SFG20 Core

23-04 Rising Fire Mains and Hydrants

Date: 28 Sep 2020 Version: 8 Unit of Measure: Nr

Summary				
Frequencies	Tasks			
6M (Months) 30 mins	2 5 6 7			
12M (Months) 60 mins	3 8 9 11 12 13			
Annual Timing	120 mins			

Introduction

This document specifies the requirements for the periodic maintenance of wet and dry rising fire mains and fire hydrants. It should be read in conjunction with all current statutory requirements and regulations. All maintenance should be in accordance with the manufacturer's or supplier's recommendations. Any accompanying method statements and risk assessments should be read and understood before starting work.

A dry riser is a system of empty pipes and valves used by the fire service to distribute water to the upper floors and remote areas of a building. The fire appliance is connected via hoses to an external inlet valve, usually at ground level, and water is fed via the riser to outlet valves on each level of the building. A wet riser works in the same way but has a dedicated mains-fed water supply which incorporates booster pumps and a storage tank. A fire hydrant is a fixed water connection point used by the fire service to supply water for fire fighting or to refill a pump appliance.

If unforeseen difficulties arise during maintenance and it is necessary to leave an installation not available for use, the fire and rescue service should be informed immediately in order that alternative arrangements can be made to cover this deficiency should the need arise. In addition a suitable notice to indicate that the installation is not available for use should be placed in a prominent position.

Please refer to the overarching introduction (SFG 00-01) to make sure you are of the correct skill level as indicated within the task schedule to carry out the described works. Ensure you have read and understood the manufacturer's recommendations, carried out risk assessment(s) on each item of plant to identify the correct frequency of maintenance, identified all safety procedures that need to be applied and recorded in order to carry out the work in a safe and reliable manner.

Display Order	Tasks							
1	Dry riser	Dry riser						
	Inlet and la	et and landing boxes						
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Mechanical			
	Action:	Check all valves open and	d close (leave closed and strap	and lock).				
	Replace all instantaneous outlet washers. Replace all damaged or missing blank caps and chains. Check all handwheels and nuts are undamaged and in place.							
2								
		Check landing instantaneous outlets are free moving and undamaged.						
		Check air release valve a	nd replace if necessary.					
		Check inlet cabinet and d	oor for corrosion.					

		Check inlet breechin	ng valve springs and rubbers are free	e moving and in good c	ondition.			
		Check glazing in doo	or.					
		Remove any rubbish	n from the inlet box.					
		Lightly lubricate all n	noving parts.					
		Check: 1 inlets						
2		2 landing valves						
continued		3 drain valves						
continued		4 door hinges						
		5 locking arrange	ments					
		Report any defects.						
	Notes:	•	ould be given to all valves, spindles, n so that all equipment is ready for in	-	o ensure that they are in			
	When defective valve assemblies are removed, they should be immediately replaced either with the replacement valve, or plugged or blanked off so that the system remains operative.							
	Wet test							
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 12M	Skill Set:	Mechanical			
	Action:		ngement and ensure continuity betw					
		Carry out physical check of the system.						
2		Static pressure test – flush riser by turning on water and allow to flow out of topmost outlet.						
		Charge system to 10 bar measured at the inlet for 15 minutes minimum. Check system during this period for leaks etc.						
		Flow test – after stat	tic pressure test a flow test should b	e carried out if conside	red necessary.			
		Water should be pas	ssed through system under pressure	e and flow gauge readir	ngs recorded.			
	Notes:		o sustain an effective fire-fighting jet in (after allowing for the height involv					
4	Wet riser							
	Inlet and la	nding boxes						
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Mechanical			
	Action:	Check:						
		1 inlets						
		2 landing valves						
		3 drain valves						
5		4 door hinges 5 locking arrange	ments					
Ĭ								
		Report any defects.						
	Notes:	•	ould be given to all valves, spindles, n so that all equipment is ready for in	-	o ensure that they are in			
		When defective valv	re assemblies are removed, they sho	ould be immediately rep	placed either with the			

5 continued		replacement valve, or plugged or blanked off so that the system remains operative.					
	Storage cis	tern and tanks					
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	6M	Skill Set:	Mechanical	
6	Action:	Check cleanliness and co	andition				
	Notes:	Check cleanniness and co					
	Booster pui	-	-		01.111.0.1	Marchael	
7	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	ым	Skill Set:	Mechanical	
	Action:	Thoroughly check pumps	s and associate	ed mechanical and electric	al equipment.		
	Notes:	For more detailed instruc	tions see Pum	ps (SFG 45).			
	Controls an	d electrics					
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	12M	Skill Set:	Multi-skilled	
	Action:	Check electrical supplies	and equinmer	at to prevent freezing			
				it to provont noozing.			
0		Check operation of syste	m monitoring a	ind alarms.			
0		Where pressure regulating valves are installed, the manufacturer's maintenance recommendations should					
		be followed.					
		Check lagging and trace heating (if fitted).					
	Notoo	Check lagging and trace	neating (if fitte	a).			
	Notes:						
	Wet test	5 1	_				
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	12M	Skill Set:	Mechanical	
	Action:	Check earthing arrangen	nent and ensur	e continuity between joints	i.		
		Carry out physical check	of the system.				
		Static pressure test – flush riser by turning on water and allow to flow out of topmost outlet.					
		Charge system to 10 bar measured at the inlet for 15 minutes minimum.					
		Charge system to 10 bar	measured at t	ne miet for 15 minutes min	imum.		
9		Check system during this	s period for leal	ks etc.			
		Flow test – after static pr	essure test a fl	ow test should be carried o	out if consider	ed necessary.	
		Water should be passed	through syster	n under pressure and flow	gauge reading	gs recorded.	
		Check internal cleanlines valves and any water lev		d water level of storage ta	nks, including	the operation of float	
		Check booster pumps an	nd their associa	ted mechanical and electri	ical equipmen	t.	
	Notes:	•		e fire-fighting jet from the t	•		
10	Eiro bydrar	- ·	tter allowing for	r the height involved) it sho	uid de investi		
10	Fire hydrar	110					
	Condition		_				
11	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	12M	Skill Set:	Mechanical	
	Action:	Check for visible damage	e or signs of co	rrosion.			

11		Check lagging a	nd trace heating (if fitted).						
continued	Notes:	Report to client	f remedial work necessar	/.					
	Caps and v	alves							
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 1	2M	Skill Set:	Mechanical			
12	Action:	Check for ease	Check for ease of movement.						
	Notes:	See notes above	e in respect of landing box	es.					
	Tests on pr	ivate fire hydran	ts						
	Criticality:	-	Frequency: 1	2M	Skill Set:	Mechanical			
	Action:	of and, where pr with the owner of Where the local	acticable, a wet test of pri or occupier of the premises fire and rescue service do	vate undergrou s or their repres	ind fire hydrants shoul sentative.	nd test service, inspection d be made in conjunction ection and test service, the			
		Where private fi undertaker befo	activity should be undertaken by a suitable contractor. Where private fire hydrants are supplied from mains, arrangements should also be made with the water undertaker before tests are carried out. During these inspections and tests the condition of the following should be checked and noted for remedial action if necessary:						
13		5 depth of ou	ring round edges of frame tlet below the frame, whic ndication by means of hyc	n should be no		elow ground level			
			include flushing out the ou uld also be measured and		ng the outlet connection	on. The flow and pressure			
		On completion of should be left er	of the test, the operation of npty and clean.	the frost valve	(where fitted) should	be checked and the pit			
	Notes:	-	are found to comply with liate use in an emergency			satisfactory condition and Conformity.			
		conformity are	rming items found whicl to be immediately repor to make the hydrant ful	ted along with		-			

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Legislation, Regulations and Guidance

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail/?pid=00000000030301828

BS 9990:2015 Non automatic firefighting systems in buildings. Code of Practice

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=00000000030357099 BS 9999:2017 Fire safety in the design, management and use of buildings. Code of practice

http://www.gov.scot/policies/building-standards/monitoring-improving-building-regulations/

Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/5/contents Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2006/1254/contents Fire And Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/456/contents/made Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2010/325/contents/made Fire Safety Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2005/1541/contents/made Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

SFG20 Core

23-05 Gas Extinguishing Systems

Date: 13 Jul 2020 Version: 10 Unit of Measure: System

Summary				
Frequencies	Tasks			
1W (Week) 10 mins	3			
1M (Month) 5 mins	4			
3M (Months) 15 mins	5			
6M (Months) 90 mins	6 7 8 9 10 11 12			
12M (Months) 30 mins	13 14 15			
120M (Months) 240 mins	16			
0U (Unspecified)	1 2			
Annual Timing	874 mins			

Introduction

This document specifies the requirements for the periodic maintenance of gas extinguishing systems used for the extinction of fire. It should be read in conjunction with all current statutory requirements and regulations. All maintenance should be in accordance with the manufacturer's or supplier's recommendations. Any accompanying method statements and risk assessments should be read and understood before starting work.

This document is applicable to the extinguishants listed below:

- 1 FK-5–1-12 (Dodecafluoro-2-methylpentan-3-one)
- 2 HCFC Blend A
- 3 HCFC-123 (Dichlorotrifluoroethane)
- 4 HCFC-22 (Chlorodifluoromethane)
- 5 HCFC-124 (Chlorotetrafluoroethane; Isopropenyl-1-methylcyclohexene)
- 6 HFC 125 (Pentafluoroethane)
- 7 HFC 227ea (Heptafluoropropane)
- 8 HFC 23 (Trifluoromethane)
- 9 IG-01 (Argon)
- 10 IG-100 (Nitrogen; Nitrogen (50 %))
- 11 IG-55 (Argon (50 %); Nitrogen (52 %))
- 12 IG-541 (Argon (40 %); Carbon dioxide (8 %))

It is against the law to work with F-Gas if you do not have the correct qualifications. To work on these systems you must have the following qualifications:

- 1 Category 1 certificate to carry out installation, servicing, repairing, maintenance or recovery of refrigerant from all sizes of system.
- 2 Category 2 certificate to carry out installation, servicing, repairing, maintenance or recovery of refrigerant from systems containing F-Gas equivalent to less than 5 tonnes of CO₂.
- 3 Category 3 certificate to recover refrigerant from systems that contain less than 3 kg of F-Gas.
- 4 Category 4 certificate to check equipment for leaks if you do not break into the refrigeration circuit.

To comply with current regulations, equipment containing an F-Gas above a certain threshold must be checked for leaks at specific intervals. Leak checks are required for systems containing fluorinated greenhouse gases in quantities of 5 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent or more. Hermetically sealed equipment containing less than 10 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent of fluorinated greenhouse gases are exempted from regular leak checks, providing that the equipment is labelled as such.

Leak checks may be carried out using the 'indirect' method where reliable information is available - this involves comparing actual performance with design criteria and visually inspecting for leaks. In cases where the system is underperforming and a leak is suspected, the 'direct' method should be used - this involves breaking into the refrigeration circuits and checking the system components to identify faults. Where a leak is identified, there is a legal requirement for it to be repaired without undue delay (note that it is an offence to charge or top up the refrigerant charge against a known leak). A follow up check must be carried out within one month of the repair being done.

The thresholds for fluorinated greenhouse gases are expressed in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. To calculate the tonnes of CO₂ equivalent for the refrigerant in your system, multiply the kilogram weight of the gas by its global warming potential (GWP) using the figures from the UK Government guidance document on fluorinated gases (refer to the Legislation, Regulations and Guidance table at the end of this schedule for a link to this document). The frequency of leak checks can then be determined from this table:

Fluorinated greenhouse gases		Frequency of leak checks with leakage detection system	
5 tonnes CO ₂ equivalent	12 months	12 months	
50 tonnes CO ₂ equivalent	6 months	12 months	
500 tonnes CO ₂ equivalent	Leakage detection system is mandatory	6 months	

Where, due to unforeseen difficulties, it is necessary to leave an installation not available for use, the fire and rescue service should be informed immediately in order that alternative arrangements can be made to cover this deficiency should the need arise. In addition a suitable notice to indicate that the installation is not available for use should be placed in a prominent position.

Please refer to the overarching introduction (SFG 00-01) to make sure you are of the correct skill level as indicated within the task schedule to carry out the described works. Ensure you have read and understood the manufacturer's recommendations, carried out risk assessment(s) on each item of plant to identify the correct frequency of maintenance, identified all safety procedures that need to be applied and recorded in order to carry out the work in a safe and reliable manner.

Notes:

F-Gases fall within the scope of the dangerous substances and explosive atmospheres regulations. This means that for all installations a risk assessment must be undertaken to cover any work relating to the gas being used. This risk assessment must be produced in accordance with current regulations, codes of practice, and industry guidance documents.

Display Order	Tasks						
	Leak check	ing					
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 0U	Skill Set:	Specialist		
1	Action:	To comply wi checked for li 1 Identify t 2 Determin Direct check Direct leak ct 1 Checkin adapted 2 Applicati 3 Using pr 4 Using ox Indirect chec Indirect leak	ith current regulations, equipment containing eaks at specific intervals. This should be dor the correct frequency for leak checking the sy- ne whether to use a direct check or an indire checking involves one or more of the following g of circuits and components representing a to the refrigerant in the system. ion of ultraviolet (UV) detection fluid or suitat oprietary bubble solutions/soapsuds. cygen free nitrogen (OFN) to pressurise the c	an F-Gas above a cente as follows: ystem. ct check. g: risk of leakage, with g ole dye in the circuit. circuit after recovering	rtain threshold must be as detection devices the refrigerant gas.		
	1 Pressure(s). 2 Temperatures. 3 Compressor run current.						
		•	vel checks.				
		•	e volume where applicable.				

]
continued		of leakage due to one of indirect checks shall be One or more of the follo leakage demanding that 1 A fixed leak detecti 2 The equipment pro 3 There is ice build u 4 Signs of corrosion, 5 Indication of low ch 6 Deviations from no time monitoring sys 7 Other signs of leak	age.	out of sync with what wo ndirect check shall const d out: tion. - particularly at possible ators or other visual aids. ated during the analysis	uld be expected, then the itute a presumption of e or likely leak points. or by readings from real
		leakage that threatens in potential (GWP) may de insufficient to cause may occurs. When the repair is carrier repair a pump down and tested using oxygen free charge and leakage test	In there is a legal requirement for mminent failure of performance emand immediate action, wherea jor loss of performance may be ed out it must be made by perso d/or recovery shall be carried ou e nitrogen (OFN) under standard t. A follow up check must be car ay mean a further indirect check	or where the gas has a w as a minor leak that is of left until a return visit und onnel certified to undertak t as necessary. The syst d leak testing procedures ried out within one mont	erry high global warming a low GWP gas or is der routine service visits the that activity. Prior to the em shall then be pressure prior to evacuation, re- n of the repair being made.
		•	use and normal operating condi	•	t time aller the system
	Notes:				
	F-Gas log b	ooks			
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 0U	Skill Set:	Refrigeration Engineer
2	Action:	F-Gas log book about a 1 The quantity and ty 2 The quantity and ty 3 The name, address decommission the 4 The dates and resu 5 The measures take through a registere If the gas used in the ec 1 The details of the re 2 The quantity of any You must keep records	alts of all mandatory leak checks on to recover and dispose of gas d waste carrier. Juipment is recycled or reclaime ecycling or reclamation facility (I	ecked for leaks: n it is installed. intenance, e.g. leak repa ant of any companies that s. ees when the equipment is d, the following information name, address and certifold ilable to government offici	irs. t install, service or is disposed of, e.g. on must be recorded: icate number if it has one). ials if they ask for them.
		•	e equipment and their service o og books are not required for sy	-	
	Weekly che	cks			
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 1W	Skill Set:	Competent Person
3	Action:	efficiency of the sys 2 Carry out a visual of	hazard and the integrity of the e	amage to pipework and n	ozzles, check they are

			at all operating controls and component essure gauges and weighing devices, it		•	
3		-	ng correctly and take the appropriate ac	· · · · ·	-	
continued	Notes:	more than 5%	and maintenance provisions for all syst of the extinguishant mass and, in the or re, adjusted for temperature.	•		
	Monthly ch	ecks				
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 1M	Skill Set:	Competent Person	
4	Action:	1 All person to do so.	r of the system should check that: nnel who may have to operate the equip ployees have been instructed in its use.		erly trained and authorised	
	Notes:					
	Electrical d	etection and al	arm systems			
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 3M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
5	Action:	2 Examine good ser 3 Where ap	service in accordance with appropriate and test batteries and their connections viceable condition and not likely to fail b oplicable, examine secondary batteries is correct.	s as specified by the supp before the next quarterly in	lier to ensure they are in spection.	
	Notes:					
	System					
6	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
U	Action:	1 Check ge	enerally for mechanical damage.			
	Notes:					
	Pipework a	nd nozzles				
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
7	Action: 1 Externally examine pipework to determine its condition. 2 Examine nozzles for blockages and clean as necessary. 3 Replace or pressure test and repair as necessary any pipework showing corrosion or mechanical damage.					
	Notes:					
	Control val	ves				
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
8	Action:		control valves for correct manual funct tomatic valves for correct automatic fur			
	Notes:					
	Valve actua	itors				
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
9	Action:	1 Where po	ossible, remove cylinder valve and repla	ace action caps.		
	Notes:	Carry out proc	cedure in accordance with the manufact	turer's recommendations.		
	Fire suppre	ssant containe	ers (cylinders) - general inspection			
40	Criticality:	Red	Frequency: 6M	Skill Set:	Specialist	
IU	Action:	1 Check la	bels are securely fixed and legible.			

10 continued	Notes:	3 Check liquid leve 4 Check pressure 5 Externally exam system hoses. If For liquefied gases, of weight loss exceeds Pressure gauges - lic pressure; replace or	in cylinder(s). ine containers for s the visual examina- check weight or use 5%, cylinder should recharge any show n and the name of	signs of damage or unaut ation shows any defect, th e a liquid level indicator to d be replaced or recharge be within 10% and non-li ring a greater loss.	ne hose(s) sho o verify correct ed. quefied gases	uld be replaced. content of containers. If		
	Master/slave system							
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	6M	Skill Set:	Specialist		
11	Action: Notes:	1 Check slave act	uation system inclu	iding pistons in pneumati	c valve actuato	rs.		
	Auxiliary el	ectric device/alarm, d	oor closures etc.					
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	6M	Skill Set:	Specialist		
12	Action:	1 Test operation o	f auxiliary electric o	device/alarm, door closur	es etc.			
	Notes:	Operational test to be	e carried out in acc	ordance with manufactur	er's recommen	ded procedure.		
	Cylinder ga	uges						
	Criticality:	-	Frequency:	12M	Skill Set:	Specialist		
13	Action:		r pressure gauges a separate calibrat		ices are used fo	or this purpose they should		
	Notes:	Operational test to be	e carried out in acc	ordance with manufactur	er's recommen	ded procedure.		
	Enclosure integrity test							
	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	12M	Skill Set:	Specialist		
14	Action:	gas on operatior accordance with 2 Where it is estat	n. If this cannot be current standards. plished that change	visually determined, an ir	ntegrity test sho	ne type of hazard within the		
	Notes:	extinguishant for the	required period, re	ed leakage that would res	carried out.			
		checked to ensure th	at the required con	rd within the enclosure, a centration of extinguisha				
		eak detection system		10M		Specialist		
15	Criticality: Action:	Red 1 Test the automa	Frequency: tic leak detection s	ystem in accordance with	Skill Set:	Specialist urer's instructions.		
	Notes:							
		ssant containers (cyl			.			
16	Criticality:	Red	Frequency:	120M	Skill Set:	Specialist		
10	Action:	1 Wet chemical co	ontainers, auxiliary	pressure containers and	hose assembli	es should be subject to a		

hydrostatic pressure test at intervals not exceeding 10 years.

All extinguishant removed from containers during service or maintenance procedures shall be collected and recycled, or disposed of in an environmentally sound manner, and in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Legislation, Regulations and Guidance

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail/?pid=000000000030182749

BS 5306-0:2011 Fire protection installations and equipment on premises. Guide for selection of installed systems and other fire equipment

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail/?pid=0000000000030173377

BS 7273-1:2006 Code of Practice for the operation of fire protection measures. Electrical actuation of gaseous total flooding extinguishing systems

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=000000000030357099

BS 9999:2017 Fire safety in the design, management and use of buildings. Code of practice

http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail/?pid=00000000030339865

BS EN 15004-1:2019 Fixed firefighting systems. Gas extinguishing systems. Design, installation and maintenance

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2010/160/contents/made

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2009/1348/contents/made

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2011/239/contents/made

Controls on Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2002/2776/contents/made

Dangerous Substances & Explosive Atmospheres Regulation (DSEAR) 2002

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2003/152/contents/made

Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003

http://www.feta.co.uk/publications/feta-publications

FETA - Guidance on Risk Assessments for compliance with Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (DSEAR)

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/f-gas/legislation/documentation_en.htm

F-Gas Regulation No. 517/2014 on fluorinated gases

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2006/1254/contents

Fire And Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/456/contents/made Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2010/325/contents/made

Fire Safety Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/98/contents/made

Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases (Amendment) Regulations 2018

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/all?title=The%20fluorinated

Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and 2018 Amendments

http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l138.htm

L138 - Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002. Approved Code of Practice and guidance

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/168/contents/made

Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015

http://www.refcom.org.uk/resources/downloads/f-gas-downloads/ REFCOM Technical Guidance documents

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2005/1541/contents/made

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

http://www.gov.uk/guidance/fluorinated-gases-f-gases UK Government Guidance on Fluorinated gases (F gases)