

UL 626

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Water Fire Extinguishers

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Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL)
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UL Standard for Safety for Water Fire Extinguishers, UL 626

Eighth Edition, Dated February 28, 2005

Revisions: This Standard contains revisions through and including January 31, 2007.

Summary of Topics

These revisions to ANSI/UL 626 include the following changes in requirements:

Revisions to the discharge range test requirements to specify the intended testing position.

Revision to the temperature and humidity requirements for the nameplate exposure and adhesion tests.

Text that has been changed in any manner is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with UL's Proposal(s) on this subject dated May 12, 2006 and August 11, 2006.

The revisions dated January 31, 2007 include a reprinted title page (page1) for this Standard.

As indicated on the title page (page 1), this UL Standard for Safety is an American National Standard. Attention is directed to the note on the title page of this Standard outlining the procedures to be followed to retain the approved text of this ANSI/UL Standard.

The UL Foreword is no longer located within the UL Standard. For information concerning the use and application of the requirements contained in this Standard, the current version of the UL Foreword is located on ULStandardsInfoNet at: <http://ulstandardsinfo.net/ulforeword.html>

The master for this Standard at UL's Northbrook Office is the official document insofar as it relates to a UL service and the compliance of a product with respect to the requirements for that product and service, or if there are questions regarding the accuracy of this Standard.

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The requirements in this Standard are now in effect, except for those paragraphs, sections, tables, figures, and/or other elements of the Standard having future effective dates as indicated in the preface. The prior text for requirements that have been revised and that have a future effective date are located after the Standard, and are preceded by a "SUPERSEDED REQUIREMENTS" notice.

New product submittals made prior to a specified future effective date will be judged under all of the requirements in this Standard including those requirements with a specified future effective date, unless the applicant specifically requests that the product be judged under the current requirements. However, if the applicant elects this option, it should be noted that compliance with all the requirements in this Standard will be required as a condition of continued Listing and Follow-Up Services after the effective date, and understanding of this should be signified in writing.

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This Standard consists of pages dated as shown in the following checklist:

Page	Date
1-2	January 31, 2007
3-17	February 28, 2005
18-18B	January 31, 2007
19-31	February 28, 2005
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Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada
CAN/ULC-S507
Fourth Edition



Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
ANSI/UL 626
Eighth Edition

Water Fire Extinguishers

February 28, 2005

(Title Page Reprinted: January 31, 2007)

This common standard has been jointly revised on January 31, 2007. For this purpose, ULC and UL are issuing amendment pages dated January 31, 2007.



ANSI/UL 626-2007

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Revisions of this Standard will be made by issuing revised or additional pages bearing their date of issue. A UL Standard is current only if it incorporates the most recently adopted revisions, all of which are itemized on the transmittal notice that accompanies the latest set of revised requirements. Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to UL at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in UL's On-Line Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at <http://csds.ul.com>.

The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 626 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on January 31, 2007.

This ANSI/UL Standard for Safety, which consists of the Eighth edition with revisions through January 31, 2007, is under continuous maintenance, whereby each revision is ANSI approved upon publication.

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Preface

This is the common UL and ULC Standard for Water Fire Extinguishers. It is the Fourth edition of CAN/ULC-S507, and the Eighth edition of ANSI/UL 626.

This common Standard was prepared by Underwriters Laboratories Inc., Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada and the manufacturing industry. The efforts and support of the Extinguisher Technical Harmonization Committee are gratefully acknowledged.

This Standard was formally approved by the ULC Committee on Portable Fire Extinguishers.

The Annexes in this Standard are for information purposes only.

Note: Although the intended primary application of this Standard is stated in its Scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the Standard to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.

Level of harmonization

This standard used an ISO format, but is not based on, nor shall it be considered equivalent to, an ISO standard. This standard is published as an identical standard.

An identical standard is a standard that is the same in technical content except for conflicts in Codes and Governmental Regulations. Presentation shall be word for word except for editorial changes.

Interpretations

The interpretation by the SDO of an identical or equivalent standard shall be based on the literal text to determine compliance with the standard in accordance with the procedural rules of the SDO. If more than one interpretation of the literal text has been identified, a revision shall be proposed as soon as possible to each of the SDOs to more accurately reflect the intent.

UL Effective Date

As of August 14, 2007 all products Listed or Recognized by UL must comply with the requirements in this Standard.

A UL effective date is one established by Underwriters Laboratories Inc. and is not part of the ANSI approved Standard.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover the construction and performance, exclusive of performance during fire tests, of water fire extinguishers. Water fire extinguishers are intended to be utilized in accordance with the Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, NFPA 10, and the National Fire Code of Canada.

1.2 These requirements cover stored-pressure, water fire extinguishers that use a single chamber for both the extinguishing agent and the expellant gas.

1.3 The extinguishers covered by these requirements may be charged with plain water, an antifreeze or a loaded-stream solution. See Extinguishing Agent, Clause 23.

1.4 The requirements for performance during fire testing of stored-pressure water fire extinguishers are specified in the Binational Standard for Rating and Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishers, ANSI/UL 711 CAN/ULC-S508.

1.5 As used in these requirements, the term "extinguisher" refers to all extinguishers or any part thereof covered by these requirements, unless specifically noted otherwise.

2 Units of Measurement

2.1 The metric unit shall be designated as the official unit for purposes of this standard. Where values of measurement are specified in both SI and English units, either unit is used. In cases of dispute, the metric unit shall be used.

3 Reference Publications

3.1 See Annex A for a list of publications referenced in this standard. Any undated reference to a code or standard appearing in the requirements of this standard shall be interpreted as referring to the latest edition of that code or standard. When the latest edition of a standard is not applicable, the appropriate edition is indicated accordingly in Annex A.

4 Components

4.1 Except as indicated in 4.2a component of a product covered by this standard shall comply with the requirements for that component. A component shall comply with both the Underwriters Laboratories Inc. and the Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada standards for the component.

4.2 A component is not required to comply with a specific requirement that:

- a) Involves a feature or characteristic not required in the application of the component in the product covered by this standard, or
- b) Is superseded by a requirement in this standard.

4.3 A component shall be used in accordance with its rating established for the intended conditions of use.

4.4 Specific components are incomplete in construction features or restricted in performance capabilities. Such components are intended for use only under limited conditions, such as certain temperatures not exceeding specified limits, and shall be used only under those specific conditions.

5 Glossary

5.1 For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply.

5.2 **ANTIFREEZE CHARGE** – A water based extinguishing medium that uses an alkali metal salt as a freezing point depressant.

5.3 **DISPOSABLE (NONRECHARGEABLE) FIRE EXTINGUISHER** – A fire extinguisher not capable of nor intended to undergo complete maintenance including internal inspection of cylinder, replacement of parts and seals and hydrostatic testing.

5.4 **EFFECTIVE DISCHARGE** – The time of discharge of extinguishing agent from the extinguisher until gas point.

5.5 **EXPELLANT GAS** – A compressed or pressurized gas used to propel the liquid extinguishing agent from a single cylinder.

5.6 **GALVANIC COMPATIBILITY** – Fire extinguisher cylinder and component parts which are not susceptible to 10-day stress corrosion cracking or corrosion from combination of dissimilar materials.

5.7 **GAS POINT** – The point in time when the discharge changes from a liquid to a gas and liquid combination.

5.8 **LOADED STREAM CHARGE** – A water based extinguishing medium that uses an alkali metal salt as a freezing point depressant.

5.9 **PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER** – A fire extinguisher carried or on wheels and operated by hand.

5.10 **PRESSURE GAUGE** – A gauge that shows the pressure in the cylinder and the operating range of the extinguisher based upon the operating temperature-pressure relationship in appropriate pressure units.

5.11 **PRESSURE INDICATOR** – An indicator that shows that the extinguisher is pressurized with its rated expellant gas pressure.

5.12 **RECHARGEABLE (REFILLABLE) FIRE EXTINGUISHER** – A fire extinguisher capable of undergoing complete maintenance including internal inspection of cylinder, replacement of parts and seals and hydrostatic testing.

5.13 **STORED PRESSURE TYPE FIRE EXTINGUISHER** – A fire extinguisher in which both the extinguishing agent and expellant gas are in a single cylinder.

CONSTRUCTION

6 General

6.1 The construction of an extinguisher shall be such that the method of operation is obvious after observing the operating instructions.

6.2 The construction of an extinguisher shall be such that after discharge of the agent is initiated, the operator of the extinguisher is not required to take further manual actions to maintain the maximum possible flow of agent, other than holding the operating device in the fully opened position. The extinguisher shall be usable by one operator, without assistance from a second individual.

6.3 A disposable extinguisher shall not be rechargeable.

6.4 An extinguisher shall stand in the upright position without support.

6.5 A material for an extinguisher part, the deterioration of which causes the extinguisher to become inoperable or results in the risk of injury to persons, shall not be susceptible to stress corrosion.

6.6 A polymeric or other nonmetallic part, other than an "O" ring or gasket, shall be evaluated on the basis of:

- a) Mechanical strength, including resistance to impact, see Handle and Mounting Device Test, Clause 26; Hydrostatic Pressure Test, Clause 35; Vibration Test, Clause 36; Roadability and Rough Usage Tests, Clause 37; Burst Strength Test – Gauges and Indicators, Clause 47; Nameplate Exposure Tests, Clause 55;
- b) Moisture absorption; see Salt Spray Corrosion Test, Clause 41; One-Year Time Leakage Test, Clause 45, Nameplate Exposure Tests, Clause 55;
- c) Flammability, see 6.9;
- d) Resistance to deterioration due to aging, see Aging Tests – Polymeric Materials, Clause 39; One-Year Time Leakage Test, Clause 45; Nameplate Exposure Tests, Clause 55;
- e) Exposure to light and water, see 39.3.1 and Nameplate Exposure Tests, Clause 55; and
- f) Exposure to the extinguishing agent, see 39.2.

6.7 With reference to flammability, polymeric materials shall be classified as HB, V-0, V-1, V-2, 5VA, or 5VB, when tested in accordance with the Standard for Tests for Flammability of Plastic Materials for Parts in Devices and Appliances, UL 94. Other nonmetallic materials shall have equivalent characteristics.

6.8 An extinguisher shall operate as intended from the minimum storage temperature to 49°C (120°F), inclusive. Currently recognized minimum storage temperatures are 4°C (40°F) and minus 40°C (minus 40°F). See Operating Temperature Limits Test, Clause 31.

6.9 The edges and surfaces of a valve, cap, closure, hose, cylinder, handle, mounting device, and similar items, shall not be sufficiently sharp to constitute a risk of injury to persons in intended maintenance and use.

6.10 Whenever reference measurements are necessary to determine that a part as described in 6.9 is not sufficiently sharp to constitute a risk of injury to persons, the method described in the Standard for Test for Sharpness of Edges on Equipment, UL 1439, is to be employed.

6.11 A hand portable extinguisher shall have a gross weight not exceeding 27 kg (60 lb).

6.12 A pressurizing adaptor for a rechargeable stored pressure type extinguisher shall have threads or other mechanical means for securement to the valve assembly.

7 Cylinders

7.1 The requirements in this clause do not apply to a rechargeable cylinder marked as complying with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), or Canada Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations (TDGR), or ASME specifications, unless otherwise specifically indicated.

7.2 An extinguisher cylinder under the jurisdiction of the DOT or TDGR shall comply with the appropriate DOT or TDGR specifications for shipping containers.

7.3 An extinguisher cylinder shall be fabricated of a material having rigidity, durability, and resistance to corrosion at least equivalent to:

- a) An aluminum alloy such as 6061-T6 or 6351-T6, see the Standard Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Sheet and Plate, ASTM B209, having a minimum thickness of 0.71 mm (0.028 in);
- b) An aluminum alloy, such as 1100, 1170, or 3003 having a minimum thickness of 0.71 mm (0.028 in);
- c) A mild steel alloy, such as SAE 1010, having a minimum thickness of 0.71 mm (0.028 in); or
- d) An austenitic stainless steel having a maximum of 0.03 percent carbon content and having a wall thickness of at least 0.63 mm (0.025 in).

7.4 A cylinder assembled complete with permanently attached fittings shall be resistant to any corrosive influence of the extinguishing agent. See Agent Exposure Test, Clause 43.

7.5 The material of the dome and bottom of a metal cylinder shall be of the same material as the cylinder.

7.6 All joints in metal cylinders shall be threaded, brazed, or welded.

Exception: Brazed joints shall not be used on stainless steel cylinders.

7.7 For the purpose of these requirements, thickness measurements of the sidewall are to be measured on uncoated metal. The thickness of the dome and of the bottom is to be measured at several points after forming and before coating.

8 Joints

8.1 The minimum width of a brazed joint on a cylinder wall shall be not less than four times the thickness of the sidewall.

9 Caps, Valves, Closures, and Pressure Relief

9.1 The inside diameter of a fill opening of a rechargeable-type extinguisher shall be:

- a) A minimum 19 mm (3/4 in) for an extinguisher having a capacity of 19 L (5 gal) or less;

Exception: For coated cylinders, a minimum 38 mm (1-1/2 in) fill opening is required.

- b) A minimum 64 mm (2-1/2 in) for an extinguisher having a capacity above 19 L (5 gal).

9.2 A collar with external threads shall be constructed so that the cap does not contact the dome or the bottom when the gasket is removed.

9.3 A threaded cap, closure, or valve shall engage the collar or the threaded opening by a minimum four full threads with the gasket in place.

9.4 A cap, plug, or other component, except a pressure gauge or indicator, shall be provided with a means of relieving pressure when it is removed while the agent chamber is still under pressure. The pressure shall be relieved with a minimum two threads engaged.

9.5 Closures of rechargeable extinguishers shall resist, without evidence of damage to the threads, a closing torque of 35 N·m (25 lbf-ft).

9.6 When pressure relief is required under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) or Canada Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations (TDGR), it shall be in accordance with the Compressed Gas Association pamphlet CGA S-1.1 Pressure Relief Device Standards.

10 Gaskets and "O" Rings

10.1 A gasket or an "O" ring shall be retained in a recess or the equivalent, in the cap, collar or valve. A gasket or an "O" ring of a rubber-like material shall be of a thickness to provide a compression-type seal and shall fit snugly against the cap or head. See Elastomeric Parts Test, Clause 40.

11 Pressure Gauges and Indicators

11.1 A rechargeable extinguisher, including a wheeled extinguisher, of the stored pressure type shall be equipped with a pressure gauge to show the amount of pressure in the chamber whether the valve is open or closed, except as provided in 11.2. The operating range of the gauge shall reflect the operating temperature-pressure relationship of the extinguisher, except that the minimum operating pressure line is able to be higher than the pressure that corresponds to the minimum operating temperature. A bourdon tube type pressure gauge shall have a pressure relief that vents in the event of a bourdon tube leak.