

**SECTION 21 13 16**  
**DRY-PIPE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

- A. Design, installation and testing shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.
- B. The design and installation of a hydraulically calculated automatic dry-pipe sprinkler system complete and ready for operation, for those locations as shown on the contract drawings.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- A. Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES.
- F. Section 28 31 00, FIRE DETECTION AND ALARM.

**1.3 DESIGN CRITERIA**

- A. Design Basis Information: Provide design, materials, equipment, installation, inspection, and testing of the automatic sprinkler system in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 13.
  - 1. Perform hydraulic calculations in accordance with NFPA 13 utilizing the Area/Density method, including all applicable design area increases.
  - 2. Sprinkler Protection: Sprinkler hazard classifications shall be in accordance with NFPA 13. The hazard classification examples of uses and conditions identified in the Annex of NFPA 13 shall be mandatory. Request clarification from the Government for any hazard classification not identified.
  - 3. Dry-pipe Sprinkler System Volume:
    - a. Contractor shall indicate the calculated volume of each system on the sprinkler system shop drawings.
    - b. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems with volumes greater than 1893 L (500 gal) up to 2839 L (750 gal), provide a quick opening device unless water delivery time calculations indicate the quick opening devices is not required.
    - c. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems with volumes greater than 2839 L (750 gal), provide calculations for water delivery time.  
Calculations shall demonstrate compliance with NFPA 13.
  - 4. Nitrogen Generator Plant: Coordinate sizing of nitrogen generator and air compressor with the nitrogen generator manufacturer.

5. Hydraulic Calculations: Calculated demand including hose stream requirements shall fall no less than 10 percent below the available water supply curve.
6. Water Supply: Base water supply on a flow test of:
  - a. Location MRI Mechanical Room
  - b. Static pressure: 115

#### 1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submit as one package in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES. Prepare detailed working drawings that are signed by a NICET Level III or Level IV Sprinkler Technician or stamped by a Registered Professional Engineer licensed in the field of Fire Protection Engineering. As the Government review is for technical adequacy only, the installer remains responsible for correcting any conflicts with other trades and building construction that arise during installation. Partial submittals will not be accepted. Material submittals shall be approved prior to the purchase or delivery to the job site. Suitably bind submittals in notebooks or binders and provide an index referencing the appropriate specification section. In addition to the hard copies, provide submittal items in Paragraphs 1.4(A)1 through 1.4(A)5 electronically in pdf format on a compact disc or as directed by the COR. Submittals shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Qualifications:

- a. Provide a copy of the installing contractors fire sprinkler and state contractor's license.
  - b. Provide a copy of the NICET certification for the NICET Level III or Level IV Sprinkler Technician who prepared and signed the detailed working drawings unless the drawings are stamped by a Registered Professional Engineer licensed in the field of Fire Protection Engineering.
  - c. Provide documentation showing that the installer has been actively and successfully engaged in the installation of commercial automatic sprinkler systems for the past ten years.
2. Drawings: Submit detailed 1:100 (1/8 inch) scale (minimum) working drawings conforming to the Plans and Calculations chapter of NFPA 13. Drawings shall include graphical scales that allow the user to

- determine lengths when the drawings are reduced in size. Include a plan showing the piping to the water supply test location.
3. Manufacturer's Data Sheets: Provide data sheets for all materials and equipment proposed for use on the system. Include listing information and installation instructions in data sheets. Where data sheets describe items in addition to those proposed to be used for the system, clearly identify the proposed items on the sheet.
  4. Calculation Sheets:
    - a. Submit hydraulic calculation sheets in tabular form conforming to the requirements and recommendations of the Plans and Calculations chapter of NFPA 13.
    - b. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems with volumes more than 2838 L (750 gal), submit calculations for dry-pipe system water delivery time in accordance with NFPA 13.
  5. Valve Charts: Provide a valve chart that identifies the location of each control valve. Coordinate nomenclature and identification of control valves with COR. Where existing nomenclature does not exist, the chart shall include no less than the following: Tag ID No., Valve Size, Service (control valve, main drain, aux. drain, inspectors test valve, etc.), and Location.
  6. Final Document Submittals: Provide as-built drawings, testing and maintenance instructions in accordance with the requirements in Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES. In addition, submittals shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
    - a. A complete set of as-built drawings showing the installed system with the specific interconnections between the system switches and the fire alarm equipment. Provide a complete set in the formats as follows. Submit items 2 and 3 below on a compact disc or as directed by the COR.
      - 1) One full size (or size as directed by the COR) printed copy.
      - 2) One complete set in electronic pdf format.
      - 3) One complete set in AutoCAD format or a format as directed by the COR.
    - b. Material and Testing Certificate: Upon completion of the sprinkler system installation or any partial section of the system, including testing and flushing, provide a copy of a completed Material and Testing Certificate as indicated in NFPA

13. Certificates shall be provided to document all parts of the installation.
- c. Operations and Maintenance Manuals that include step-by-step procedures required for system startup, operation, shutdown, and routine maintenance and testing. The manuals shall include the manufacturer's name, model number, parts list, and tools that should be kept in stock by the owner for routine maintenance, including the name of a local supplier, simplified wiring and controls diagrams, troubleshooting guide, and recommended service organization, including address and telephone number, for each item of equipment.
  - d. One paper copy of the Material and Testing Certificates and the Operations and Maintenance Manuals above shall be provided in a binder. In addition, these materials shall be provided in pdf format on a compact disc or as directed by the COR.
  - e. Provide one additional copy of the Operations and Maintenance Manual covering the system in a flexible protective cover and mount in an accessible location adjacent to the riser or as directed by the COR.

#### **1.5 QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- A. Installer Reliability: The installer shall possess a valid State of (insert state in which work is being performed) fire sprinkler contractor's license. The installer shall have been actively and successfully engaged in the installation of commercial automatic sprinkler systems for the past ten years.
- B. Materials and Equipment: All equipment and devices shall be of a make and type listed by UL or approved by FM, or other nationally recognized testing laboratory for the specific purpose for which it is used. All materials, devices, and equipment shall be approved by the VA. All materials and equipment shall be free from defect. All materials and equipment shall be new unless specifically indicated otherwise on the contract drawings.

#### **1.6 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS**

- A. The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referenced in the text by the basic designation only.
- B. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

13-[2016].....Installation of Sprinkler Systems

25-[2017] .....Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-  
Based Fire Protection Systems

101-[2018].....Life Safety Code

170-[2015].....Fire Safety Symbols

C. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL): Fire Protection Equipment  
Directory

D. Factory Mutual Engineering Corporation (FM):Approval Guide

## **PART 2 PRODUCTS**

### **2.1 GENERAL**

Dry-pipe sprinkler systems shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 13.

### **2.2 PIPING & FITTINGS**

A. Piping and fittings for private underground water mains shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.

1. Pipe and fittings from inside face of building 300 mm (12 in.) above finished floor to a distance of approximately 1500 mm (5 ft.) outside building: Ductile Iron, flanged fittings and 316 stainless steel bolting.

B. Piping and fittings for sprinkler systems shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.

1. Plain-end pipe fittings with locking lugs or shear bolts are not permitted.

2. Piping sizes 50 mm (2 inches) and smaller shall be black steel Schedule 40 with threaded end connections.

3. Piping sizes 65 mm (2 ½ inches) and larger shall be black steel Schedule 10 with grooved connections. Grooves in Schedule 10 piping shall be rolled grooved only.

### **2.3 VALVES**

A. General:

1. Valves shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.

2. Do not use quarter turn ball valves for 50 mm (2 inch) or larger drain valves.

B. Control Valve:

1. Shall be a manually operated outside stem and yoke (OS&Y) type.

C. Dry-pipe Valve:

1. Shall be a latching differential type.

2. Shall be complete with trim piping, valves, fittings, pressure gauges, priming water fill cup, velocity drip check, drip cup, and other ancillary components as required for proper operation.
3. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems with volumes more than 1893 L (500 gal), provide a quick opening device unless water delivery time calculations have proven no quick opening device is required.
4. Shall be capable of external reset.

## **2.5 SPRINKLERS**

- A. All sprinklers shall be FM approved. All sprinklers shall be either upright type, dry pendent type, or dry sidewall type. Provide FM Approved quick response sprinklers in all areas, except that standard response sprinklers shall be provided in freezers, refrigerators, elevator hoistways, elevator machine rooms, and generator rooms.
- B. Temperature Ratings: In accordance with NFPA 13 except that sprinklers in elevator shafts and elevator machine rooms shall be no less than intermediate temperature rated and sprinklers in generator rooms shall be no less than high temperature rated.
- C. Provide sprinkler guards in accordance with NFPA 13 and when the elevation of the head is less than 7 feet 6 inches above finished floor. The sprinkler guard shall be listed or approved for use with the corresponding sprinkler.

## **2.7 SUPERVISORY AIR SYSTEM**

- A. Provide an air supply system in accordance with NFPA 13 and the manufacturers' requirements. The air supply system shall be sized to pressurize the sprinkler system to 275 kPa (40 psi) within 30 minutes.
- B. Air Compressor: Compressor shall be tank mounted, single stage oil-free type, air-cooled, electric-motor driven, equipped with a check valve, shutoff valve, automatic drain on drip leg, and pressure switch for automatic starting and stopping. Pressure switch settings to start and stop the compressor shall be as required by system conditions. A safety relief valve shall be provided.

## **2.8 AIR PRESSURE MAINTENANCE DEVICE**

Air Pressure Maintenance Device: Air pressure maintenance device shall be UL listed or FM approved and shall automatically reduce supply air pressure to provide the pressure required to be maintained in the piping system. The device shall have a cast bronze body and valve

housing complete with diaphragm assembly, spring, filter, ball check to prevent backflow, 1.6 mm (1/16 inch) restriction to prevent rapid pressurization of the system, and adjustment screw. The device shall be capable of reducing an inlet pressure of up to 680 kPa (100 psig) to a fixed outlet pressure adjustable to 70 kPa (10 psig).

## **2.9 SPRINKLER CABINET**

- A. Provide sprinkler cabinet with the required number of sprinkler heads of all ratings and types installed, and a sprinkler wrench for each type of sprinkler in accordance with NFPA 13.
- B. Provide a list of sprinklers installed in the property in the cabinet. The list shall include the following:
  - 1. Manufacturer, model, orifice, deflector type, thermal sensitivity, and pressure for each type of sprinkler in the cabinet.
  - 2. General description of where each sprinkler is used.
  - 3. Quantity of each type present in the cabinet.
  - 4. Issue or revision date of list.

## **2.10 SPRINKLER SYSTEM SIGNAGE**

Rigid plastic, steel or aluminum signs with white lettering on a red background with holes for easy attachment. Sprinkler system signage shall be attached to the valve or piping with chain.

## **2.11 SWITCHES**

- A. OS&Y Valve Supervisory Switches shall be in a weatherproof die cast/red baked enamel, oil resistant, aluminum housing with tamper resistant screws, 13 mm (1/2 inch) conduit entrance and necessary facilities for attachment to the valves. Provide two SPDT switches rated at 2.5 amps at 24 VDC.
- B. Alarm Pressure Switches: Activation by any flow of water equal to or in excess of the discharge from one sprinkler. The alarm pressure switch shall be UL Listed or Factory Mutual Approved for the application in which it is used. Activation of the alarm pressure switch shall cause an alarm on the fire alarm system control unit.
- C. High/Low Pressure Supervisory Switches: The pressure switch shall be UL Listed or FM Approved and contain two single pole double throw contacts. Each switch shall be adjustable from 70 to 414 kPa (10 to 60 psi). The low-pressure switch shall supervise pressure in the system and shall be set to activate at 70 kPa (10 psi) above the dry-pipe valve trip point pressure. The high-pressure switch shall supervise pressure in the system and shall be set to activate at 70 kPa (10 psi)

above the normal dry-pipe supervisory pressure. Activation of either high or low-pressure switch shall cause a supervisory alarm on the fire alarm system control unit.

#### **2.12 GAUGES**

Provide gauges as required by NFPA 13. Provide gauges where the normal pressure of the system is at the midrange of the gauge.

#### **2.13 PIPE HANGERS, SUPPORTS AND RESTRAINT OF SYSTEM PIPING**

Pipe hangers, supports, and restraint of system piping shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.

#### **2.14 WALL, FLOOR AND CEILING PLATES**

Provide chrome plated steel escutcheon plates.

#### **2.15 VALVE TAGS**

Engraved black filled numbers and letters not less than 15 mm (1/2 inch) high for number designation, and not less than 8 mm (1/4 inch) for service designation on 19 gage, 40 mm (1-1/2 inches) round brass disc, attached with brass "S" hook, brass chain, or nylon twist tie.

### **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

#### **3.1 INSTALLATION**

- A. Installation shall be accomplished by the licensed contractor. Provide a qualified technician, experienced in the installation and operation of the type of system being installed, to supervise the installation and testing of the system.
- B. Installation of Piping: Accurately cut pipe to measurements established by the installer and work into place without springing or forcing. In any situation where bending of the pipe is required, use a standard pipe-bending template. Conceal piping in spaces that have finished ceilings. In stairways, locate piping as near to the ceiling as possible to prevent tampering by unauthorized personnel and to provide a minimum headroom clearance of 2250 mm (seven feet six inches). Piping shall not obstruct the minimum means of egress clearances required by NFPA 101. Pipe hangers, supports, and restraint of system piping, shall be installed accordance with NFPA 13.
- C. Welding: Conform to the requirements and recommendations of NFPA 13.
- D. Pitching of Pipe: Conform to the requirements of NFPA 13.
- E. Drains: Provide drips and drains, including low point drains, in accordance with NFPA 13. Pipe drains to discharge at safe points outside of the building. Do not provide a direct drain connection to sewer system or discharge into sinks.



- F. Supervisory Switches: Provide supervisory switches for sprinkler control valves to monitor closure of the valve and for high and low system supervisory air/nitrogen pressure to monitor abnormal system pressures.
- G. Pressure Alarm Switches: Install alarm pressure switches in easily accessible locations.
- H. Inspector's Test Connection: Install and supply in conformance with NFPA 13, and discharge to the exterior of the building. Locate test connection in an area not susceptible to mechanical damage. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems more than 2800 L (750 gal), provide the number of equivalent sprinkler outlets as calculated for water delivery time in accordance with NFPA 13.
- I. Affix cutout disks, which are created by cutting holes in the walls of pipe for non-threaded pipe connections, to the respective pipe connection near to the pipe from where they were cut.
- J. Provide escutcheon plates for exposed piping passing through walls, floors or ceilings.
- K. Clearances: For systems requiring seismic protection, piping that passes through floors or walls shall have penetrations sized 50 mm (2 inches) nominally larger than the penetrating pipe for pipe sizes 25 mm (1 inch) to 90 mm (3 ½ inches) and 100 mm (4 inches) nominally larger for penetrating pipe sizes 100 mm (4 inches) and larger.
- L. Sleeves: Provide for pipes passing through masonry or concrete. Provide space between the pipe and the sleeve in accordance with NFPA 13. Seal this space with a UL Listed through penetration fire stop material in accordance with Section 07 84 00, FIRESTOPPING. Where core drilling is used in lieu of sleeves, also seal space around penetrations. Seal penetrations of walls, floors and ceilings of other types of construction, in accordance with Section 07 84 00, FIRESTOPPING.
- N. Firestopping shall be provided for all penetrations of fire resistance rated construction. Firestopping shall comply with Section 07 84 00, FIRESTOPPING.
- O. Painting of Pipe: In finished areas where walls and ceilings have been painted, paint primed surfaces with two coats of paint to match adjacent surfaces, except paint valves and operating accessories with two coats of gloss red enamel. Exercise care to avoid painting sprinklers. Painting of sprinkler systems above suspended ceilings and in crawl spaces is not required. Painting shall comply with Section 09

90 00, PAINTING. Any painted sprinkler shall be replaced with a new sprinkler.

- P. Locate sprinkler cabinet adjacent to the dry-pipe sprinkler system riser or as directed by COR.
- Q. Sprinkler System Signage: Provide rigid sprinkler system signage in accordance with NFPA 13 and NFPA 25. Sprinkler system signage shall include, but not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Identification Signs:
    - a. Provide signage for each control valve, drain valve, sprinkler cabinet, and inspector's test.
    - b. Provide valve tags for each operable valve. Coordinate nomenclature and identification of operable valves with COR. Where existing nomenclature does not exist, the Tag Identification shall include no less than the following: (FP-B-F/SZ-#) Fire Protection, Building Number, Floor Number/Smoke Zone (if applicable), and Valve Number. (E.g., FP-500-1E-001) Fire Protection, Building 500, First Floor East, Number 001.)
  - 2. Instruction/Information Signs:
    - a. Provide signage for each control valve to indicate valve function and to indicate what system is being controlled.
    - b. Provide signage indicating the number and location of low point drains.
  - 3. Hydraulic Placards:
    - a. Provide signage indicating hydraulic design information. The placard shall include location of the design area, discharge densities, required flow and residual pressure at the base of riser, occupancy classification, hose stream allowance, flow test information, and installing contractor. Locate hydraulic placard information signs at each dry-pipe valve.
- R. Repairs: Repair damage to the building or equipment resulting from the installation of the sprinkler system by the installer at no additional expense to the Government.
- S. Interruption of Service: There shall be no interruption of the existing sprinkler protection, water, electric, or fire alarm services without prior permission of the Contracting Officer Representative. Contractor shall develop an interim fire protection program where interruptions

involve in occupied spaces. Request in writing at least one week prior to the planned interruption.

### 3.2 INSPECTION AND TEST

- A. Preliminary Testing: Flush newly installed systems prior to performing tests in order to remove any debris which may have been left as well as ensuring piping is unobstructed. Manually demonstrate nitrogen concentration in dry-pipe sprinkler system piping is at least 98%. Hydrostatically test system, including the fire department connections, pneumatically test system, test air compressor fill time to operating pressure within 30 minutes, and trip test system as specified in NFPA 13, in the presence of the Contracting Officers Representative (COR) or their designated representative. For dry-pipe sprinkler systems with a quick-opening device, the system shall be trip tested with the quick-opening device functioning and with the quick-opening device disabled. Record the time to water delivery for each test. Demonstrate pitch of pipe is in compliance with NFPA 13.
- B. Final Inspection and Testing: Subject system to tests in accordance with NFPA 13, and when all necessary corrections have been accomplished, advise COR to schedule a final inspection and test. Connection to the fire alarm system shall have been in service for at least ten days prior to the final inspection, with adjustments made to prevent false alarms. Furnish all instruments, labor and materials required for the tests and provide the services of the installation foreman or other competent representative of the installer to perform the tests. Correct deficiencies and retest system as necessary, prior to the final inspection and testing. Include the operation of all features of the systems under normal operations in test. At the conclusion of final inspection and testing, blow out dry-pipe system piping using compressed air. Verify piping is fully drained, including low point drains.
- C. Post-Final Inspection: One month after final inspection and testing, the contractor shall manually verify that the system piping has a nitrogen concentration of at least 98%. Advise COR to schedule post-final inspection.
- D. Final Contractual Acceptance: Final contractual acceptance will be given after successful completion of the final inspection and testing

and post-final inspection. The warranty period shall begin after final contractual acceptance.

### **3.3 INSTRUCTIONS**

Furnish the services of a competent instructor for not less than two hours for instructing personnel in the operation and maintenance of the system on the dates requested by the COR.

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