



Badger Fire Protection  
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A UTC Fire & Security Company

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN #102-0110

**Date: November 2000**

### **Subject: Conversion or Modification of Badger Fire Extinguishers**

While attending major industry trade shows, Badger became aware of several companies attempting to market some new products by modifying stainless steel water and foam fire extinguishers to expel various forms of liquid additives, concentrates or solutions.

Understanding the potentially serious metallurgical and material compatibility issues some of these liquid solution mediums could present to various extinguisher components, **Badger would like to clearly state that for safety reasons it does not condone the field conversion or modification of any of its portable fire extinguishers.**

Without having undergone proper metallurgical review and long term agent exposure testing, various additives could potentially weaken the integrity of stainless steel fire extinguishers. Because these weakened material conditions often occur over periods of time and are not always visually apparent, these extinguishers could rupture violently when being pressurized during recharge, causing injury or death.

Badger recommends that only the extinguishing agent and component materials specifically listed on the extinguisher's original nameplate be utilized. These materials have been thoroughly tested and properly evaluated by the approval agency and are specified on the original fire extinguisher's nameplate manifest under the recharge instructions.

The 2010 edition of NFPA-10 paragraphs 4.4.2, 7.4.1.4.1, 7.4.1.4.2 and 8.4.2(9) clearly indicate that portable fire extinguishers are not to be converted or modified and that if they are found to be used for any purpose other than a fire extinguisher, they are to be condemned or destroyed at the owners direction.

The use of any other extinguishing agents, materials, concentrates or additives not only voids the terms of Badger Fire Protection's product warranty, but in effect also voids the approval agency listing of that extinguisher, making them non-compliant with NFPA and most other regulations. (Reference Badger Technical Bulletin #106)

For additional information refer to the National Fire Protection Associations portable fire extinguisher standard (NFPA10) or contact Badger Fire Protection at 800-446 3857.