

Advisory Circular

Subject: AIRCRAFT FIRE EXTINGUISHING
AGENTS

Date: 7/08/04

Initiated by: AAS-
100

AC No: 150/5210-
6D

Change:

1. PURPOSE. This Advisory Circular (AC) provides guidance for reference material covering Aircraft Fire Extinguishing Agents.

2. CANCELLATION. Advisory Circular 150/5210-6C, dated January 28, 1985, is cancelled.

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CHAPTER 1. BACKGROUND.

1.1 GENERAL.

This AC provides reference information on the following agents:

- Primary aircraft fire extinguishing agents
- Supplementary aircraft fire extinguishing agents
- Other aircraft fire extinguishing agents

1.2.3 Other Agents.

In general there are other special-use fire extinguishing agents available to airport firefighting services. In particular, those agents used to combat Class D fires, such as magnesium fires, are referred to as combustible metal agents. These agents can be either in the form of liquid or powder. For information on powder agents, refer to NFPA 403 Annex A, §A.5.5.

Under certain fire situations “wetting agents” may be appropriate. A wetting agent is defined as a chemical compound that, when added to water in proper quantities, materially reduces its surface tension, increases its penetrating and spreading abilities, and might also provide emulsification and foaming characteristics. These agents should be discharged through an in-line proportioning system to a handline so as not to contaminate the vehicles primary foam distribution system. These agents should not be mixed in any primary agent tanks. For further information on wetting agents, refer to NFPA 18, Standard on Wetting Agents.