FIRE EXTINGUISHER SELECTION AND USE

Fire extinguishers are an integral element in the emergency management system at the University. While portable fire extinguishers are simple to use, there are some basic points to remember about the selection and operation of fire extinguishers if confronted by a fire.

Selecting a fire extinguisher

The selection of a fire extinguisher is governed according to the class of fire. The table below outlines which fire extinguisher should be used to extinguish the class of fire.
Operating a Fire Extinguisher

Fire extinguishers should only be used when it is safe to do so. When using a fire extinguisher there are some basic principles which can be easily remembered from the acronym PASS:

- **P**ull the Pin – Break seal and test extinguisher
- **A**im at the base of the fire – Ensure you have a means of escape
- **S**queeze the top handle or lever – To operate extinguisher and discharge agent
- **S**weep from side to side – Completely extinguish the fire

Before attempting to extinguish a fire always raise the alarm and seek assistance. When attempting to fight the fire ensure you have a safe means of exit – Never let the fire get between you and the exit.