

# Automotive service and repair industry

## Fire response

The risk of fires can be reduced by keeping your workplace clean and free from rubbish, chemicals, solvents and fuel. As soon as you notice a fire:

- raise the alarm before you do anything else and consider that there may be adjoining workplaces that may also need to be notified or evacuated
- attempt to put the fire out with an extinguisher or hose reel
- make sure you know which extinguisher to use on electrical or chemical fires.

Portable fire extinguishers and hose reels should be located in appropriate positions throughout the workplace, as well as in vehicles and mobile plant.

Ensure all workers are familiar with the extinguisher locations in the work area.

It is important to maintain visibility and clear access to all fire extinguishers and hose reels, as well as clear walkways.

A fire situation is no time to be tripping over things or clambering over boxes to get to an extinguisher. Keep all exits clear.

If you use an extinguisher, even partly, **do not** place it back on its hook. Organise for the extinguisher to be refilled.

Fire extinguishers must be inspected regularly as required by the *Australian Standard 1851* (from six monthly, depending on the class). Extinguishers, fire reels, hydrants and fire blankets must be signposted to denote their presence.

Evacuation procedures should be explained to all workers when they start at the workplace, and at regular times throughout their employment.

For further information on general health and safety issues, call 1300 369 915 or visit [www.deir.qld.gov.au](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au).

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