

Firetrace Application Briefs

AB007

Printing Press Application

Firetrace distributors are finding more and more Firetrace applications for printing presses. A distributor in the West has proposed Firetrace to protect the motor and control areas of a large printing press. Productivity and delays in repair are very big concerns for the print house. The back of the press is actually open, but the remaining five sides are enclosed. The distributor has proposed an Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system using either FM-200® or CO₂ as the suppressing agent (12 lbs. of FM-200 or 20 lbs. of CO₂). A manual release and a pressure switch would be added to the system as well.

Small Network Hardware Room (Closet)

A major automobile manufacturer in the Southeast has a specific need to protect their network hardware room. The room is within the Firetrace cubic footage maximums for a large system. Since there are no unenclosable openings, a Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system utilizing 12 lbs. of FM-200 is being proposed. With up to 120 feet of detection tubing with an ILP system, the tubing will be routed above and through all of the equipment and racks within the room (closet) to ensure detection of the smallest fire. Upon detection, the ILP act as a total flood for the space. A pressure switch will be used to integrate to their alarm system for monitoring purposes.

Motor Control Center (MCC)

A distributor in the Midwest has proposed Firetrace to a manufacturer of paperboard (made from recycled paper) to protect their Motor Control Center. The in-cabinet protection for equipment in one MCC is based on the fact that the equipment could only be protected for upwards of \$50K worth of engineered CO₂ system (previously quoted by the distributor). The end user simply could not justify the expense of CO₂ but acknowledged that they need the protection. The Firetrace systems fits their budget and, most importantly, will protect their mission critical MCC. A Direct Low Pressure (DLP) system using 12 lbs. of FM-200 is proposed with pressure switch for alarm activation.

Wiring Closet Protection

A distributor in the Northeast has installed a Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system with 12 lbs. of FM-200 to protect a wiring closet enclosure in an office complex. Total area of the closet housing all building communications technology is less than 250 cubic feet. The Firetrace detection tubing is strategically located throughout the closet equipment to allow for rapid detection. The system is configured with a Firetrace battery operated audible alarm located outside the entrance to the closet. A pressure switch also connects the system unit to the main building alarm panel.



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Laser Cutting Machines

Firetrace has been proposed to a customer in the Southeast to protect two high-tech laser wood cutting machines. Interior cubic footages of the machines were very small, 15 cu. ft., and both machines were totally enclosed. One had recently had a fire. Our distributor has quoted Direct Low Pressure (DLP) systems using 3 lbs. of FM-200. Each system will be fitted with pressure switch for alarm activation. As the distributor investigated more of the customer's operations, they found six additional laser machines that are not enclosed but presented fire risk concerns. The distributor also proposed Direct Low Pressure (DLP) systems using 6 lbs. of dry chemical powder for these.

EDM Milling Machines

A distributor in the East has installed a Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system using 12 lbs. of FM-200 to provide local application suppression over the oil bath of EDM milling machines. The system configuration includes a primary detection tubing run ending in a crimped seal on the fixed machine head platform above the EDM milling. A "T" Connector routes the tubing to a pressure switch mounted in an End of Line Adapter to allow machine shut off on discharge (interfaced with an existing shut down connection located in the machine's control panel next to the EDM unit). A second "T" Connector allows the tubing run to continue from the machine's control panel into a manual release mounted on the control panel exterior. Two discharge nozzles are mounted on the sides of the machine head column (fixed) to cover the oil tank area on discharge. These nozzles are located at the ends of a fixed, copper, piping network. A "T" Connector allows the runs to be balanced.

CNC Machines

A west coast company is using Firetrace to protect CNC machines from fire. The machines have an inherent risk of fire due to the cutting oils used in the process of cutting metals such as titanium. The local distributor installed Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) systems using 12 lbs. of FM-200. The system uses two discharge nozzles, one in the cutting section of the machine and one in the electronics control section. Even though the volume of the machine calls for less than 6 lbs. of agent, the 12 lb. system was chosen to provide an extended discharge time and unenclosable opening compensation. The system will have a manual release and a pressure switch for machine lock down.

Fume Hood – Class D

A distributor in the Northeast has proposed an Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system using 20 lbs. of dry chemical powder to protect a laboratory fume hood that conducts experiments on Class D materials. The role of Firetrace is to deliver automated suppression inside of this enclosure with the detection tubing located in the fume hood baffles and across the hood top venting ducts. Two nozzles are mounted high on the hood's walls to deliver agent directly to the entire risk area. The system configuration also includes a strategically placed manual release remote from the unit door and a pressure switch to connect to the building alarm.



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Electrical Cabinets - Vinyl Covering Factory

A Firetrace Direct Low Pressure (DLP) system using 12 lbs. of FM-200 was recently installed by a distributor in the Northeast to provide fire detection and suppression for the inside of mission critical electrical equipment operating a factory production line. The reliability of the equipment housed in this cabinet is essential to the factory's ongoing operation. Without the equipment operating, no production within the facility could occur. The system included a pressure switch connected to the factory's alarm panel.

Test Stand Fire Protection

A major manufacturer of heavy equipment in the Midwest has installed a Firetrace system to protect a test stand that exposes engine components to various fuels. The main test chamber is a small, acrylic cube where the sample part is submitted to the fuels. The local distributor installed a Direct Low Pressure (DLP) system using 3 lbs. of FM-200 to protect the stand from a sudden fire.

We welcome your submissions on where you are proposing Firetrace as well as where you have already supplied Firetrace. We will make sure the report is published in a "generic" fashion. Just fill us in on the details such as why the customer is looking at or why they chose Firetrace, and we'll take care of the rest! Submit your application details to: gray@firetrace.com.

