



PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Preventive maintenance of the spark detector system is generally not required for the following reasons:

- Detectors generally do not get dirty. It has been found that the air flow in the duct keeps the glass window of the detector mounting frame clean. It must be checked during the first days of operation and periodically.
- Detectors are little affected by dust, since the infrared (IR) thermal radiation emitted by incandescent bodies are much less attenuated than light.
- Spray nozzles are jam-free, since they are vortex type and have a large water outlet of 19 mm diameter.
- Periodic use of TEST operation and the control panel LED indicators allows any malfunctions to be discovered.
- Water leaks on the solenoid valve, due to electrical or mechanical malfunctions, if flow switch PAC-846 is provided, are signalled by the sound alarm and the WATER FLOW LED on the control panel.

In some special applications where dust is sticky and has tendency to adhere to the detector window, we suggest to install the APU-874 air purging unit and the LAM-612P external test lamp unit.

Dirt in water supply or piping threading waste can sometimes cause the solenoid valve diaphragm malfunction. We recommend the FIL-817 strainer, or other, to be mounted before the solenoid valve.

Care must also be taken over frost.

Frost stops water flow and damages solenoid valve and flow switch. The following precautions are recommended:

- As far as possible, install the extinguishing group and its water piping inside the factory building.
- Outside, use insulated piping and create an insulating box around flow switch and solenoid valve.
- When the factory is closed down for night or holidays, shut off the water supply and keep the piping empty.
- If possible, use a Pyrotenax or other heating cable over piping for frost protection, with an outside temperature controller set to +5°C.
- Hot water from the heating system could also be used to heat the extinguishing group and prevent frost. Also a small pressurized reservoir containing anti-frost liquid mixed to water is a valuable solution.

Excess water

The extinguishing water entering the duct could be too much so as to flooding the silo, or worse, to damage sensitive electrical equipment, such as fan motor, etc.

Therefore it is necessary to install on the duct one or more discharging valves which will carry the water in excess into the main waste water ducting.