



TECHNICAL BULLETIN
APPROVED PROCEDURE FOR CONVERTING NON ETI SYSTEMS UNDER AS5062

PREAMBLE

There are many customers today with large existing fleets of equipment which are already fitted with fire systems of different brands, not installed under AS 5062. These customers may have made a decision to ensure all new fire systems comply to AS 5062; however a problem remains on what to do with the existing fire systems. It is difficult to justify removing existing fire systems and foot the cost of a completely new system, particularly when that now has to be justified against a used machine of lesser value. Listing definition to AS5062 is clear and that is the only way to achieve strict compliance. Nevertheless a practical management program is needed to address existing fleet inline with the intent of AS5062.

ETI PERSPECTIVE

AS 5062 makes risk management a mandatory procedure, and ETI has developed a leading risk management process compliant to the standard using the Workplace Risk Assessment Control (WRAC). Furthermore ETI is an Engineered system. Our detailed risk assessment and design procedure allows us to manage such a circumstance rather than a pre-engineered, off the shelf system with less flexible rules. Approved users of the ETI design program are trained in this risk assessment procedure and can then go on to design the hardware of an ETI system to comply to the objectives of the risk management plan.

While AS5062 requires the complete system to be listed by one supplier for strict compliance, ETI tables a practical procedure that achieves the intent of AS5062, considers the risk of such a compromise, details it in the risk assessment and thereby competently manages it to the satisfaction of all parties. Essentially we are saying that if key components are changed out to ETI specification and the system is re-commissioned to ETI design rules, we believe the customer will have a competently converted system without the excessive cost of a new one. Components like Alarm Panels, Cylinders, brackets and pipework can be used as installed provided that a trained and competent service technician has established that they comply to relevant standards and do not conflict with ETI standards or design.

ETI PROCEDURE FOR CONVERTING A NON ETI SYSTEM TO COMPLIANT TO ETI DESIGN RULES.

- 1) **UNDERTAKE AN ETI RISK ASSESSMENT.** This should clearly state this procedure is being used to convert an existing fire system. For Example, the design will be verified to be compliant, however the existing componentry will be used as non listed. The 'authority having jurisdiction' should confirm the acceptance of this management procedure for this circumstance.
- 2) **Produce a design specification compliant to ETI rules.** This will normally involve the use of the Approved ETI design software.



- 3) REPLACE THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS AS A MINIMUM.
 - A) DISCHARGE NOZZLES
 - B) FIRE RATED CLAMPS IN THE FIRE RISK AREA
 - C) CYLINDER VALVE AND PICK UP HOSE
 - D) MANUAL ACTUATION DEVICES
 - E) AUTOMATIC ACTUATION DEVICES
 - F) RECHARGE WITH ETI FOAM
 - G) LABELS AND WARNING NOTICES

Existing components such as alarm system, foam cylinder, mounting brackets, pipework can be maintained provided they are confirmed not to be conflicting with ETI design rules or equipment. Pipework and nozzle locations may need adjustment to fit within the ETI design rules. Also, plastic clamps need to be replaced in the fire risk with ceramic fire rated clamps to meet engineered standards.

- 4) When the conversion has been completed, the testing procedure must pass compliant to ETI design rules. By changing the components listed in 3 above, we are discharging listed ETI foam through an ETI valve to ETI nozzles thereby achieving the design foam application rates that are already tested and listed. This means that fire fighting performance will be as listed.

By using ETI actuation devices, we are again using listed devices compliant to AS5062. The alarm system must be functional to AS5062. In many cases it will not have the system discharge function. In these cases the authority having jurisdiction must either accept this under the risk assessment or opt to buy a new compliant alarm. This means that the actuation and alarm system should perform similarly to the listed for the ETI system.

The technician tests the functionality of all the retained components to verify that the end result is a system with key ETI components that performs to ETI design rules and listed performance.

Finally we feel that the appropriate end result is, a converted fire system compliant to ETI design rules which are compliant to AS5062. We stress that this is not fully listed compliance as only installing a complete system will achieve that. However, we submit this as a competent and responsible management process for existing fire systems, intended to achieving the goals of AS5062. We further believe it will stand credible scrutiny when properly managed using the ETI Engineered design procedures.

Yours Truly

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