



# State Fire Marshal Policy

## Servicing Rules and Regulations Portable Fire Extinguishers

May 9, 2011  
Policy No. 11-004

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### **SCOPE:**

This Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) policy applies to the servicing of portable fire extinguishers by all fire equipment dealers licensed in South Carolina.

### **PURPOSE:**

To regulate the proper servicing of all portable fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 10, Underwriter Laboratories and the manufacturers service manuals.

### **BACKGROUND:**

State Fire Marshal Rules and Regulations require portable fire extinguishers to be serviced in accordance with NFPA 10 and the manufacturers' service and maintenance manual for each type portable extinguisher. Each portable fire extinguisher is listed by Underwriters Laboratories as part of the "listing" process. In order to maintain its listing, each portable extinguisher must undergo annual maintenance by a South Carolina licensed fire equipment dealer and be maintained in accordance with the portable fire extinguisher manufacturers service and maintenance manual and NFPA 10.

### **Previous Concerns regarding obsolete portable extinguishers:**

Previous memorandums issued by the OSFM required that certain brands of portable fire extinguishers be removed from service during the next six-year maintenance or if the hydrostatic test is due, whichever comes first. By this policy, the OSFM will allow all portable extinguishers to continue in service as long as all requirements for service and maintenance is in conformance to OSFM applicable codes and standards (IFC and NFPA 10).

### **Disclaimer:**

*The S.C. State Fire Marshal's policies or interpretations are located on the State Fire Marshal's website:*  
<http://www.scfiremarshal.llronline.com>

*No other interpretation regarding this specific issue should be considered valid, unless located on the website.*