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CAFS – the Best Weapon to Fight Fires [by James](#)

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The hazards of fire are omnipresent and hence precautions are necessary. Knowledge about the various classes of fire and the methods of fighting it, contribute to the enhancement of the standard of safety. Though different fire-fighting equipment exists, the compressed air foam system or CAFS plays a significant role while fighting fires as it delivers fire retardant foam which prevents further spread of fire and also protects the unburned materials from catching fire. The fire triangle is known to all and it has been proved that CAFS breaks all the three sides of the triangle at the same time by cutting off the oxygen supply to the fuel by smothering effect.

CAFS has also other advantages like it cools down surrounding temperature as well as prevents the unburned material from getting heated from the radiant energy of the fuel. The equipment is capable of handling various foam concentrates from level one which is very dry to level five which is extremely wet.

Many books are published about the operation and use of CAFS to develop an idea and customize fire fighters about this new invention. This device not only saves the property from fire but it also complies with the objectives of fire man's safety. The performance of CAFS depends on its nozzle size and hence choosing the right one will yield better performance of the equipment. Moreover, an experienced fire fighter should be aware of the foam delivery rate to fight fire and this equipment is provided with a supplementary table giving this information which makes it convenient for fire fighters.

CAFS can be considered as an armour or shield against fire and best handling of this equipment can be advantageous in saving property as well as human life.

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