

Coast Guard, DHS

§ 149.405

unless approval by the OCMI is requested and granted pursuant to 149.403 of this subpart.

§ 149.403 Use of alternate firefighting, fire prevention equipment, or procedures.

(a) The operator may request the use of alternate equipment or procedures for those required in this subchapter.

(b) Upon request, the OCMI may allow the use of alternate equipment or procedures if they will:

(1) Accomplish the purposes for the requirement; and

(2) Provide a degree of safety equivalent to, or greater than, that provided by the requirement.

(c) The OCMI may require that the requesting party:

(1) Explain why applying the requirement would be unreasonable or impracticable; or

(2) Submit engineering calculations, tests, or other data to demonstrate how the requested alternative would comply with paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) The OCMI may determine, on a case-by-case basis, that Commandant (G-MSE) must approve the use of the alternate equipment or procedure.

FIREFIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

§ 149.404 Can I use firefighting equipment for which there is no Coast Guard standard?

A deepwater port may use firefighting equipment for which there is no Coast Guard standard, as excess equipment, if the equipment does not endanger the port or the persons aboard in any way. This equipment must be listed and labeled by a nation-

ally recognized testing laboratory and it must be maintained in good working condition.

§ 149.405 How are fire extinguishers classified?

(a) Portable and semi-portable extinguishers on a manned deepwater port must be classified using the Coast Guard's marine rating system of combination letter and number symbol. The letter indicates the type of fire that the extinguisher is designed to extinguish, and the number indicates the relative size of the extinguisher.

(b) The letter designations are as follows:

(1) "A" for fires in ordinary combustible materials where the quenching and cooling effects of quantities of water, or solutions containing large percentages of water, are of first importance;

(2) "B" for fires in flammable liquids, greases, or other thick flammable substances, where a blanketing effect is essential; and

(3) "C" for fires in electrical equipment where the use of a non-conducting extinguishing agent is of first importance.

(c) The number designations for size range from "I" for the smallest extinguisher to "V" for the largest. Sizes I and II are portable extinguishers. Sizes III, IV, and V are semi-portable extinguishers which must be fitted with suitable hose and nozzle or other practicable means so that all portions of the space concerned may be covered. Examples of size graduations for some of the typical portable and semi-portable extinguishers are set forth in table 149.405.

TABLE 149.405—PORTABLE AND SEMI-PORTABLE EXTINGUISHERS

Classification type-size	Foam liters (gallons)	Carbon dioxide kilograms (pounds)	Dry chemical kilograms (pounds)
A-II	9.5 (2.5)	2.25(5) ¹
B-II	9.5 (2.5)	6.7 (15)	4.5 (10)
C-II	6.7 (15)	4.5 (10)
B-IV	7.6 (20)	22.5 (50)	13.5 (30)
B-V	15.2 (40)	45 (100) ²	22.5 (50) ²

NOTES:

¹ Must be specifically approved as a type "A," "B," or "C" extinguisher.

² For outside use, double the quantity of agent that must be carried.