

WAC 296-24-62799 Appendix A—Fixed extinguishing systems, water spray and foam. (1) **Scope and application.** This section applies to those systems that use water spray or foam. The requirements of WAC 296-24-617 also apply to this type of system.

(2) **Characteristics of foams.** When selecting the type of foam for a specific hazard, the employer should consider the following limitations of some foams.

(a) Some foams are not acceptable for use on fires involving flammable gases and liquefied gases with boiling points below ambient workplace temperatures. Other foams are not effective when used on fires involving polar solvent liquids.

(b) Any agent using water as part of the mixture should not be used on fire involving combustible metals unless it is applied under proper conditions to reduce the temperature of burning metal below the ignition temperature. The employer should use only those foams that have been tested and accepted for this application by a recognized independent testing laboratory.

(c) Certain types of foams may be incompatible and break down when they are mixed together.

(d) For fires involving water miscible solvents, employers should use only those foams tested and approved for such use. Regular protein foams may not be effective on such solvents.

Whenever employers provide a foam or water spray system, drainage facilities must be provided to carry contaminated water or foam overflow away from the employee work area and egress routes. This drainage system should drain to a central impounding area where it can be collected and disposed of properly. Other government agencies may have regulations concerning environmental considerations.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 15-24-100, § 296-24-62799, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/5/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 82-02-003 (Order 81-32), § 296-24-62799, filed 12/24/81.]