

AS 1851.1—1995

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Maintenance of fire protection  
equipment**

**Part 1: Portable fire  
extinguishers and fire blankets**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee FP/3, Fire Extinguishers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 13 October 1995 and published on 5 January 1993.

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The following interests are represented on Committee FP/3:

Aerosol Association of Australia  
Australian Construction Service—Department of the Arts and Administrative Services  
Australian Fire Authorities Council  
Australian Fire Protection Association  
Commonwealth Fire Board  
Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.  
Department of Defence, Australia  
Federal Bureau of Consumer Affairs  
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## **Maintenance of fire protection equipment**

### **Part 1: Portable fire extinguishers and fire blankets**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee FP/3 on Fire Extinguishers to supersede AS 1851.1—1989, *Maintenance of fire protection equipment, Part 1: Portable fire extinguishers*.

This Standard is the result of a consensus among representatives on the Joint Committee to provide it as an Australian Standard.

This edition of the Standard includes a maintenance schedule for fire blankets and maintains the concept of periodicity of inspection and servicing for fire extinguishers formerly referred to as 'levels of inspection and servicing'. The periods are on a time-elapsed basis and range, depending on the extinguisher type, from six-monthly inspections to six-yearly inspections. The maintenance schedule tables are no longer grouped according to the different types of extinguishers; instead, they are now in terms of maintenance periods.

With the publication of AS 1851.1—1985, the maintenance of all chemical fire extinguishers was brought to a common cyclic routine, i.e. six-monthly, yearly, three-yearly as appropriate, and six-yearly. This replaced the timetables in AS 1851, Part 1—1976 which gave no easy correlation between the maintenance periods of various types of extinguishers.

Requirements for the charging of new extinguishers shipped empty are given in AS 1841, *Portable fire extinguishers*. Installation procedures and requirements, and signs, are specified in AS 2444, *Portable fire extinguishers—Selection and location*.

A companion Standard to provide guidance on servicing of portable fire extinguishers is available (AS 3676—1989, *Portable fire extinguishers—Guide to servicing*) and will assist in the general duties, training, and certification of personnel expected to service and maintain portable fire extinguishers.

In 1979, Standards controlling the manufacture of extinguishers were upgraded significantly and Standards Australia became directly involved through the quality assurance and certification scheme and the application of a unique identification label.

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## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE .....	4
1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS .....	5
1.3 DEFINITIONS .....	5
SECTION 2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	
2.1 RECORD OF DISPOSITION AND LOCATION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS ..	6
2.2 INSPECTION AND SERVICE .....	7
2.3 EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE .....	9
2.4 DEFECTS .....	10
2.5 RECHARGING .....	11
SECTION 3 MAINTENANCE SCHEDULES .....	12
APPENDIX A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE FOR FIRE BLANKETS .....	22

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