

Extinguisher used on houseboat fire Marin Independent Journal, January 27, 2011

An electrical fire in a refrigerator ignited on a 41-foot boat at the Sausalito Marine Harbor shortly after midnight on January 26th. The fire spread quickly from the refrigerator to a wall but the residents used a fire extinguisher to help knock down the flames before firefighters arrived.

"Without the aid of the occupant of the boat we would have had a sizeable fire," said Capt. Mike Martinez of the Southern Marin Fire Protection District. "This is an area that's very difficult to access because of its location far out on the water. It makes it difficult to establish a firefight."

"Portable extinguishers and extinguishing systems are vital aspects of a comprehensive fire safety strategy. Allowing for a tradeoff where extinguishers are not required throughout buildings if they are protected with other technologies ignores the importance of redundancy and does not recognize the value of portable extinguishers"

- Alan Shuman, Georgia State Fire Marshal
President, National Association of State Fire Marshals

Neighbor rescues elderly woman in blaze Boston Herald, January 30, 2011

Nathan Yassen was taking out the trash at about 9 p.m. when he saw flames coming from the windows of his neighbor's house across the street. He ran inside his home, grabbed a fire extinguisher and told his mom to call 911. Yassen smashed two back windows and sprayed the extinguisher inside. He then helped the 97-year-old out of her home.

"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, Dallas Fire & Rescue Department
Chair, Fire and Life Safety Section
International Association of Fire Chiefs

Fire at taco shop put out by automatic fire extinguishing system Marin Independent Journal, April 25, 2010

On Sunday April 25th, a fire ignited in the kitchen of Joe's Taco Lounge & Salsaria. A fire extinguishing system built into a kitchen grill's hood extinguished the fire and minimized damage. As a result of the extinguishing system, there was no structural damage and no one 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 Balanced 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 balanced 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 balanced fire safety and the role that special application fire suppression systems and portable extinguishers play.