



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Micromist Systems

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From: Product Support Services
Fire Suppression Group

Subject: Design Limitations vs. Fuel Categories

Effective: Immediately

Affects: Systems Protecting Flammable Liquids

Questions have been raised concerning a statement in the manual pertaining to the fuel categories that can be protected with a Micromist system. The following statement appears on page 1 of 1 of the Introduction for the Micromist Manual, No. 06-153:

The flammability class of a liquid is determined by the "flash point" and "boiling point" of the liquid. If the "flash point is below 73°F. (22.8°C), and the "boiling point" at or above 100°F. (37.8°C), it is considered a Class 3 or less flammable liquid and can be protected by the Fike Micromist Fire Suppression System.

In short, the above information needs to be corrected as follows:

Liquids with a flash point below 73°F. (22.8°C) and a boiling point below 100°F. (37.8°C) are Class 1A liquids that cannot be protected with a Micromist system. Liquids with a flash point above 73°F. (22.8°C) that are categorized as Class 1B, 1C, Class 2, or Class 3 (A or B) as defined by NFPA 321 & NFPA 325 can be protected with a Micromist system.

Keep in mind that Micromist systems also cannot be used to protect Class 4 fuels (as defined by NFPA 325) in Machinery Spaces. However, they can be used to protect Turbine Applications that are powered by these fuels **as long as the fuel is cutoff prior to discharge**. Basically, this exception is based upon the idea that the system is protecting the engine and/or generator against fires attributed to leaking hydraulic lines, surface fires, etc. Where Class 4 fuels are used to power the turbine, a combustible gas detection system should be considered that would activate the ventilation system upon alarm for the purpose of venting the explosive gas from the enclosure.

The Micromist manual will be corrected with this information in the near future. Please contact us with any additional questions that you may have concerning this information.