Fire Extinguishers Stats and Facts

FACTS

- Proper inspection, maintenance, and disposal of fire extinguishers can prevent potentially dangerous malfunctions.
- 2. All rechargeable-type fire extinguishers should be recharged after any use or when the need is indicated by an inspection or servicing.
- 3. Environmental forces and intentional acts may cause problems with extinguishers.
- 4. A tamper-evident fire extinguisher cabinet can protect against the impacts of moisture and sunlight.
- Responsible parties must ensure that extinguishers are protected in a way that doesn't limit access in an emergency.
- 6. Cabinets housing fire extinguishers should not be locked, except where fire extinguishers are subject to malicious use and cabinets include a means of emergency access.
- 7. Risks to extinguishers may prompt more rigorous weekly or daily inspections focused on damage.
- 8. Only trained professionals should maintain or recharge extinguishers.
- 9. Acting on inspections with subsequent maintenance can prevent or rectify problems with extinguishers.

STATS

- Fire extinguishers can effectively put out 80% of all fires, even if the extinguisher is classified as a portable unit. When a fire extinguisher is used on a fire in the United States, 75% of the time, the fire department is not required to attend the incident.
- In 60% of all fire incidents which occur, the fire

- department is never notified if a fire extinguisher is present and accessible. Almost 2 million fires are handled entirely by a fire extinguisher in the U.S. every year.
- Data in Europe on fire extinguisher use is similar to data generated in the United States. In 2,600 tracked incidents, 81.5% of incidents with a portable fire extinguisher resulted in a fire being extinguished. In 74.6% of the incidents, the fire department was not required.