



POSITION PAPER ON THIRD PARTY INSPECTION OF WATER MIST FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

It is the opinion of the Association that, in order to ensure proper performances of a water mist system per its approval certification by accredited testing laboratories, the system should be inspected by a third party after the system is installed and commissioned. During the follow-up period, regular system maintenances as recommended by the system provider, or required by the authorities having jurisdiction, should be accomplished.

At a minimum, for a newly installed system, the relevant Design Specifications derived from the type of approval should be made available. The inspector shall verify that the system has been installed according to a recognized technical standard and to the declared manufacturer's Design Specification and that the protected occupancy is representative within the occupancies covered by the fire test to which the system has been successfully tested. The system layout and components should be checked to comply with the engineering drawings and hydraulics calculations, and a flow test should be conducted if feasible.

During maintenance the inspection should discover if any alterations have been made to the system and should check it at least for damage or corrosion, obstructed nozzles, quantities and conditions of pertinent agents, component functioning and shut valves. The requirement of pressure and/or flow tests should be decided by authorities having the jurisdictions and the system manufacturer.

A third party inspection company shall be accredited to the latest edition of ISO/IEC 17020. The inspectors of the accredited company shall be qualified and competent, specially trained and have a comprehensive and documented knowledge of water mist fire protection systems.

The third party inspection company should not be involved in the planning, design, procurement, fabrication, construction and installation of the system to be inspected.