

Good Practices

Fire Extinguisher Signage

Fire extinguishers need to be easy to see and reach in case of an emergency. Workers should be able to identify them from a distance and access them easily. Fire extinguishers and fire safety equipment should never be obstructed by boxes or objects of any kind. Consider implementing the good practices below for a safer and more efficient factory. See also Good Practice Guides on Fire Safety and Fire Fighters.

Good practices for fire extinguisher signage

- Paint the wall or the pillar red for maximum visibility (Figure 1).
- Alternatively, attach a red triangular sign on the wall above head level (Figure 2).
- Ensure that fire extinguishers are easy to reach at all times. Never put boxes or objects in front of fire extinguishers (Figure 3).
- Check that you have installed the correct type of fire extinguisher, and make sure that the fire extinguisher is clearly labelled.
- Make sure fire extinguishers are working properly by testing them regularly. Put labels on the fire extinguishers to indicate when they were last tested.

Benefits:

- ✓ Promotes a good image of a responsible workplace
- ✓ In an emergency workers can locate fire equipment quickly
- ✓ Quick response to fire reduces the chance of serious harm to people or property, which saves lives and money

How:

- ✓ Identify suitable positions for fire extinguishers that are likely to be easy to reach in case of fire
- ✓ Either place easily identifiable, well-illuminated signs above fire extinguishers or paint the area red (see photos)



Cost:

\$

\$ Low cost

\$\$ Moderate cost

\$\$\$ High cost