

RISCAuthority Webinar: Technical Bulletin Updates 2020.

This webinar took place Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and a number of questions were posted during the session. Please find below the answers provided to each question.

Question Asked	Answer (DK)
<p>Is there any progress with clarification / direction on sprinkler head level / positioning relative to ceilings to help remove 'commercial' design / defaulting to perceived acceptable 'maximums'?</p>	<p>Yes – There is work ongoing related to sprinkler head level below soffits, which is to be circulated to the RISCA sprinkler working group this week. A new proposal / wording to replace BS EN clause 12.4.2 has been written by one of the group members which has been based on FPA research. Once the wording has been accepted by the group (end of May), this will be confirmed as a new clause in Technical Bulletin TB229 and issued to industry as a part update.</p>
<p>Typically, who will be the qualified persons carrying out the independent sprinkler inspections?</p>	<p>Annual sprinkler inspections can be carried out by an individual who is not associated with a sprinkler contractor, deemed to be independent and can demonstrate their competence through experience, training and qualifications. They would ideally hold some form of industry qualifications such as LPCB or FIRAS certification or Fire Engineering qualifications and be able to demonstrate their experience and time served within the industry.</p>
<p>Does TB203 25-year inspection fully replace Annex K or does it part supplement it?</p>	<p>All references within Annex K to pipework flushing, pipework pressure testing, pipework inspections and sample sprinkler head testing is covered in TB203.3.8. However, TB203 does not provide definitive instructions for pipework pressure testing other than to state that it is not recommended and supplements this with a commentary and recommendation. For sprinkler systems to comply with LPC/BS EN 12845, TB203 replaces Annex K.</p>



<p>We are already working on amendments to TB229, do we know when we are likely to re-issue the next version</p>	<p>Technical Bulletin TB229 is a document that is constantly evolving with add / amends to improve sprinkler system capabilities. We have on-going work for TB229 and would hope to have these changes completed by June in order to be able to issue a part TB update to industry.</p>
<p>Hi there- Ref TB203 - cutting of pipework - is there a suggested method - cold cutting techniques - not hot work for example?</p>	<p>The removal of a meaningful sample of pipework for internal and external inspection will be judged by the sprinkler contractor. TB203 requires a minimum 1m length of pipe to be inspected, however, the initial inspection may not necessitate the pipe from being fully removed from the system, consequently a range pipe or end section might be unscrewed (25mm to 50mm) or unclamped (65mm +) to carry out the initial visual inspection and replaced if the pipework is deemed to be acceptable.</p> <p>Only if there are findings during inspection will these pipes need to be replaced and the pipework showing signs of wear and deterioration sent off for further analysis where these should be removed from the system and cut down to size off-site (rather than in-situ) to be sent away.</p> <p>We would always recommend that no hot works are carried out on site unless absolutely necessary.</p>