

First-Of-Its-Kind Fire Extinguisher

The Rusoh Eliminator is a revolutionary way to put out virtually all types of fires. It eliminates depressurization that can turn a traditional fire extinguisher into just a can on the wall. The heavy-duty poly body resists accidental damage, rust and corrosion. And once used, can be easily recharged.

Rusoh fire extinguishers use a replaceable CO2 cartridge, new style housing and a fluffing wheel to keep the chemical mix from settling over time.



“Durability and self-service are two of the most popular features of the Rusoh Eliminator,” says Sara O’Mara, Rusoh, Inc. “We replaced all the negative features of traditional fire extinguishers, giving ours greater dependability and control.”

The very visible differences between the Eliminator and traditional extinguishers have been the company’s biggest marketing challenge, admits O’Mara.

“People expect to see a metal canister, but ours is a military-grade polymer, the same material used to make Glock handguns,” she says. “Traditional extinguishers are under constant pressure. Ours pressurizes only when needed to fight a fire.”

With a traditional fire extinguisher, the operator pulls a pin, aims the hose, squeezes the lever and sprays the fire from side to side. The Rusoh Eliminator design offers

faster action and more control.

“We call the response TPASS,” says O’Mara. “Twist the front locking mechanism to unlock the lever, pull the lever down to release the CO2, aim, squeeze and sweep from side to side. Activation releases CO2 from the attached cartridge, and a second later the operator is fighting the fire.”

Should the user discover the fire has gone out as they unlock the lever but have yet to pull it down, they can simply relock it. If the lever has been pulled down, O’Mara suggests releasing the harmless, dry compound outside over a lawn.

“If it is an ABC unit, the monoammonium phosphate will simply fertilize the grass,” says O’Mara.

The potassium bicarbonate in the BC models is equally nontoxic and commonly serves as a substitute for baking soda.

Maximum range with the Eliminator is 18 ft. It has an operating pressure of 185 psi for 13 seconds. The 16 3/4-in. high unit has a diameter of 5 1/2 in.

O’Mara credits the integrated nozzle and valve assembly for superior fire knockdown. The ergonomic design is equally handy for left or right-handed operators. The design of the chemical chamber includes a fluffing wheel at its base. Turning the wheel activates an internal auger with fins that breaks up compaction that occurs naturally with most powder compounds.

“We suggest fluffing the chemical mix monthly,” says O’Mara. “It breaks up any natural compaction into small chunks that are quickly shattered if the CO2 is activated. This gives us a 97 percent flow-through rate, leaving almost no chemical in the chamber.”

O’Mara points out that industry regulations require only a 90 percent flow through. Industry regulations also require annual servicing by certified service technicians of fire extinguishers in commercial settings.

“We offer a 25-min., online certification program that lets our customers service their own extinguishers,” says O’Mara.

The Rusoh Eliminator was under development for more than a decade before its introduction in 2017. Since then, it has proven its durability and utility to customers, suggests O’Mara.

“A customer in California described coming upon the start of a wildfire thought to have been started by a cigarette butt tossed out a window,” recounts O’Mara. “The chest-high fire had burned an 8 by 10-ft. area and was heading over a ridge. Others who had stopped threw sand on it in an attempt to contain it. Our customer grabbed his 5-lb. Eliminator and put it out in seconds.”

Rusoh Eliminators are available in 5-lb. models for ABC and BC type fires. A 2 1/2-lb. ABC model has recently been introduced. The 5-lb. Eliminator is available online at Becker Safety for \$149. Reloading kits with everything needed to return the Eliminator to fire-ready status in minutes is priced at \$74.99 on the same site.

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A scissoring gate saves space by using gas springs to swing up and out of the way.

Scissors Gate Lifts Straight Up

“A scissoring gate works where you cannot use a standard hinging gate,” says Kevin Sensenig, with Sturdy Built Mfg. in Denver, Penn. “The biggest use for it is in freestall barns - moving cows between alleyways.”

The gate hinges like a regular gate to help crowd cattle. But with gas springs, its ability to swing up means it takes up less floor space. “Dairy farmers appreciate the gate because it won’t block a feed bunk or freestall beds,” Sensenig says. But the scissoring gates do require barns with higher ceilings.

By doubling up, using two gates latched in the center, the gates can cover a wide space.

The gates are sturdy, made with galvanized steel. With only three rails, they are not designed to be used for holding pens or for small livestock such as goats.

A 12-ft. gate costs about \$1,100. Gates can be custom ordered to size and shipped anywhere in North America.

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C-Lock’s SmartFeed system provides weight gain and water consumption data via Wi-Fi or cellular and has a solar power option.



The SmartFeed system was used by one rancher to identify a bull that gained 6 lbs. per day and converted 3.52 lbs. of feed for each lb. of gain.

Hi-Tech Feed Bunk Provides Real-Time Data

Rate of gain and feed efficiency data is easy to get with a SmartFeed system from C-Lock, Inc. Add a SmartScale and you have real-time weight gain and water consumption data. Data can be used to identify superior animals for herd improvement or sale.

“One user installed three SmartFeed systems at a cost of about \$15,000 to evaluate a pen of young bulls,” says Jeff Clark, C-Lock Inc. “They identified one bull as gaining over 6 lbs. per day and converting 3.52 lbs. of feed to each pound of gain. That bull sold for \$105,000, more than \$40,000 over their previous high selling bull.”

SmartFeed units are free-standing portable feed bunks that can be used with 8 to 12 animals. Feed bins are available in either heavy-duty poly or stainless steel. They include a load cell, RFID reader, feed bin technology, and data transmission system.

SmartScale weighing systems are set in front of water tanks and can be customized

to use most existing water sources. Alleyway width is easily adjustable to allow only one animal access at a time. Multiple scales can be designed and installed at a single water source for larger capacity pens.

Real-time data from both the SmartScale and the SmartFeed bunk is transmitted via Wi-Fi or a cellular network to a cloud-based server. If the connection is lost, data is stored on units until the connection is restored. Data can also be downloaded using a USB connection.

The only requirement for installation is AC power access. However, a solar power option is also available.

“Put an RFID tag in an animal’s ear and our SmartFeed system logs when the animal eats, how much it eats and how often it eats,” says Clark. “The SmartScale records the animal’s weight every time it stops to drink, as well as how often and how much water is consumed.”

Data is sent to the user interface for analysis and storage. It can be accessed as either raw or processed data by any internet-connected device via C-Lock’s cloud-based customer portal.

Changes in feed or water intake trigger alerts to the user. In the case of the SmartFeed, alerts go out when feed intake drops. The SmartScale sends an alert if an animal loses weight or if water intake increases or decreases significantly.

“One of the first signs of a problem is when an animal goes off feed or water,” says Clark. “Our alerts provide an early warning of problems as they develop.”

He notes that while a typical customer has from 5 to 10 SmartFeed units, that number can vary significantly.

“We have one customer in Neb. with 60 SmartFeed units in his feedlot,” says Clark. “However, a small producer can start with one system and expand as they grow. It is a

great way to get into the purebred bull sale business.”

C-Lock also offers SmartFeed Pro, an automated cattle feeder. It can be programmed to provide a set amount of feed for controlled daily intake. Once that limit is reached, whether at a single visit or successive visits, no more feed is provided. The exclusion gate allows only specified animals access and excludes others.

Still in the prototype stage, the Super SmartFeed is a self-contained portable system designed to operate autonomously in pasture and range systems. It offers precision supplement intake control.

Given current component supply and pricing situations, Clark suggests readers contact the company directly for pricing.

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