



ABYC A-4 July 2018

Equipment Division Standard

**Fire Fighting and Detection Systems
Project Technical Committee**

The ABYC Standards and Technical Information Reports for Small Craft are the product of a consensus of representatives of government, industry and public sectors. It is intended solely as a guide to aid manufacturers and the marine community in the design, construction, equipage and maintenance of small craft.

ABYC reviews each standard at least every five years at which time it may be reaffirmed, revised, or withdrawn. ABYC welcomes any written comments on the standards and Technical information reports.

ABYC A-4

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT



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

This standard was developed under procedures accredited as meeting the criteria for American National Standards. The Project Technical Committee that approved the Standard was balanced to ensure that individuals from competent and concerned interests have had an opportunity to participate.

This standard, which is the result of extended and careful consideration of available knowledge and experience on the subject, is intended to provide minimum performance requirements.

ABYC's Project Technical Committee meetings are open to the public. All contact regarding standards activity, interpretations, or meeting attendance should be directed to the ABYC Technical Department at comments@abycinc.org.

ABYC and its committees do not "approve", "certify", or "endorse" any item, construction, or proprietary device.

REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATIONS

Upon written request, the Fire Fighting and Detection Systems PTC will render an interpretation of any requirement of the Standard. The request for interpretation should be clear and unambiguous. Requests should be presented to the PTC in a manner in which they may be answered in a yes or no fashion.

The committee reserves the right to reconsider any interpretation when or if additional information which might affect it becomes available to the PTC. Persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the Committee for reinterpretation.

A-4 FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Table of Contents

4.1	PURPOSE.....	1
4.2	SCOPE.....	1
4.3	REFERENCES.....	1
4.4	DEFINITIONS	2
4.5	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	3
4.6	FIRE DETECTION	4
4.7	REQUIREMENTS - PORTABLE EXTINGUISHERS.....	5
4.8	REQUIREMENTS - FIXED FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS	5
4.9	OWNER'S MANUAL AND COLLATERAL LITERATURE	7
	TABLE 1 - Protection of Engines and Engine Compartments	8
	TABLE 2 - Boats 65 Ft or Less in Length	8
	TABLE 3 - Boats Over 65 Ft in Length	9
	ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT	10

A-4 FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Based on ABYC's assessment of the existing technology, and the problems associated with achieving the goals of this standard, ABYC recommends compliance with this standard for all boats, associated equipment, and systems manufactured after July 31, 2019.

4.1 PURPOSE

This standard is a guide for the design, construction, and installation of portable handheld fire extinguishers and fixed fire extinguishing systems on boats.

4.2 SCOPE

This standard applies to boats equipped with engine(s), an electrical system, or heat producing devices.

NOTE: The US Coast Guard (USCG) has promulgated mandatory requirements for fire extinguishing equipment in Title 46 CFR Chapter I Subchapter C Part 25 Subpart 25.30. Refer to the CFR for complete, current federal requirements.

4.2.1 Fixed fire extinguishing systems covered by this standard are intended for normally unoccupied machinery, tankage, and bilge spaces.

4.3 REFERENCES

The following references form a part of this standard. Unless otherwise noted the latest version of the referenced standards shall apply.

4.3.1 ABYC - American Boat & Yacht Council, Inc, 613 Third Street, Suite 10, Annapolis, MD 21403. Phone: (410) 990-4460. Fax: (410) 990-4466. Website: www.abycinc.org

[ABYC E-11, AC and DC Electrical Systems on Boats](#)
[ABYC H-2, Ventilation of Boats Using Gasoline](#)
[ABYC H-32, Ventilation of Boats Using Diesel Fuel](#)
[ABYC T-5, Safety Signs and Labels](#)

4.3.2 CFR - Code of Federal Regulations and other government publications. Obtain from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Information, PO Box 371 954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. Phone: (202) 512-1800. Fax: (202) 512-2250. The CFR is also available from ABYC, Inc, 613 Third Street, Suite 10, Annapolis, MD 21403. Phone: (410) 990-4460. Fax: (410) 990-4466. Website: www.abycinc.org

Title 46 CFR, Chapter I

4.3.3 FM - Factory Mutual Research, 1151 Boston-Providence Highway, Norwood, MA 02062-5082. Phone: (781) 762-4300. Fax: (781) 440-8718. Website: www.fmglobal.com

4.3.4 NFPA - National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471. Phone: (617) 770-3000. Fax: (617) 770-0700. Website: www.nfpa.org

NFPA 10, *Portable Fire Extinguishers*
NFPA 12, *Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems*
NFPA 12A, *Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems*
NFPA 12B, *Standard on Halon 1211 Fire Extinguishing Systems*
NFPA 2001, *Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*

4.3.5 UL – Underwriters Laboratories, Inc, 12 Laboratory Drive, PO Box 13995, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3995. Phone: (919) 549-1400. Fax: (919) 547-6000. Website: www.ul.com

UL 711, *Standard for Rating and Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishers*

4.3.6 EPA - Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Stratospheric Ozone Protection Division, Mail Code 6205J, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001. Phone: (202) 564-9410. Fax: (202) 565-2155. Website: www.epa.gov.oar.oap.html

US Environmental Protection Agency's Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP)