

NFPA®

17

Standard for
Dry Chemical Extinguishing
Systems

2021



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NFPA® 17

Standard for

Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems

2021 Edition

This edition of NFPA 17, *Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Dry and Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems. It was issued by the Standards Council on June 1, 2020, with an effective date of June 21, 2020, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 17 was approved as an American National Standard on June 21, 2020.

Origin and Development of NFPA 17

The Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems Committee was established in 1952. At that time, there was no dry chemical extinguishing system tested and listed by a testing laboratory, but by late 1954, a system was tested and listed by Underwriters Laboratories Inc. At its meeting in January 1955, the Committee prepared an outline of a standard on dry chemical extinguishing systems and, in the following year, prepared the standard that was tentatively adopted by the National Fire Protection Association on June 7, 1956. Changes to the tentative standard led to approval of the first official NFPA standard on dry chemical extinguishing systems in 1957. Further amendments were made in 1958, 1968, 1969, 1972, 1973, 1975, and 1980. The 1985 edition was a complete revision of the standard. The 1990 edition was a partial revision.

The 1998 edition of the standard was revised to clarify the requirements for protection of unclosable openings and equipment shutdown.

Changes to the 2002 edition consisted of an editorial restructuring of the standard in accordance with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*, a specific reference for the listing of pre-engineered systems, and a simplification of the requirements for common ducts.

The 2009 edition included requirements for service technician qualifications. Definitions were coordinated with the NFPA *Glossary of Terms*.

The 2013 edition of this standard clarified the requirements for inspection and maintenance and provided new requirements for installation acceptance.

The 2017 edition included revisions to clarify the intent of component and system requirements in Chapters 4 and 5, respectively. Editorial changes included an update of the standard to comply with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

The 2021 edition of this standard provides new requirements consistent with NFPA 12 and NFPA 2001 on the methods for supporting pipe, and addresses provisions on a common failure of special hazard fire-extinguishing systems, consistent with NFPA 72® and NFPA 2001.