

FIRE HOSE REELS

Call emergency services: 0800 033 911 for assistance.

Remain calm but act quickly

This documentation is merely guidelines, suggestions or recommendations and NOT a complete list of loss-control measures; it has been compiled from information obtained via the internet from various fire and safety sites to assist in the basic learning of fire safety. The information is NOT intended to replace manuals or instructions provided by the manufacturer or the advice of a qualified professional, nor is it intended to effect coverage under any policy.

The purpose of fire hose reels in buildings is to protect lives and properties of the residents by providing a convenient point to obtain water for fire fighting.

**A FIRE HOSE REEL IS A FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT TO
EXTINGUISH FIRES,
NOT WASH CARS OR CORRIDORS!!!**

**No use being compliant with your fire fighting equipment and have no
visible signage
indicating location**

UNDERSTANDING THE **FIRE HOSE REEL**

DESCRIPTION

A fire hose reel is a fire fighting equipment used to extinguish fires using pressured water. The frame is a cylindrical shaped spindle that is used to roll or unroll a 30m PVC hose and nozzle. Fire hose reels are generally permanently fixed to a wall in a specific location; however, occasionally they are portable and attached to a truck, trailer or cart.

WHAT DOES IT DO?

It expels pressured water to extinguish Class A fires. Fire Hose reels are an effective and easy to use medium of fighting fire risk (non-electrical fires ONLY).

WHERE DO YOU INSTALL ONE?

Hose reels are designed to be mounted at a height of 1.5m from centre of disc (to floor). It should be positioned in an area that is easily accessible and unobstructed. They can also be installed in cabinets to safeguard them from vandalism or weather elements.

WHO AND WHY SHOULD YOU HAVE ONE?

Installation should be wherever the law requires one, such as commercial, industrial and public buildings (e.g. restaurants, hotels, businesses, apartment blocks), as they can be used by the occupants as a first response to a small developing fire, if it is safe to do so.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

It works by using the cooling effect of water, to reduce the heat from combustion to below its ignition temperature.

WHAT CLASS OF FIRES DO YOU USE IT ON?

Suitable for CLASS A fires: paper, textiles, wood, most plastics and rubbers

NOT SUITABLE FOR ELECTRICAL FIRES

Water and electricity do not mix:

If you are able to leave the lights on, the water touching any electrical cable will more than likely cause a power outage, creating more coax.

Water and burning liquids do not mix:





Oil floats on water; therefore a possible overflow of water can cause the fire to spread, creating more coax.

Excess of water:

Possibly, untrained persons attempting to extinguish the fire may continue to use the fire hose reel; long after the fire has been extinguished, flooding the affected area, creating more coax.

Over usage:

Possibly, both, trained or untrained persons attempting to extinguish the fire using a fire hose reel may remain at the scene for longer than necessary, thinking that the fire might extinguish soon, creating a more serious danger to themselves.

Fire Hose Reel	CLASS A: Wood, paper & plastics	CLASS B: Flammable Liquids and Gases	CLASS C: Energised Electrical Equipment	CLASS F: Cooking oil & Fats
				
	✓	✗	✗	✗

FIRE HOSE REELS CAN BE USED TO KEEP GAS CYLINDERS COOL SO THEY DO NOT EXPLODE

WATER



HOW TO USE IT?

READ THE MANUFACTURERS LABEL PRIOR TO USE

DO NOT FIGHT THE FIRE IF THE SIZE INCREASES OR FOR TOO LONG

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS.

1. Ensure that you have a clear escape / evacuation route between you and the nearest exit door.
2. Turn on the CP/stop valve.
3. Run out the length of hose as required.
4. Turn the nozzle to the desired pressure
5. Direct at base of the fire and use short sweeping bursts, Remember: keep a safe distance from the fire keep away from the smoke and steam

When the fire hose reel is no longer needed:

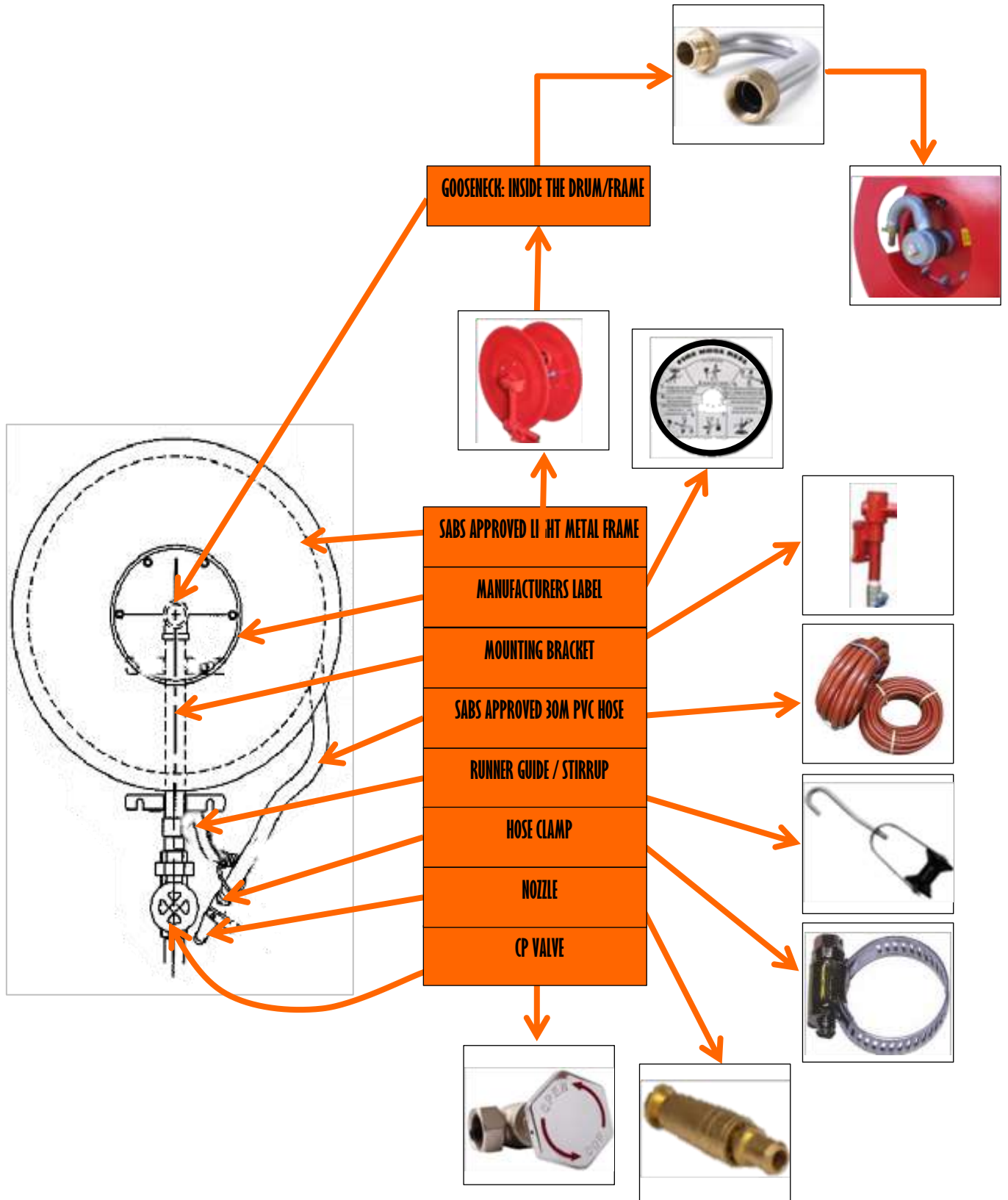
6. Turn the nozzle to closed position
7. Roll the hose up PROPERLY
8. Close the CP / stop valve



1. OPEN VALVE FULLY	
2. PULL OUT HOSE	
3. OPEN NOZZLE	
4. AIM AT BASE OF FIRE	

DISECTING A FIRE HOSE REEL?

A 30m SABS approved PVC non-kinking hose, which is permanently connected to a water supply so therefore should dispense virtually an unlimited supply of water, is fastened inside the frame/drum to a goose neck by clamps. The SABS approved light metal frame, normally red in colour, is tightly fastened to the wall using approved brackets. The CP valve (turn on/off valve) controls whether water will or will not enter the hose. Twisting the plastic or aluminium nozzle (which is held in place at the end of the hose by a clamp) either left or right determines the pressure of the water flow. The runner guide (or stirrup) holds the hose in place.



MISUSE OR POOR HOUSEKEEPING



Due to the strong pressure and versatility, fire hose reels are often used for general maintenance and other uses.

To prevent misuse of the fire hose reel, the following measures can be taken:

- 1) A lockable fire hose reel cabinet, the cabinet has a break glass that holds the cabinet key
- 2) Enclose the outlet (CP valve and nozzle) in a "break glass box".



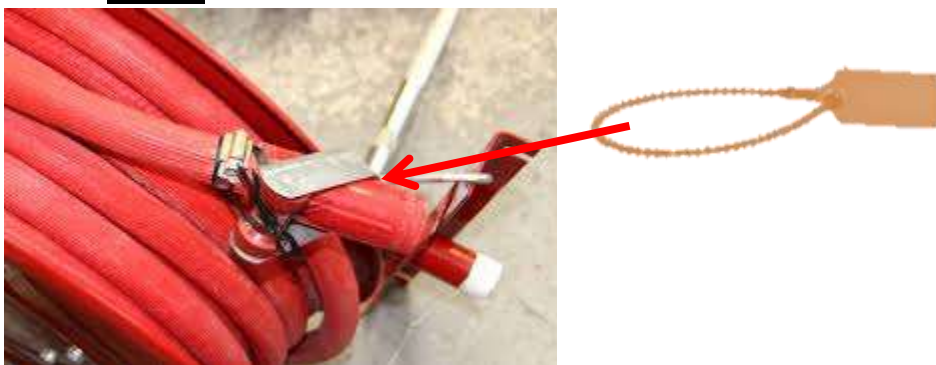
This does not necessarily prevent illegal use, however, sometimes does act as a deterrent against it, therefore ensuring the fire hose reels are always in a good working condition ready for fighting fires.

Please note:

Using a fire hose reel for non-fire purposes is illegal and should the fire department inspector decide to do a spot check, there possibly could be a fine issued.

If the water supply comes from a roof water tank and the water supply has been used for illegal uses causing the tank to not functioning properly it could cause serious injury, death or loss of property.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR TO CONFIRM IF THE FIRE HOSE REEL HAS NOT BEEN USED?



The service provider's safety seal should still be secured to the fire hose reel (normally via the runner guide), this ensures that the fire hose reel remains in good working order when it is truly required.

If there is no safety seal attached, contact a registered service provider ([Active Fire Services](#))

MONTHLY INSPECTIONS / MAINTENANCE:

WHAT TO DO TO KEEP IT IN WORKING ORDER?

- Regular (monthly) inspections, can be carried out by competent personnel using a check list (example below)
- Contact a registered service provider (**Active Fire Services**) if you see any faults.

CHECKLIST

Type	: correct type for the specific area
Accessibility	: fire hose reels are at required height, in place and not missing
Location markings	: clear, visible, identification numbers on wall
Location	: unobstructed and visibly marked
Demarcations	: clearly marked
Frame condition	: no visible corrosion, dents,
Nozzles	: no cracks
Clamps	: no corrosion, intact and in place
Hoses	: no brittleness or inner hose showing
Condition of bracket	: no corrosion, securely fastened to wall
Running guide	: no corrosion, no damage, intact and secure
Safety seal	: sealed
Service date	: within the required service date (annual service)
Manufacturers label	: totally intact, clearly visible and legible, correct label for type fire HOSE REEL

SERVICING YOUR FIRE HOSE REEL?

Have you checked when last your fire HOSE REEL was serviced?

Normally it is the owners (of the building/complex) to have the fire hose reels annually serviced, however, be vigilant, even though you may not be your responsibility, keep a check on it as that fire hose reel may save your life, or the lives of others, in an event of an emergency.

Regular (annual) maintenance / service intervals, to be carried out by registered SAQCC technicians

Does your service provider have the correct accreditations or approvals E.g. SABS or SAQCC?

HOW TO CONFIRM?

- Check the SAQCC website (SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE): www.sagccfire.co.za for your local registered company and qualified/registered service technician.
- Check the SABS website (SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS): www.sabs.co.za for your local registered fire service provider.

WHO?

- A fire company who is SABS accredited (with an SABS mark)
- An SAQCC registered and valid service technician,

WHEN?

- As per SABS (SANS 1475 part 2) standards and regulations your fire hose reel must be serviced every 12months, unless the fire hose reel is situated in an extremely high risk area for explosions, then servicing should occur every 6months.

WHY?

- Servicing your fire HOSE REEL ensures that it is in good working order for when you really need it.

HOW?

- Servicing is carried out as per SANS 1475 part 2 standards and regulations.

INDICATIONS THAT YOUR FIRE HOSE REEL HAS BEEN SERVICED

- A service label carrying the SABS and SAQCC mark, consisting of:
 - Service provider company name and details,
 - When it was serviced,
 - Next service date,
 - Service technician's SAQCC registered number, and
 - Condition of the fire HOSE REEL must be stated.

IS THE MANUFACTURERS INSTRUCTION DECAL/LABEL IMPORTANT?

Although the manufacturer's instruction label is sometimes overlooked, it plays an extremely important part of the fire hose reel. The label assists with enabling the public, whether literate or illiterate*, to see what type of fire that specific fire hose reel can be used on. *there are pictures and words showing usage

PRESSURE TESTING THE HOSE?

WHY?

- Confirm that water flow is adequate and hose can withhold the working pressure

WHO?

- A fire company who is SABS accredited (with an SABS mark)
- An SAQCC registered and valid service technician

HOW?

- As per SANS 1475 part 2

WHY CONDEMN?

- No spare parts available
- Goose neck seized
- Frame damaged, corroded beyond repair
- Stem pipe (bracket) corroded beyond repair