



Emergency Responder Note

(U) WARNING:
 Suspiciously located fire extinguishers should be considered a threat. Never touch or disturb a suspect IED. If found in suspicious circumstances, CALL 9-1-1 OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

(U) Container

(U) Function

- Fire Extinguisher-based IEDs can be employed as Victim, Command or Timed devices

(U) Components

- Fire Extinguisher
- Explosive or Pyrotechnic fillers
- Initiator
- Power Supply
- Switch
- Fragmentation (Shrapnel)

(U) Incidents

- St. Petersburg, Russia (April 2017)
- Pisgat Ze'ev, Israel (August 2011)

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(U) Improvised Explosive Device (IED) / Container: Fire Extinguisher(s)

(U) NOTE: This product is provided for awareness and information purposes only. ALWAYS follow your individual office standard operating procedures (SOPs) when encountering suspected IED-related materials.



(U) Indicators / What to Look for:

- Modified fire extinguisher containers can be identified by enhancements to the body; cut marks, visible or protruding wires, and other alterations, including fragmentation sleeves and/or with electric tape. They may also be equipped with electronics, e.g., cellular telephones, wrist watches, timers, etc.
- Extinguishers found in suspicious locations, e.g., placed on the ground in an unmarked or out-of-place areas, and/or in a cluster of two or more fire extinguishers positioned at one scene.
- Suspicious extinguisher units, which differ by make or model, and more importantly by appearance, i.e., very new or very old, weathered, etc.

(U) Significance:

IED components can be fully contained within fire extinguishers that otherwise appear innocuous. Due to their volume, fire extinguisher-based IEDs can produce large mechanical or chemical explosions. An IED contained within a fire extinguisher can easily accommodate fragmentation enhancements, such as nails, nuts, bolts, ball bearings or similar material, which can significantly increase the likelihood of injury or death to victims and damage to property. Utilize proper frontal and overhead cover during all cordoning phases.