Fire Extinguishers, Commercial Motor Vehicles

Regulatory Citation: 49 CFR 393.95(a)(1) - Emergency equipment on all power units

What It Is: Standard requires emergency equipment in commercial motor vehicles.

Who It Applies To: Every motor carrier and its employees.

Origination Date: 12-15-1968

Overview

Every power unit must be equipped with a fire extinguisher that is properly filled and located so that it is readily accessible for use. The fire extinguisher must be securely mounted on the vehicle to prevent sliding, rolling or vertical movement. The fire extinguisher must be designed, constructed and maintained to permit visual determination of whether it is fully charged. Each fire extinguisher must be labeled or marked by the manufacturer with its Underwriters' Laboratories rating.

A power unit that is used to transport hazardous materials in a quantity that requires placarding must be equipped with a fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 10 B:C or more. A power unit that is not used to transport hazardous materials must be equipped with either:

1. A fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5 B:C or more; or
2. Two fire extinguishers, each of which has an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 4 B:C or more.

The fire extinguisher must use an extinguishing agent that does not need protection from freezing. Extinguishing agents must comply with the toxicity provisions of the Environmental Protection Agency's Significant New Alternatives Policy regulations.

FAQ & Interpretations

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