## Decision Tree for the Replacement of Fire Extinguishers in the Field



BEFORE RECHARGING, REPAIRING, CONDUCTING A SIX YEAR MAINTENANCE OR HYDROTESTING AN EXTINGUISHER, ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

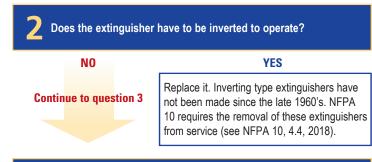
Is the extinguisher a soda-acid, cartridge operated water, twopart chemical foam, have a brass or copper shell with soft solder or rivets, is a carbon tetrachloride extinguisher, a solid cartridge type AFFF extinguisher, any stored pressure extinguisher manufactured prior to 1955, or a CO2 with a metal horn?

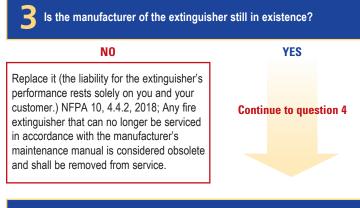
## YES

Continue to question 2

NO

Replace it. NFPA 10 requires the removal of these extinguishers from service (see NFPA 10, 4.4, 2018).





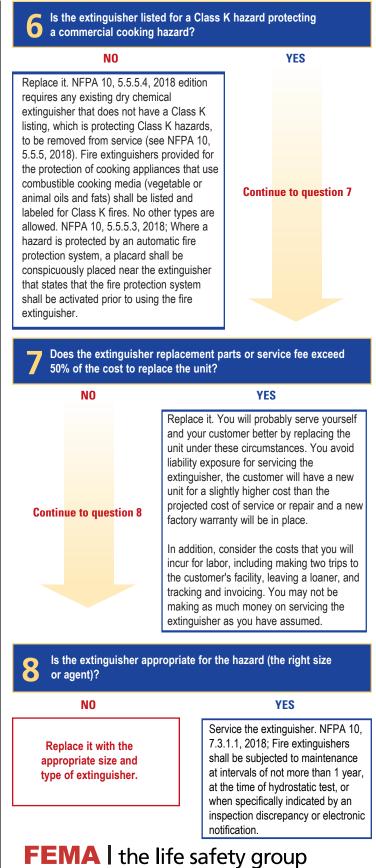
Is the extinguisher a stored pressure hand portable dry chemical made before October 1984?

NO	YES
Continue to question 5	Replace the extinguisher. NFPA 10, 4.4.1, 2018; Dry chemical stored pressure extinguishers with an indicated manufacturing date of 1984 or prior shall be removed from service.

Does the extinguisher have any dents, gouges or burn marks?

**Continue to question 6** 

## Replace it. NFPA 10, starting with the 1998 edition, has very strict visual inspection requirements regarding dents, gouges and burn marks, if the extinguisher does not pass the visual inspection it is to be removed from service (see NFPA 10, 8.4.2, 2018).



Saving Lives, Protecting Property

## FIRE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

1300 Sumner Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2851 • Telephone: 216-241-7333 Fax: 216-241-0105 • E-Mail: fema@femalifesafety.org • femalifesafety.org PRINTED 2/1/04 Updated 2021