INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE FOR PYROGUARD PORTABLE REFILLABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS – SANS 1910

1. Safety warning

1.1. Before servicing ensure fire extinguisher is completely de-pressurized.
1.2. Never have any part of your body over the extinguisher while removing the valve body.
1.3. Use a protective cage when pressurizing the fire extinguisher, having a protective shield between you and the pressure gauge while charging an extinguisher.
1.4. Only pressurise stored pressure extinguishers with dry nitrogen from a cylinder with a regulator set at no more than 1400kPa. Never pressurise without a regulator.
1.5. Inspect and calibrate regulator gauge at frequent intervals. The regulator gauge should be used to determine when the intended charging pressure has been reached. Do not use the extinguisher indicator for this purpose as this only gives an estimate of the inherent pressure within the extinguisher.
1.6. Do not recharge an extinguisher with a mixture of different types or brands of dry chemical powder, this may result in a chemical reaction capable of developing a dangerous pressure build-up and formation of moisture resulting in caking of the dry chemical powder.
1.7. Never convert an extinguisher by recharging with any type of agent other than that for which it was designed.

2. Inspection and Maintenance

2.1. Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993; Vessels Under Pressure Regulations, section 11; Hand-held fire extinguishers

2.1.1. It is a legal requirement of the Occupation Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993; that all extinguishers shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and SANS 1475.

2.2. Periodic Inspection Procedures

2.2.1. Inspection is a quick inspection to ascertain the readiness of the fire extinguisher
2.2.2. Fire extinguisher is located in designated place
2.2.3. No obstructions to access or visibility to fire extinguisher
2.2.4. Safety seal not broken
2.2.5. Determine extinguisher weight as per full weight requirements as depicted on instruction label
2.2.6. Inspect discharge hose ensuring free from any obstruction and defects
2.2.7. Inspect extinguisher for corrosion, physical damage, paint and instruction label condition
2.2.8. Pressure indicator reading is in the required area
2.2.8.1. Verification of pressure indicators – SANS 1910: 2009 5.11 A pressure indicator shall have an acceptable means of allowing its effective operation to be verified without the loss of any pressure from the extinguisher
2.2.8.2. Use a gauge tester pump to test the integrity of the extinguishers pressure indicator
2.2.8.3. On pressure indicator check indicator pointer is in green operable area
2.2.8.4. Support extinguisher and mate the gauge tester pump to pressure indicator with the pump rubber aperture against indicator locating round the orifice in plastic lens window
2.2.8.5. Maintain a seal against the indicator lens window and pressurise the indicator with a pumping action
2.2.8.6. The indicator pointer should be seen to deflect anti-clockwise and return at each stroke. This verifies pressure indicator is operating freely and reading is in operable area