

Firetrace® Application Briefs

AB011

Hazardous Materials Cabinets

A distributor has installed four Firetrace Direct Low Pressure (DLP) systems at an international airport in the Northeast to protect their hazmat cabinets. Each DLP system contained 12 lbs. of FM-200® and utilized a Pressure Switch mounted on the valve. The Firetrace systems were installed on the outside of each of the cabinets with the Firetrace Detection Tubing (FDT) run inside each cabinet. The FDT was mounted above each shelf within the cabinet. The tubing runs were terminated at the End Of Line Adaptor that was mounted through the cabinet wall. An additional Pressure Gauge was installed for easy visual inspection of the system's pressure (as the cylinders were mounted on the back of each cabinet, out of easy view).

Automated Paint Booth

A distributor in the Midwest has secured their second Firetrace installation commitment from a major automaker to detect fires inside their automated vehicle paint booth — the Firetrace systems will be used for detection only. The Firetrace systems met their three critical needs: detection had to be non-metallic in composition, intrinsically safe and able to move easily. The Firetrace Detection Tubing is installed on the actual robotic paint “arms” that spray the vehicles. The tubing is charged with nitrogen and connected to a small, fully enclosed Firetrace cylinder with an Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) valve. When the tubing bursts from detecting a fire, the change in pressure activates the large, engineered CO₂ system to flood the entire room.

Telephone Interconnect Equipment

A Firetrace distributor in the West has installed a Firetrace Direct Low Pressure (DLP) system using six lbs. of FM-200 to protect mission-critical telephone interconnect equipment that is located inside two, adjacent cabinets. The system utilized a “T” Connector to allow the Firetrace Detection Tubing (FDT) to be routed throughout each cabinet while keeping the FDT runs under 50 feet from the valve. A Pressure Switch was included as well for building alarm notification. The Firetrace system was installed because total flooding was not practical due to the size and construction of the control room.

Floating Roof Tank

A distributor in Canada has proposed Firetrace to be used for fire detection only on a floating roof tank for a major petroleum company. To provide fire detection along the 875' circumference of each tank, four small Direct Low Pressure (DLP) systems would be filled with Nitrogen only. The Firetrace Detection Tubing would be split with a “T” coming out of each valve and run 110' in both directions. Since the DLP is being used for detection only, the 120' maximum for the Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system applies (instead of the DLP's normal 50'). Pressure switches are connected to each system and run into a central monitoring station. There, operators can manually discharge the existing suppression system.



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Engine Test Cell

A distributor in the upper Midwest has proposed a Firetrace system to protect the interior of a 4' x 4' x 6' engine test cell. The customer has experienced several fires inside the cell due to the presence of many flammable liquids such as gasoline and oil. To this point, they have been fighting the fires with portables, but they recently lost an entire prototype due to prolonged exposure to a fire. A Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system filled with 20 lbs. of CO₂ (oversized to account for air ventilation) provided a solution for all of their concerns – dependable, low-cost fire suppression. The Firetrace Detection Tubing would be run above the engine and attached to the cell's ceiling. Two nozzles would be strategically positioned to quickly suppress any fire. A Manual Release was included in the system as well.

High-Speed Web Printing Press

A distributor in the Northeast has installed two Firetrace systems on a high-speed printing press of a textbook manufacturer. The press utilizes UV lighting to dry the ink in a very fast timeframe, and the press runs constantly - three shifts 24/7. The ink itself is not flammable, but the paper, its particles and dust all present a fire hazard if they get near the almost 1,500°F lighting. Two Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) systems, each filled with 12 lbs. of FM-200, are required to protect the entire drying areas. A Pressure Switch on each system is connected to a relay that shuts the press down immediately upon the detection of a fire.

Fume Hood

A Firetrace distributor on the west coast has installed a fume hood system in the research department of a large biochemical facility. The Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system using 12 lbs. of FM-200 was installed in approximately four hours, and the fume hood was restored to service the same day! The system is equipped with a Pressure Switch, which notifies the local building alarms on system discharge.

Wind Turbines

A Canadian distributor has quoted five Firetrace systems for a wind farm. As these were “vertical axis” turbines, the rotors actually rotate around a vertical axis instead of the traditional center point of a nacelle. The generator for these vertical units is located on the ground at the base of the vertical axis. Within the generator, our Firetrace Detection Tubing would be routed to detect and suppress any fire that might start from excessive friction/heat build up or a short circuit. A Pressure Switch would be included with each and directly connected to the emergency stop module, immediately stopping the rotors in case of a fire.

Trash Compactor

A distributor in the Central US has proposed Firetrace to one of its existing clients, a fiberboard manufacturer. They have recently experienced several fires in their trash compactor. The distributor quoted an Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system using 10 lbs. of CO₂. Since the fires seem to be occurring with some regularity and the compactor is a non-occupied space, CO₂ is an excellent, lower-cost solution. The system included a Manual Release and a Pressure Switch.



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Uninterruptible Power Supply

A Firetrace distributor in the western United States had proposed a Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system filled with 12 lbs. of FM-200 for the protection of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) system located in a large commercial building. The rack mounted power supply is enclosed in a standard six-foot electrical cabinet and provides power to critical building circuits in a power outage. On activation of the Firetrace system, the Pressure Switch would signal the local building alarm.

Laser-Soldering Machine

A Firetrace distributor has proposed Firetrace to provide fire detection and suppression for a \$500,000 laser-soldering machine. This machine manufactures circuit boards used in the automotive industry. An Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system filled with 12 lbs. of FM-200 would be used to protect the expensive equipment. There would be two Cross Pattern Nozzles strategically placed inside the machine to completely bathe the machine's interior with fire-fighting agent. Both a Manual Release and Pressure Switch would be included as well.

Railroad Transmitter Equipment

A Midwest Firetrace distributor has quoted Firetrace to protect small, remote metal buildings used by the railroads to store transmitter equipment. They have proposed Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) systems filled with 12 lbs. of FM-200 to protect the delicate electronics. A Pressure Switch is included and would be connected to the transmission equipment to send a signal to notify the central station of a system discharge.

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.

