:

- P PULL.** Pull the pin to arm the fire extinguisher. Do not grasp the handles too tightly while removing the pin, as it will make the pin harder to get out. Once the pin is removed, the fire extinguisher is ready.
- A AIM.** Aim the fire extinguisher toward the fire's base, where the fuel and oxygen are most concentrated. Aim is critical. A typical 10-pound fire extinguisher will only last 15 to 18 seconds at full blast, so accuracy is key.
- S SQUEEZE.** Slowly squeeze the handles together to initiate flow. Start gently so as not to interfere with your aim.
- S SWEEP.** Sweep the nozzle side to side, evenly applying the chemical extinguishing agent to the fire's base.

A fire that appears extinguished can sometimes reignite unexpectedly. Remain ready with an extinguisher in case the fire flares up again, and continue wetting the area with water to ensure the fire stays out.

Ensure you have a safe exit route if you choose to use an extinguisher. In the event the fire is blocking an exit, use the extinguisher to get yourself to safety. Property can be replaced, lives cannot.



Date:

### ATTENDANCE RECORD

SUPERVISOR:

CREW MEMBERS PRESENT:

COMMENTS/FEEDBACK: