

Subject

Periodical Maintenance, Inspection and Testing of Portable Fire Extinguishers on board the Netherlands Flag Ships

# **ClassNK**

## ***Technical Information***

No. TEC-0610

Date 3 December 2004

To whom it may concern

The Government of Netherlands has notified ClassNK to follow the requirements for periodic maintenance, inspection and testing of portable fire extinguishers defined by IMO Res. A. 951 (23) on board the Netherlands flag ships as follows:

### Periodic Maintenance, Inspection and Testing of Portable Fire Extinguishers

1. Extinguishers should be subject to periodical inspections in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and serviced at intervals not exceeding one year.
2. At least one extinguisher of each type manufactured in the same year and kept on board a ship should be test discharged at five yearly intervals (as part of a fire drill).
3. All extinguishers together with propellant cartridges should be hydraulically tested in accordance with the recognized standard or the manufacturer's instruction at intervals not exceeding ten years. The hydraulic test should be carried out at the test pressure as mentioned on the extinguisher or 1.5 times of the maximum working pressure of the extinguisher.
4. Annual services and inspections may be carried out by a ship's officer, but the 5 or 10 yearly services and inspections have to be carried out by a shore side company based on the Inspection Guide in attached table.
5. Records of inspections should be maintained. The records should show the date of inspection, type of maintenance carried out and whether or not a pressure test was performed.
6. Extinguishers should be provided with a visual indication of discharge.
7. Instructions for recharging extinguishers should be supplied by the manufacturer and be available for use on board.

For any questions about the above, please contact:

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Attachment:

### 1. Inspection Guide

NOTES:

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Attachment 1 to  
ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0610

ANNUAL INSPECTION	
Safety clip and indicating devices	Check to see if the extinguisher may have been operated.
Pressure indicating device	Where fitted, check to see that the pressure is within limits. Check that dust covers on pressure indicating devices and relief valves are in place.
External examination	Inspect for corrosion, dents or damage which may affect the safe operation of the extinguisher.
Weight	Weigh the extinguisher and check the mass compared to the fully charged extinguisher.
Hose and nozzle	Check that hoses and nozzles are clear and undamaged.
Operating instructions	Check that they are in place and legible.
INSPECTION AT RECHARGE	
Water and foam charges	Remove the charge to a clean container if to be reused and check if it is still suitable for further use. Check any charge container.
Powder charges	Examine the powder for reuse. Ensure that it is free flowing and that there is no evidence of caking lumps or foreign bodies.
Gas cartridge	Examine for damage and corrosion.
INSPECTION AT FIVE AND TEN YEAR INTERVALS	
INSPECTION AFTER DISCHARGE TEST	
Air passages and operating mechanism	Prove clear passage by blowing through vent holes and vent devices in the cap. Check hose, nozzle strainer, discharge tube and breather valve, as applicable. Check the operating and discharge control. Clean and lubricate as required.
Operating mechanism	Check that the safety pin is removable and that the lever is undamaged.
Gas cartridge	Examine for damage and corrosion. Weigh the cartridge to ascertain that it is within prescribed limits.
O-ring washers and hose diaphragms	Check O-rings and replace hose diaphragms if fitted.
Water and foam bodies	Inspect the interior. Check for corrosion and lining deterioration. Check separate containers for leakage or damage.
Powder body	Examine the body and check internally for corrosion and lining deterioration.
INSPECTION AFTER RECHARGE	
Water and foam	Replace the charge in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
Reassemble	Reassemble the extinguisher in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
Maintenance label	Fill in entry on maintenance label, including full weight.
Mounting of extinguishers	Check the mounting bracket and stand.
Report	Complete a report on the state of maintenance of the extinguisher.