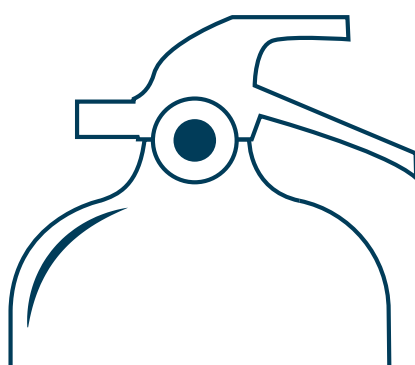


**Guidance
Note**



Fire Industry Association



Fire Extinguisher Advice Guide 2
Passenger Transport
Coaches, Buses and Mini-Buses

This is information for FIA members and customers who have to determine the scale of provision of portable fire extinguishers on passenger transport such as coaches, buses or mini-buses. As British Standard BS 5306-8 is relevant to premises only, the FIA has sought advice from appropriate sources.

Source Information	Legislation/Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Confederation of Passenger Transport UK • The Community Transport Association 	<p>The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment, Use and Certification) Regulations 1981 (s) 35 as amended by Statutory instruments 1989: 2359 and 1995: 305</p>
Requirements	
<p>At least one portable fire extinguisher must be carried on every minibus, bus or coach. This requirement is irrespective of seating capacity or vehicle size.</p> <p>The Safety of Passengers in Wheelchairs on Buses Code of Practice (VSE 87/1) recommends that at least two fire extinguishers are carried on any wheelchair-accessible bus.</p> <p>The extinguisher must contain water or foam. Powder is not permitted. The extinguisher must have a minimum test fire rating of 8A or 21B.</p> <p>The extinguisher must comply with BS EN 3 and must be clearly marked with the Standard number.</p> <p>The extinguisher location and mounting method is not specified.</p> <p>The extinguisher must be maintained in efficient working order and be readily available for use at all times.</p> <p>The vehicle will fail its annual test if the extinguisher is missing, it is the incorrect type or inaccessible, discharged or in obviously poor condition.</p> <p>If any of these fault conditions are found during a roadside check, an inspection notice will be issued.</p>	

FIA member customers are advised to meet these requirements by:

Product	Process and People
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilising small-capacity, stored-pressure foam extinguishers which have a fire rating of 5A or 8A with an additional class B fire-rating. 2. Ensuring the extinguisher is manufactured to EN 3 with CE and BSI Kitemark (or equivalent) to show compliance. 3. Ensuring extinguishers are mounted inside a bespoke 'transport' bracket which <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. secures the extinguisher to the vehicle and b. incorporates a quick-release, circumferential, securing-strap, to prevent the extinguisher from being ejected from its bracket during more violent vehicle movement. This avoids personal injury to staff and passengers, and also avoids damage to the extinguisher itself. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Ensuring extinguishers are easily accessible and easy to release from the stowage. 5. Carrying out a visual inspection, at least weekly, to check: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Each is correctly located, unobstructed and visible, and that tamper indicators are neither missing nor broken. b. The operating instructions are clean, legible and facing outwards. c. Each extinguisher has not been operated or suffered damage. These results of these checks should be recorded. 6. Ensuring extinguishers are subject to a suitable maintenance regime carried out by a competent person, in accordance with BS 5306-3, under an FIA member service contract to ensure continued serviceability. 7. Consideration should be given to the risk of vandalism when assessing the positioning of an extinguisher inside a passenger carrying vehicle.

DISCLAIMER

The information set out in this document is believed to be correct in the light of information currently available but it is not guaranteed and neither the Fire Industry Association nor its officers can accept any responsibility in respect of the contents or any events arising from use of the information contained within this document.



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