

NFPA 18

Standard on Wetting Agents

2006 Edition



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Standard on Wetting Agents

2006 Edition

This edition of NFPA 18, *Standard on Wetting Agents*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Water Additives for Fire Control and Vapor Mitigation and acted on by NFPA at its June Association Technical Meeting held June 6–10, 2005, in Las Vegas, NV. It was issued by the Standards Council on July 29, 2005, with an effective date of August 18, 2005, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 18 was approved as an American National Standard on August 18, 2005.

Origin and Development of NFPA 18

This standard was originally sponsored by the NFPA General Committee on Special Extinguishing Methods and prepared by the NFPA Committee on Wetting Agents. Initiated and tentatively adopted in 1949, it was officially adopted in 1951. Extensive revisions, most of which were concerned with the use of wetting agent foam, were adopted in 1955. Subsequently (1959) responsibility for this standard was transferred to the Committee on Foam, and the standard was amended in 1972 and 1979.

The 1986 and 1990 editions of the standard were reconfirmations of the 1979 edition.

The 1995 edition of the document was a reconfirmation. However, some editorial changes were incorporated in an effort to make the document more user-friendly.

The 2006 edition has undergone extensive revisions, both technical and editorial. Editorial changes include updating the structure of the standard to the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents* and strengthening the language into specific requirements.

Technical changes include clarifying the definition of wetting agents and their use on specific types of fires. Specific requirements for wetting agents and the methods for testing have been detailed in Chapter 5. Chapter 6 contains requirements for the supply of wetting agents. Specific packaging requirements are found in Chapter 7, and inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements for systems using wetting agents are detailed in Chapter 8.

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NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the manufacture, testing, application, and use of water additives for the control and/or suppression of fire and flammable vapor mitigation including water additives used to prevent or reduce the spread of fire and the use of water additives in fixed, semi-fixed, mobile, and portable fire suppression systems.

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