-PERFICUT SITE MANAGEMENT-

Fire Safety

1/20/2025

PURPOSE:
The purpose of this policy is to prevent fires and provide guidelines for action in the event that a fire does occur. This policy will include, but not limited to:

- Evacuation Procedures
- Extinguisher Training
- Basic Process Safety Training

POLICY:
Employees shall be informed of the proper actions to take in the event of a fire. It is STRESSED that at no time does the task of fighting a fire supersede an employee's primary duties of:

- Ensuring their own personal safety and the safety of others.
- Reporting the incident to the proper authority and ensuring personnel accountability for yourself and all subordinates at the jobsite, in accordance with company and client policy.

PROCEDURE:
Fire Prevention/Protection

- All employees are responsible for good housekeeping practices to enhance fire prevention methods. Supervisors will be held accountable for the housekeeping of their job sites.
- Only approved containers will be used during fueling operations. These shall be of the self-closing type and clearly marked for content.
- Flammable material shall be stored in compliance with OSHA and client regulations. The quantity of flammable/combustible material shall be kept to a minimum on the job site.
- Used/oily rags shall be immediately disposed of in a designated hazardous waste container.
- Report all spills or suspicious odors immediately (refer to Spill Response Plan).
- Fire extinguishers are to be easily accessible to employees. Each vehicle brought to the jobsite will be equipped with a fully charged and inspected extinguisher. Only approved fire extinguishers are to be used. They are to be maintained in a fully charged, ready to operate state and inspected/documented annually. Training is provided to all employees who use or may use fire extinguishers.
- **NEVER** put yourself or others at risk while attempting to extinguish a fire.
- **DO NOT USE** water to fight a fire of unknown origin.
- **NEVER** attempt to extinguish a pressurized fuel fed fire.
- **DO NOT** direct a fire nozzle with a straight stream at any type of LPG fire. This action could extinguish the fire, producing an LPG vapor cloud capable of detonation.

In the Event of Fire:

- Remain calm, remove any unnecessary personnel and call the fire department.
- Only attempt to extinguish a fire when it is clearly within your abilities, the equipment available is right for the type of fire and you have a clear, unobstructed escape route.
- Know the location of the nearest alarm and how to activate any emergency systems.
- Know the evacuation routes and collection points of your job site.

UNDERSTANDING FIRE EXTINGUISHER SIZES:
You can determine the firefighting capabilities of a fire extinguisher by reading its label. For instance, if you're using a ABC multi-purpose fire extinguisher—the most common type in use today—you might see **2A:10B:C** on the label. This is a standard 5-lb extinguisher appropriate for use in most ordinary commercial settings, but canisters can be much larger than this. Here's what the label means:

- **Class A size rating:** The number beside the letter A ranges from 1 to 40. This is the water equivalency for this extinguisher, where 1 equals 1¼ gallons. Therefore, a 2A size rating means the extinguisher can battle as fire as effectively as 2½ gallons of water.
- **Class B size rating:** The number beside the letter B ranges from 1 to 640. This tells you the square footage the extinguisher is rated to handle. Therefore, a 10B size rating means the extinguisher can effectively fight a fire that has spread up to 10 square feet.
- **There is no Class C size rating:** The C classification simply means the canister contains a non- conducting extinguishing agent, making it safe to use on electrical fires. Therefore, the Class A and Class B size ratings tell you everything you need to know about the firefighting capabilities of an ABC fire extinguisher.

DECIDING HOW BIG YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHER SHOULD BE:
With an understanding of how to read a fire extinguisher label, now you must determine what size is best for your situation. Here are the factors to consider:

- **The size of the room:** Walls and doors are natural deterrents that help slow the spread of fire, so heed the Class B size rating when choosing an extinguisher for an individual room in your building. A standard 2A:10B:C extinguisher should be sufficient for an average-sized room with no significant hazards. However, a larger warehouse space may need a 4A:60B:C or 10A:80B:C extinguisher to cover the larger area.
- **The speed at which a fire could spread:** Even the smallest fire extinguishers are effective if you employ them quickly after a fire ignites. However, some rooms encourage the flames to spread faster than others, such as a manufacturing facility with sawdust and other flammable debris on the floor. In short, if a fire is likely to spread quickly, you need a larger fire extinguisher.
- **Physical capabilities of the user:** Extinguishers with greater firefighting capabilities contain more extinguishing agent, making them larger and heavier. This is why you can't simply purchase the largest possible extinguishers for every room in your business. For your consideration, a 2A:10B:C canister weighs 5 lbs; a 4A:60B:C canister weighs 10 lbs; and a 10A:80B:C canister weighs 20 lbs.

TYPES OF FIRES & FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:
Portable fire extinguishers are classified by the type of fire they're designed to put out. There are five basic classifications, each labeled with either a letter-shaped symbol or picture.

CLASS A
Designed for use on ordinary combustible fires, Class A fire extinguishers safely put out fires fueled by materials like paper, wood, cloth, rubber, and many plastics. Because there are several ways you can extinguish a Class A fire, there are various Class A fire extinguishers available, with some using a clean agent and others a water mist to suffocate and cool fires.

CLASS B
A Class B fire involves flammable and combustible liquids like gasoline, oil, lacquers, alcohol, and grease.
Most Class B portable fire extinguishers safely suppress these fires using carbon dioxide or clean agents that suffocate and extinguish the flames. Class B extinguishers that use clean agents are a preferred option, as they don't leave a residue or need cleanup. When extinguishing a fire involving flammable gas, it's critical to shut off the fuel source promptly. Otherwise, unburned gas can escape into the atmosphere and cause an explosion if exposed to an ignition source.

CLASS C
Class C fires involve energized electrical equipment. Like Class B models, most Class C portable fire extinguishers rely on carbon dioxide or another clean agent to suffocate the flames.

CLASS D
Class D fire extinguishers are needed when a fire involves combustible metals like titanium, magnesium, and sodium. Because common extinguishing agents can react with a combustible metal fire and cause it to spread, most Class D fire extinguishers use a dry powder agent to suppress the fire and absorb heat.

CLASS K
Class K fires involve cooking appliances that use animal or vegetable oils or fats. Class K fire extinguishers typically employ a wet chemical agent made with potassium to cool and suppress a kitchen fire simultaneously.

MULTIPURPOSE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:
It's also good to know that multipurpose fire extinguishers are electrically nonconductive and use a special chemical to smother fires. For instance, multipurpose dry chemical or ABC fire extinguishers are safe for Class A, Class B, and Class C fires.