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Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
Phone 416-901-9198 Fax 416-901-5654

Used fire extinguishers????????????

How exactly is buying a used fire extinguisher saving you money? Do you know who the previous owner of the unit is? In Canada only manufacturers can give warranties on new extinguishers. As for used extinguishers the ULC does not recognize this as a safe practice. Any Fire protection company telling you that buying a used or RECONDITIONED fire extinguisher is the best thing for your budget is wrong. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 any and all fire extinguishers made on or before the year 1984 is to be taken out of service at its next maintenance or hydro test whichever ever comes first. Which means that for all those people who saved a few dollars last year you now have to replace that unit because as of 2008 all those units will be due for hydrostatic testing. So did they save any money at all??? NOT A CENT !!!!!

So here's what really happening when you buy a used fire extinguisher ... you get no factory warranty, no guarantees that the unit has actually been refurbished in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations and you possibly get an old halon extinguisher shell painted red to make it look like a dry chemical extinguisher. If the extinguisher has been painted as part of this refurbishment then you now have corrosion trapped under this paint and this cause the unit to decay at a quicker rate. All these are the common sense reason not to buy a used fire extinguisher. so what does the code say about it ????

The code doesn't specifically deal with the manufacturer of fire extinguishers The NFPA doesn't specifically deal with it either both of these important codes refer you to the manufacturers recommended maintenance and inspection intervals.. Fire Codes and the NFPA deal with placement and hazard etc... Any company that tells you its not against the code IS WRONG AND NOT TELLING YOU THE TRUTH!!!! CODES DO NOT REGULATED THE MANUFACTURERS!!!!

Basically the ULC,ANSI and Transport Canada say weather or not you can recondition a fire extinguisher. Every time you hydrostatic test a fire extinguisher you are in fact reconditioning the unit itself. These tests are done following the manufacturers spec's. So is it illegal??

From all my research it is not illegal.. however when a fire protection company sells a fire extinguisher as refurbished or used IT DOES VOID ANY MANUFACTURES WARRENTIES THAT STILL APPLY TO THE EXTINGUISHER. A ULC rated fire extinguisher must be supported by the manufacturer for a minimum of 2 hydrostatic tests which is equal to 24 years and that's all. After this time it is recommended to replace the fire extinguisher. SO SAVE YOUR MONEY NOW AND BUY A NEW FIRE EXTINGUIHER> don't fall for this one " Its reconditioned we didn't want it to go to the land fill" fire extinguisher don't go to landfills any responsible fire equipment company cuts the extinguishers in pieces and recycles the precious metals that the extinguisher is made from. DON'T FALL FOR THE BS now you know the truth.

Michael O'Toole  
President SCO fire & Life Safety

These are the express opinions of Mr. O'Toole and in no way are to be construed as a lawful advice or code relevant these are opinions based on research and 22 years of experience in the Fire Protection & Life Safety industry.

[admin@subcomone.com](mailto:admin@subcomone.com) [www.subcomone.com](http://www.subcomone.com)  
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