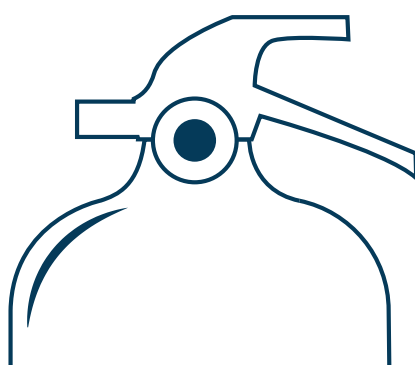


**Guidance  
Note**



**Fire Industry Association**



**Fire Extinguisher Advice Guide 4**  
**Filling Stations: Forecourts**

This is information for FIA members and their customers, who have to determine the scale of provision of portable fire extinguishers on the forecourts of filling stations that dispense petroleum products (including petrol, diesel, autogas (also known as LPG)) and biofuels used as fuels for motor vehicles.

It is noted that the scale of provision of portable fire extinguishers for filling stations' premises, including shop areas and workshops, should be in accordance with the British Standard BS 5306-8 and the customer's fire risk assessment. This document offers no other guidance as to the scale of provision of portable fire extinguishers in any other areas of filling stations, other than on the forecourts.

Source Information	Legislation/Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Red Guide</i> (CFOA document <i>Petrol Filling Stations Guidance on Managing the Risks of Fire &amp; Explosion</i>).</li> <li>• The <i>Blue Guide</i> (<i>Design, Construction, Modification, Maintenance and Decommissioning of Filling Stations</i> third edition) (Revised June 2011, jointly published by the Association for Petroleum and Explosives Administration (APEA) and the Energy Institute (EI). ISBN 978 0 85293 600 9).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002.</li> <li>• Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928.</li> <li>• Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003.</li> <li>• Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929.</li> <li>• Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (Fire Safety Order).</li> <li>• The Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006, and the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.</li> <li>• The Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006.</li> </ul>
Requirements	
<p>Under the Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002, filling stations are required to undertake DSEAR risk assessments and, under the Petroleum Consolidation Act, be licensed by the relevant Petrol Licensing Authority (PLA), which will seek to ensure that the necessary safety standards are observed and maintained.</p> <p>Furthermore, the above more general fire safety legislation also applies to the forecourts of filling stations and further require that the responsible person ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant premises are 'equipped with appropriate means for fighting fire' (Article 13 of Part 2, paragraph (1)(a) of the Fire Safety Order).</li> <li>• Any such equipment is 'subject to a suitable system of maintenance and is maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair' (Article 17 of Part 2, paragraph (1) of the Fire Safety Order).</li> </ul> <p>Similar provisions apply under the Northern Ireland regulations.</p> <p>The above mentioned guidance, the <i>Red Guide</i> and <i>Blue Guide</i>, make recommendations for appropriate minimum levels of equipment.</p>	

FIA member customers are advised to meet these requirements by:

Product	Process and People
<p>1. Utilising BS EN3 ABC powder portable fire extinguishers with capacities of 6kg or greater. These should number no less than one extinguisher per two fuel (or multi-fuel) dispensers, subject to a minimum of two extinguishers.</p> <p>2. Utilising bucket(s) of sand (or similar sorbent material). Such buckets should have a lid and means of application. There should be no less than one such bucket per two fuel (or multi-fuel) dispensers.</p> <p>3. Ensuring all such above equipment is located:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conspicuously so that it can be seen from the dispensing areas.</li> <li>• In a position where it is readily available for use by both the forecourt staff and the general public at all times, when the filling station is open.</li> <li>• A safe distance from the potentially wetted areas, should any spillages or leakages occur when the dispensers are in use (but within the 10m Class B recommended distance of BS 5306-8).</li> <li>• Preferably not on a dispenser island or locations where it may be subject to theft or misuse.</li> </ul> <p>4. Compliance with the above can often be easily achieved by the provision of suitably located mobile fire points.</p> <p>5. Alternatively, where located in a cabinet, either the enclosure should be clearly marked to indicate the equipment it contains, and/or the door should be fully glazed to facilitate sight of the equipment.</p>	<p>6. Ensuring that a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment is undertaken and reviewed regularly, and as required. Any additional requirements of the fire risk assessment in respect of fire extinguishers, should be properly implemented.</p> <p>7. Ensuring that staff (and any other relevant persons) receive training (including the use of fire fighting equipment) that is adequate, suitable and sufficient. Such training should be provided at the start of their employment and whenever there are new or increased risks, and be repeated periodically where appropriate.</p> <p>8. Ensuring extinguishers are easily accessible and easy to release from the stowage.</p> <p>9. Carrying out a visual inspection, at least weekly, to check:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Each is correctly located, unobstructed and visible, and that tamper indicators are neither missing nor broken.</li> <li>b. The operating instructions are clean, legible and facing outwards</li> <li>c. Each extinguisher has not been operated, suffered damage or has parts that are missing.</li> <li>d. Any pressure gauge readings are within the operational and safety limits for each extinguisher.</li> </ol> <p>The results of these checks should be recorded and any necessary corrective action taken. Where necessary, or if in doubt, any such corrective actions should be undertaken by an FIA member.</p> <p>10. Extinguishers located in filling station forecourts may be particularly prone to corrosion and vandalism. Accordingly, particular care should be taken in the selection of fittings and in the inspection of such extinguishers (see points 8 and 9 above).</p> <p>11. 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.</p>

**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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