

Introduction and Unit Overview

The role of CERTs in fire safety:

- ◆ Put out small fires.
- ◆ Prevent additional fires.
- ◆ Shutoff utilities
- ◆ Assist with evacuations where necessary.



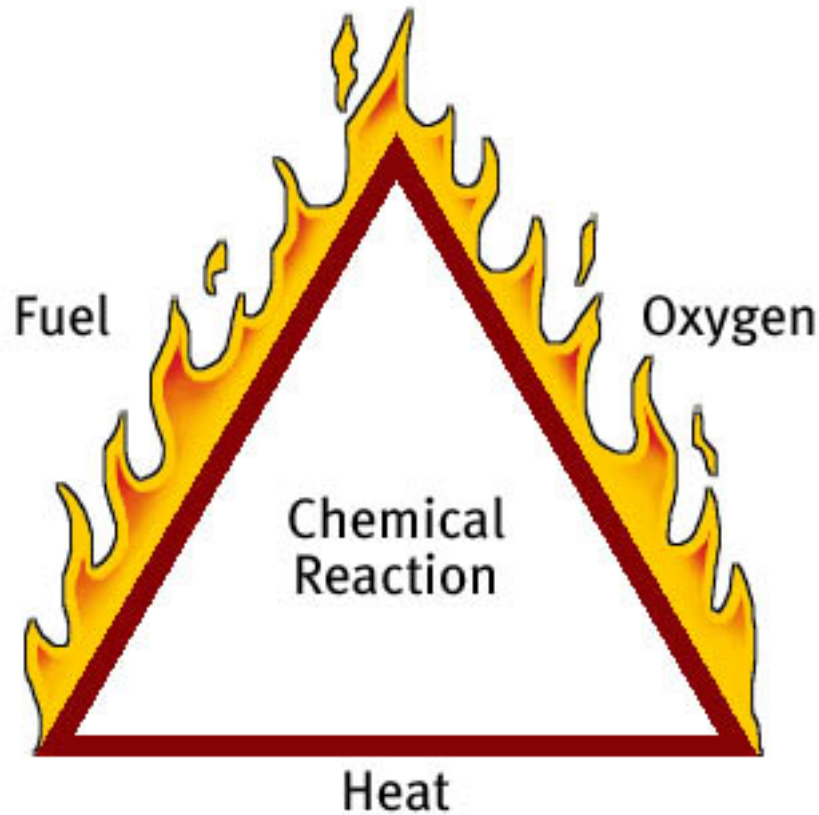
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Unit Objectives

- ◆ Explain the role of CERTs in fire safety.
- ◆ Identify and reduce potential fire risks in the home and workplace.
- ◆ Conduct a basic sizeup for a fire emergency.
- ◆ Understand basic safety precautions.
- ◆ Identify hazardous materials in the home and community.
- ◆ Extinguish small fires using a fire extinguisher.

The Fire Triangle

- ◆ Heat
- ◆ Fuel
- ◆ Oxygen



Fire Chemistry

Classes of fire:

- ◆ A: Ordinary combustibles
- ◆ B: Flammable and combustible liquids
- ◆ C: Energized electrical equipment
- ◆ D: Combustible metals



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- ◆ Avoid the “electrical octopus.”
- ◆ Don’t run cords under carpets.
- ◆ Replace broken or frayed cords.
- ◆ Maintain appliances.



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- ◆ Install a natural gas detector.
- ◆ Locate and label gas shutoffs.



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- ◆ Read labels.
- ◆ Use L.I.E.S. storage procedures (Limit, Isolate, Eliminate, Separate).



CERT sizeup

Answer these questions:

- ◆ Can my buddy and I fight the fire safely?
- ◆ Do we have the right equipment?
- ◆ Are there other hazards?
- ◆ Is the building structurally damaged?
- ◆ Can we escape?



CERT Sizeup

1. Gather Facts.
2. Assess Damage.
3. Consider Probabilities.
4. Assess Your Situation.
5. Establish Priorities.
6. Make Decisions.
7. Develop Plans of Action .
8. Take Action.
9. Evaluate Progress.



Firefighting Resources

Resources available:

- ◆ Portable fire extinguishers
- ◆ Wet standpipes
- ◆ Confinement
- ◆ “Creative” resources



Types of Fire Extinguishers

- ◆ Water
- ◆ Dry chemical
- ◆ Carbon dioxide
- ◆ Specialized fire extinguisher



- ◆ Pull
- ◆ Aim
- ◆ Squeeze
- ◆ Sweep

Test the extinguisher before approaching any fire.



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Fire Suppression Safety

Do:

- ◆ Use safety equipment.
- ◆ Work in a buddy system.
- ◆ Have a backup team.
- ◆ Have two ways to exit.
- ◆ Maintain a safe distance.
- ◆ Overhaul the fire.

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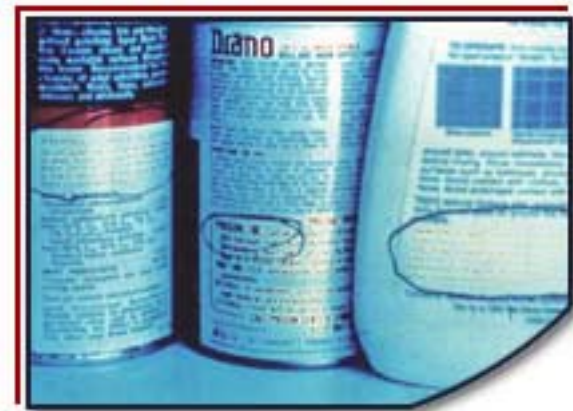
Fire Suppression Safety

DON'T

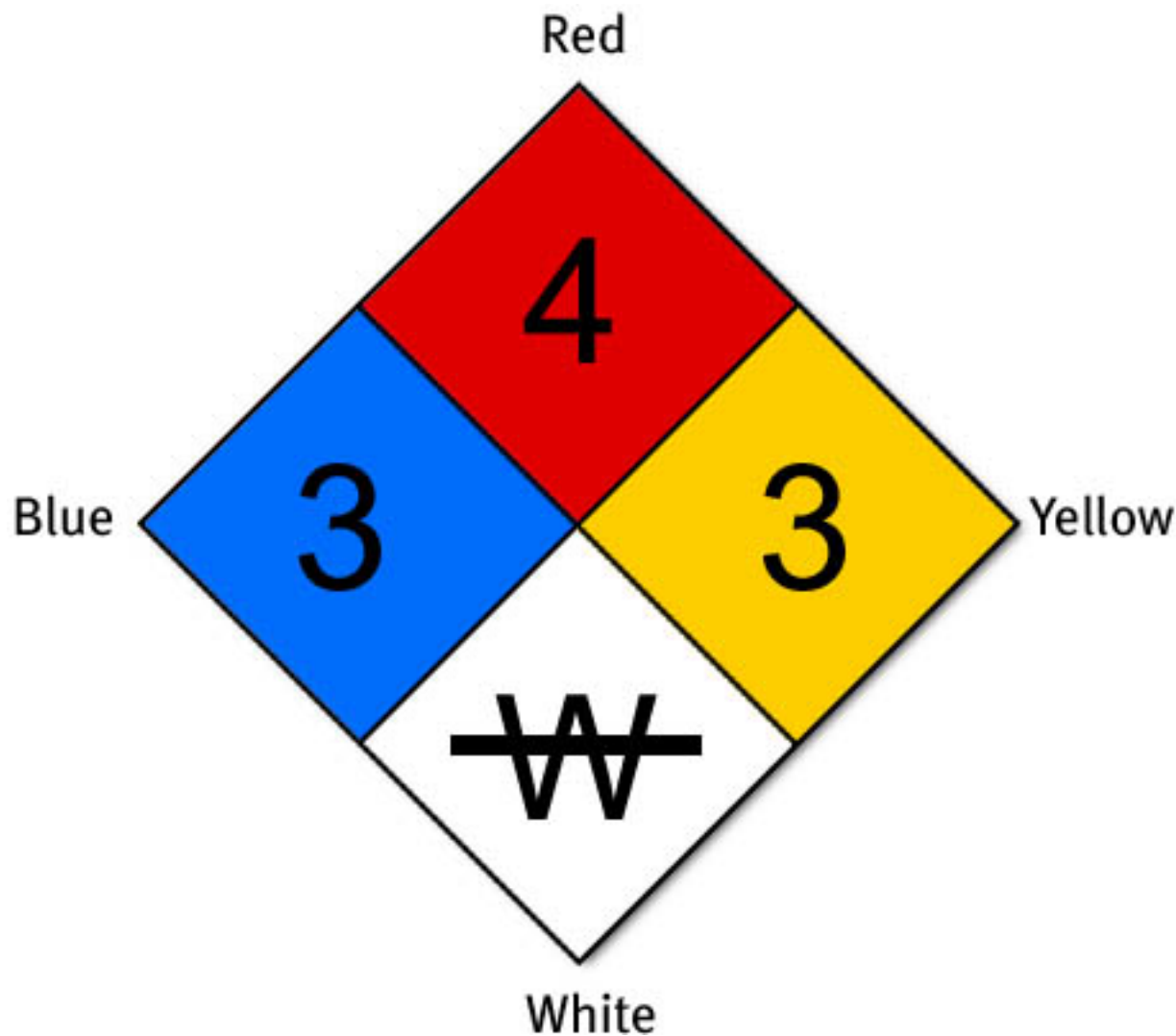
- ◆ Try to suppress large fires.
- ◆ Get too close.
- ◆ Fight it alone.
- ◆ Enter smoke-filled areas.

Hazardous Materials . . .

- ◆ Corrode other materials
- ◆ Explode or are easily ignited
- ◆ React strongly with water
- ◆ Are unstable when exposed to heat or shock
- ◆ Are toxic to humans, animals, or the environment



Identifying Stored Hazardous Materials

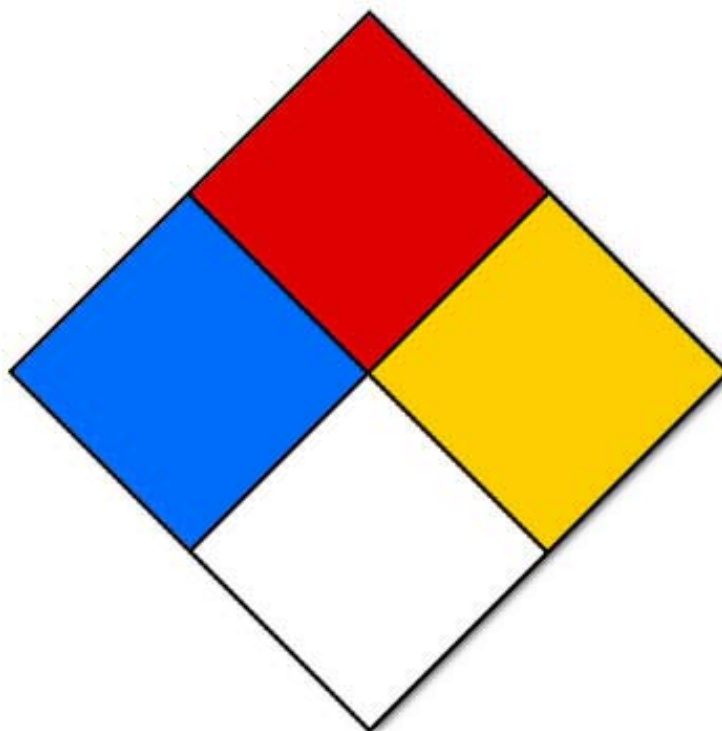


Identifying Stored Hazardous Materials

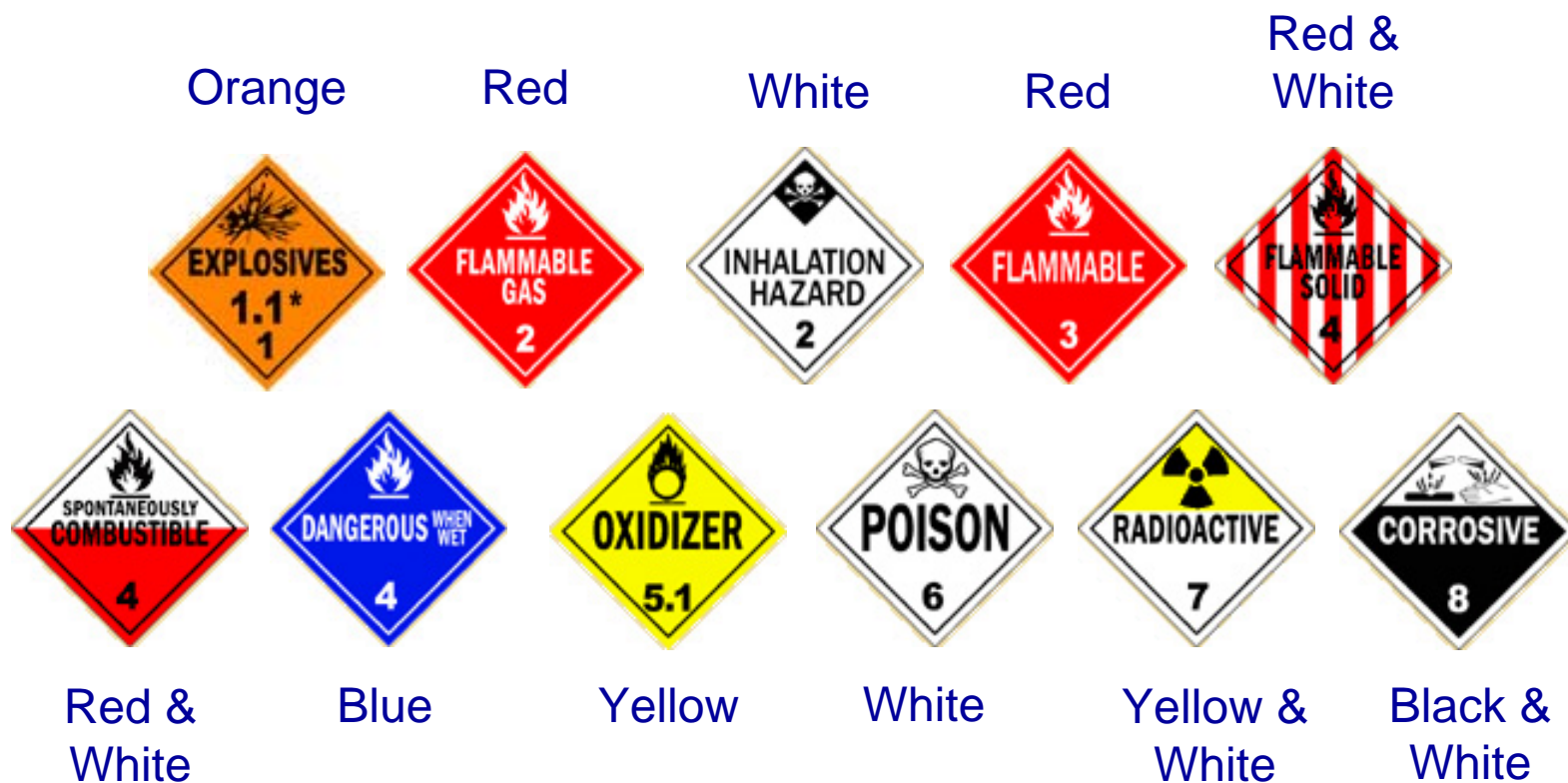
NFPA 704 Diamond-White Quadrant:

W Shows unusual reactivity with water

OX Possesses oxidizing properties



Identifying Hazardous Materials in Transit



Identifying Hazardous Materials in Transit

