

Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association

Saving Lives, Protecting Property

Bus driver called hero after extinguishing fire

NBC-10 SC (Columbia, SC)

June 5, 2014

IRMO - A school bus driver from Lexington-Richland School District Five is now being called a hero, two weeks after taking steps to put out a fire at a student's apartment. The bus driver took notice of an unusual situation while picking kids up for school on May 15, when he saw that his students weren't at their usual location for pick up. When the bus driver noticed two students coming in and out of their apartment, frantically trying to reach someone on the phone, the bus driver asked what was wrong and learned about the fire. The bus driver then proceeded to gather his students onto the bus and then he grabbed a fire extinguisher provided by the school district. The bus driver went into the apartment and found flames in the kitchen. Using training provided to all bus drivers by the district, he extinguished the fire safely.

"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

Oshawa boy sounds alarm when fire breaks out

Inside Halton, Metroland Media (Ontario, CAN)

June 4, 2014

OSHAWA - An Oshawa boy's quick thinking helped limit the damage caused by a vehicle fire at his home on the



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

weekend. The eleven year old boy raced upstairs to wake his parents when he noticed the fire Saturday night. The boy's father grabbed a fire extinguisher to battle the blaze while his mother called 911 and knocked on doors and windows to alert neighbors at their semi-detached home. The fire caused minor damage to the siding of the house, before firefighters completely doused the flames. That said, the flames could have spread, as the vehicle was located right next to the house with a pile of wood chips nearby, according to the mother of the boy who first noticed the fire. The boy's notification and his father's quick work with a fire extinguisher helped prevent the spread of the flames.

Lacquer causes basement fire **Wicked Local Georgetown (Georgetown, MA)**

June 2, 2014

GEORGETOWN - The spontaneous combustion of polyurethane soaked rags recently caused smoke and fire damage to a home in Georgetown. The town's fire chief said that the department received a call from a local resident just before 2:00AM on Wednesday, May 21 about a house fire with smoke so thick that the caller was reminded of "a camp fire". The chief said that the fire itself, which originated in the home's basement, was snuffed out with a fire extinguisher by one of the home's residents before crews arrived. Despite the damage, residents were able to return to the home later that morning, and no injuries were reported among the residents or fire crews.

"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

Extinguisher Use Means Minimal Damage From Holden Fire

WABI 5 (Bangor, ME)

May 30, 2014

HOLDEN - On Friday, May 30, a fire at a mobile home site in Holden was quickly extinguished thanks to the efforts of workers on site. A single-wide mobile home on the lot was being renovated, when a worker saw smoke and called the fire department around 10:00AM. The employee and her coworkers used fire extinguishers to put out most of the fire before fire crews had even responded. The fire chief said that the fire was caused by careless disposal of smoking material. Damage was limited to the building that initially caught fire, and nobody was injured.



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.