

FIREKILL™

by VID Fire-Kill ApS

Can Low Pressure Watermist Systems be Retro-Fitted into a High-Rise Building?

The answer is yes – The technology has published standards, approvals and industry guidance documents.

2018, February 27th

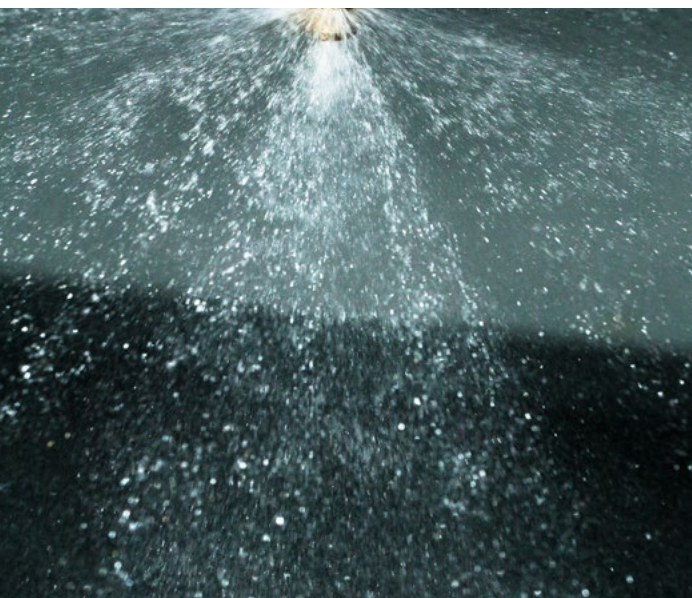
There is no performance reason not to accept a low-pressure watermist system in a high rise building for acceptance purposes providing the installation meets the acceptance criteria of the relevant standard and approvals.

Any non-acceptance of a system proposal for a high rise would be on a basis of the system not meeting the acceptance criteria of the standard/ approval, or another reason based on a commercial decision or policy preferences.



Physically if a sprinkler system can be fitted into a building, then a low pressure watermist system can be fitted into the building, whether it is a residential system or a commercial system.

Low pressure watermist and sprinkler systems share the same base pressure class for components from the pumps and tanks, through the pipe system, strainers and valving to the detection and delivery devices. The signalling requirements and maintenance are also the same. As with a sprinkler system, all components should be listed for use in the fire system.



All components must have recorded component testing, or they won't be listed. It is all published information that is easily overlooked when you do not know what to look for.

For example; you would not use a non-fire rated pipe system within a fire suppression system. If you had to use a pressure reducing valve, you would not use a non-listed product that has been designed to be used on a daily basis as it would not get exercised more than once a year.

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The occupiers and stakeholders are expecting reliability, resilience and sound engineering from a fire suppression system whether it is sprinklers or watermist.

There are some differences. To understand these differences, it is imperative that AHJ's, designers, installers and maintenance engineers engage in training and CPD like any other trade. Each component manufacturer has a design, installation, operation and maintenance manual that is to be used in conjunction with the relevant standard. Any designer, installer or maintainer of a system must be trained in that manufacturers products.

It is not enough to go to a general wholesaler and purchase a bag full of components and move from one technology to another without the appropriate knowledge and training. It is also not meeting the criteria of the manufacturers design manual or of the design and installation standard.

March 1st 2018 IWMA is hosting a seminar in Watford, UK, on high-rise fire protection with watermist, to educate the public as well as persons in key positions when it comes to fire protection.

More can and should be done to protect lives, property and building structures in high-rise fires and fires in general.

The next VID Fire-Kill training seminar is on 4th and 5th of April in Denmark.

Sign up [here](#).