# How does Water Mist fit into the Water-Based Fire-Fighting World?

Istanbul, 22 October 2014 Alan Brinson



## European Fire Sprinkler Network

- Members from 17 countries
  - Fire Authorities, FPAs, insurers, consultancies, laboratories, sprinkler industry and others
- 1 employee and 3 consultants
- Working to see the wide-spread use of properly designed and installed sprinkler (and water mist) systems in Europe



# Agenda



European Sprinkler Market



# Agenda



#### European Sprinkler Market



Water Mist Markets



# Agenda



European Sprinkler Market



Water Mist Markets



The Future







#### Sprinklers/Thousand Inhabitants

US	125	Belgium	35
Norway	120	UK	28
Sweden	48	France	24
Germany	40	Spain	17
Netherlands	35	Italy	10

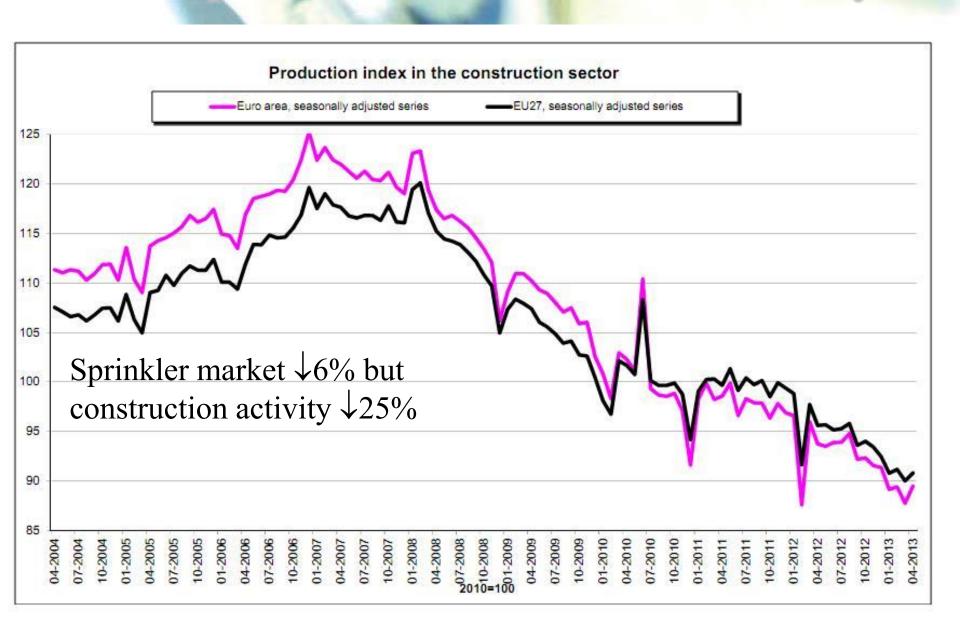
We have a lot to do!



## European Sprinkler Market

Country	Sprinklers in millions	
	IFSA 2007	<b>EFSN 2013</b>
Germany	2.8	3.3
Russia & Eastern Europe	2.5	2.5
United Kingdom & Ireland	2.2	1.7
France	1.6	1.5
Nordic	1.4	1.4
Benelux	1.3	1.0
Spain & Portugal	1.2	0.8
Italy	0.9	0.6
Austria & Switzerland	0.7	0.9
TOTAL	14.6	13.7

## **European Construction Activity**

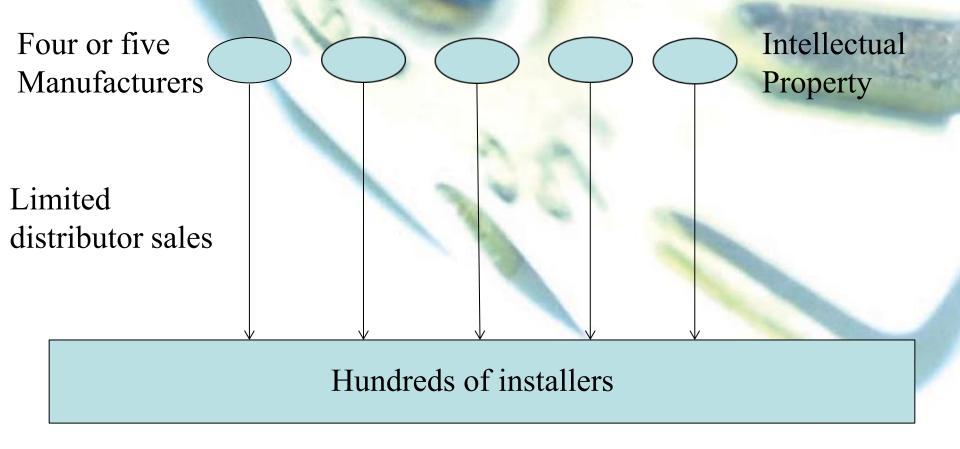


#### **European Sprinkler Market**

- Set to grow as construction picks up
- More new code requirements for sprinklers expected in next few years and will produce further growth
- Residential market showing very strong growth now but from a small base
- Water mist should take a share of this market growth

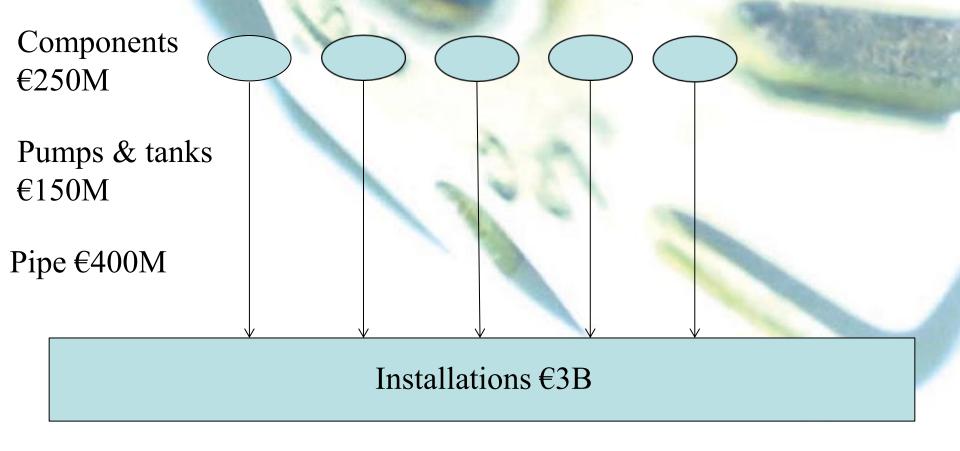


## Sprinkler Market Structure



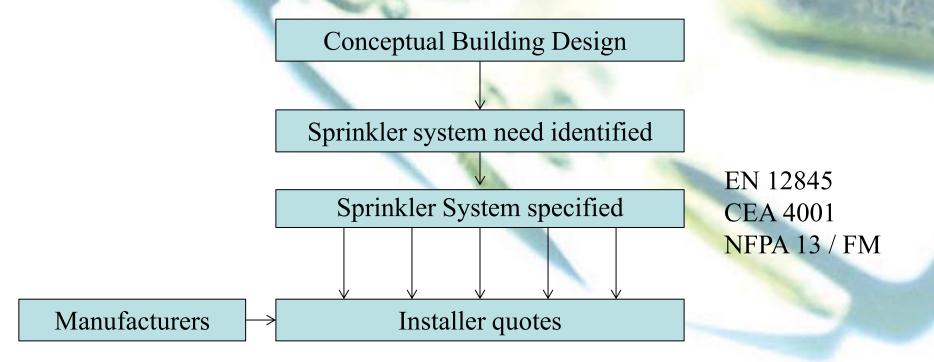


## European Sprinkler Market Value





## A Sprinkler Project









#### Water Mist Markets - Marine

- Standard throughout passenger vessels and in cargo ship machinery spaces
- Has displaced sprinklers and carbon dioxide
- Less weight, space and free water than sprinklers
- Faster action on fire, safer and cheaper than CO<sub>2</sub>



#### Water Mist Markets - Gas

- Applications such as IT suites, telecoms, archives
- Water mist is competitive with gas
- No issue with "leaky" rooms more robust solution
- Great for local application
- But cannot penetrate cabinets like gas
- And some customers still concerned about water
- > Probably not much more market growth here



#### Water Mist Markets – Sprinkler

- Applications are industrial, commercial buildings, schools, hospitals, housing... => the largest market
- Sprinkler systems are required by codes or insurers but some codes and insurers do not recognise water mist
- Acceptance in codes and by insurers will grow as CEN standards are developed – but this will still take years
- Water mist cannot compete with mains-fed sprinklers nor usually with sprinklers + pump + tank
- No water mist solution for warehouses



## Water Mist Markets – Sprinkler

- For each project water mist has to be explained and sold to end users, officials and insurers
- Water mist has an advantage where there is:
  - ❖ A lack of space for pumps and tanks
  - Concern about water damage
- Vertical integration of water mist suppliers and their differentiated technology hinders competitive tendering
- ⇒ Water mist has perhaps 3% of sprinkler market



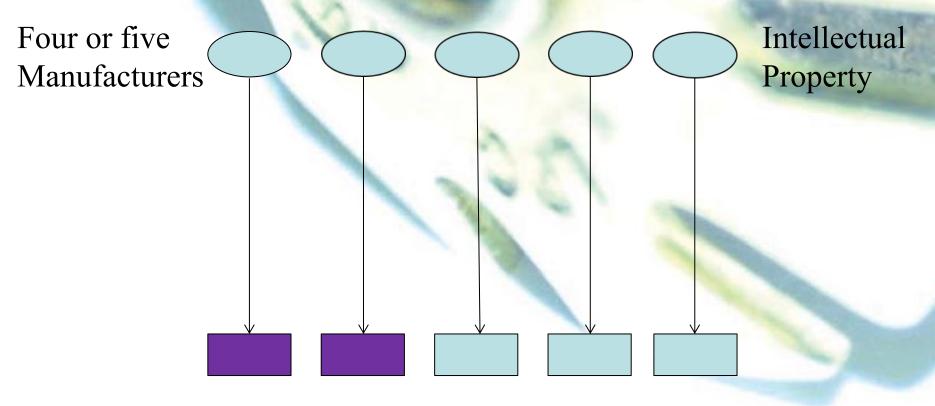
#### Water Mist Markets – Foam

Applications such as oil, chemical, petrochemical pharmaceutical and airports

➤ Negligible impact — water mist rarely used



#### Water Mist Market Structure



Distributor = installer

Manufacturer = installer

Relatively few suppliers

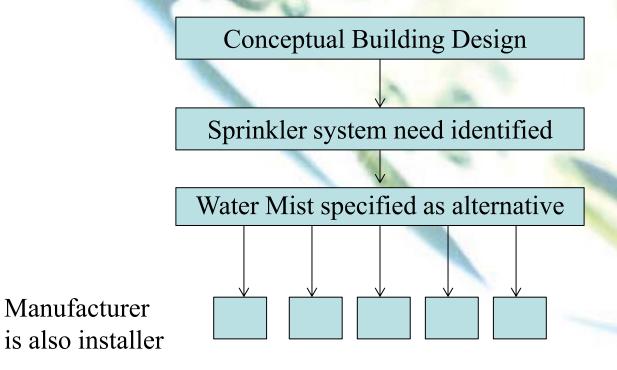


### European Water Mist Market Value





## A Water Mist Project



Relatively few possible quotes

Systems cannot be designed from standards

Each quote based on a different design







#### The Future

- Complete the work on standards to ease specification
- Widen access to technology license more installers
- Cost is the deciding factor for most projects
- ⇒ Identify and pursue applications where water mist can compete on cost with sprinklers
- ⇒ Water mist can take more than 3% of sprinkler market!



#### Thank you for your attention

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