

# Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association

*Saving Lives, Protecting Property*

## Thomaston grease fire contained with fire extinguishers

Penobscot Bay Pilot - Camden, ME

January 20, 2014

Quick work with fire extinguishers Monday afternoon kept a grease fire from spreading at F & A's Market on Main Street in Thomaston. Thomaston Fire and Ambulance were alerted to the fire in the market's kitchen at 3:22 p.m. The Fire Chief said that the fire started in a deep fryer, which might have overheated. "They put a fire extinguisher to it before we got there and that kept it in check," said the Chief. "We put more extinguishers on it and thought we had more fire, but luckily not." Two people were evaluated at the scene, due to possible smoke inhalation and other concerns, but nobody required or requested additional medical help. Thomaston's three engines, ladder and utility trucks responded to the call, which did not require mutual aid. The Fire Chief said that 16 firefighters also responded, along with the ambulance and EMS personnel. They all cleared the scene about an hour later, around 4:30 p.m.

*"Portable extinguishers and extinguishing systems are vitally important pieces of a comprehensive fire safety strategy. Studies have indicated that most will attempt to extinguish an incipient fire, and portable fire extinguishers should be their tool of choice."*

- Adolf Zubia, President  
Fire & Life Safety Section, IAFC

## Boy's quick thinking saves family from fire

Fox 25 News - Dedham, MA

January 20, 2014

On Saturday morning, a local 13-year-old saw flames shooting from the bathroom ceiling. He rushed to tell his



Call fire department;  
Announce fire/alert  
others; Make sure  
everyone is safe.



Defend  
in place



Fire/smoke  
alarm sounds



Suppression  
system  
activates



Sprinkler  
system  
activates



Fire  
department  
responds

father about the flames, which prompted his father to grab a fire extinguisher, while the boy's mother woke up the other five children in the house and called the fire department, according to a Foster's Daily Democrat article. Rochester fire officials said that the 13-year-old's quick thinking may have kept the home from burning down. The fire began from faulty wiring in a ventilation fan, and flames had already begun to spread from the first floor ceiling to the second floor. By the time the fire department arrived, the entire family had made it out of the house safely.

## **Towel left near stove likely cause of Dennison fire**

**Times Reporter - New Philadelphia, OH**

January 21, 2014

Firefighters were summoned to 228 Gardner Avenue, at about 9:27 p.m. on Saturday, after a fire broke out in the kitchen. According to a local firefighter, the fire was reported as a confirmed structure fire and, upon arrival, firefighters found that a man already had extinguished part of the blaze with a fire extinguisher. Firefighters then put out the rest. The cause of the fire was believed to be a towel left near food that was cooking on the stove; the towel ignited and fire spread to a nearby wall. Uhrichville firefighters and Dennison and Uhrichville police assisted at the scene, and Tuscarawas-Warwick firefighters stood by at the Dennison Fire Station.

*"A sound fire safety strategy has to include portable extinguishers. They can extinguish fires during the incipient stage before they are large enough to trigger a sprinkler or other suppression system. This helps to protect against property damage and the buildup of dangerous smoke."*

- Joe Pierce, Retired Deputy Chief  
Dallas, Texas Fire Department

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## **Pasco school employees snuff out small fire**

**Tri-City Herald - Kennewick, WA**

January 23, 2014

McGee Elementary School employees used a fire extinguisher to put out a small fire that started in an electrical outlet on

Thursday morning. A short circuit in the outlet caused the fire, and flames ignited some nearby craft paper. Students were evacuated outdoors and the fire department was called as a precaution.



### **Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association 101**

The Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association is the premier trade association representing leading brands, and spanning dozens of product categories related to fire protection. The Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association is comprised of four divisions represented by product categories: portable fire extinguishers, interior equipment, fire hose and pre-engineered suppression systems. These divisions work together in an effort to promote Layered Fire Protection, Life Safety and initial response when disaster strikes. Members of the Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association have formed a subgroup, the Government Relations Committee (GRC), to address legislative and regulatory issues relating to portable fire extinguishers and pre-engineered systems. The GRC's main goals focus on helping to educate officials by advancing a layered fire safety philosophy that reflects the need for both sprinklers and portable extinguishers. This newsletter is published periodically to communicate to key members of the fire services and code officials on the importance of layered fire safety and the role that special application fire suppression systems and portable extinguishers play.