FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

During the month of June, Facilities personnel participated in Fire Extinguisher Training. Hats Off to Fred Bammes with the fastest extinguishing time of 3.6 seconds.

A special thanks to co-trainers Jay Gilmore, Adam Ukena, and to Bill Spiegel for all their assistance.

Using a fire extinguisher

The following steps should be followed when responding to incipient stage fire:

- Sound the fire alarm and call the fire department, if appropriate.
- Identify a safe evacuation path before approaching the fire. Do not allow the fire, heat, or smoke to come between you and your evacuation path.
- Select the appropriate type of fire extinguisher.
- Discharge the extinguisher within its effective range using the P.A.S.S. technique (pull, aim, squeeze, sweep).
- Back away from an extinguished fire in case it flames up again.
- Evacuate immediately if the extinguisher is empty and the fire is not out.
- Evacuate immediately if the fire progresses beyond the incipient stage.

Most fire extinguishers operate using the following P.A.S.S. technique:

1. **PULL**... Pull the pin. This will also break the tamper seal.
2. **AIM**... Aim low, pointing the extinguisher nozzle (or its horn or hose) at the base of the fire.
   
   **Note:** Do not touch the plastic discharge horn on CO2 extinguishers, it gets very cold and may damage skin.
3. **SQUEEZE**... Squeeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.
4. **Sweep**... Sweep from side to side at the base of the fire until it appears to be out. Watch the area. If the fire re-ignites, repeat steps 2 - 4.

If you have the slightest doubt about your ability to fight a fire....EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY!

[View the P.A.S.S technique information as a 50 KB PDF, 1 page]
I CHOSE TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY

A poem about Health and Safety written by
Don Merrell

I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose to look the other way.
It wasn't that I didn't care,
I had the time, and I was there.

But I didn't want to seem a fool,
Or argue over a safety rule.
I knew he'd done the job before,
If I spoke up, he might get sore.

The chances didn't seem that bad,
I'd done the same, He knew I had.
So I shook my head and walked on by,
He knew the risks as well as I.

He took the chance, I closed an eye,
And with that act, I let him die.
I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose to look the other way.

Now every time I see his wife,
I'll know, I should have saved his life.
That guilt is something I must bear,
But it isn't something you need share.

If you see a risk that others take,
That puts their health or life at stake.
The question asked, or thing you say,
Could help them live another day.

If you see a risk and walk away,
Then hope you never have to say,
I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose, to look the other way.

Report All Safety Concerns