General

Weekly testing of fire protection systems

Weekly testing of any fire protection is no longer required.

If any fire protection systems are still being tested weekly under AS 1851 2005 Then there is no cost involving changing to monthly testing and no retrofitting of anything to allow for monthly testing.

Yearly test requires all systems that interface with the fire systems such as air-conditioning etc. operate as a full functional test.

Fire Detection and EWIS Systems

All Conventional types of detectors connected to the fire alarm system must be either cleaned or replaced every 10 years at first and then every 5 years there after.

Addressable detectors are not required to be cleaned or replaced as they will automatically self calibrate, however there is still a 5 yearly requirement for the check of their sensitivity to be carried out at the fire panel.

Cleaning the detectors

The detectors would have to be removed in batches of 20 and new detectors installed while the old detectors were away getting cleaned by the manufacture.

Once the 20 detectors have been cleaned, calibrated and returned from the manufacture, they can then be reinstalled and another batch of 20 changed over.

Replacing the detectors

The detectors that have reached their 10 years of age would be replaced with new detectors of the same type.

The customer would need to way up the cost difference of cleaning as against replacing the detectors.

5 Yearly test

At the 5 yearly test the impedance of each speaker circuit on an OWS or EWIS system must be checked.

The time it takes to disconnect each speaker circuit and check the impedance out on the circuit, then reconnect the circuit, on large systems this will increase the time required to test.

Test the short circuit isolators on any addressable system.

In-situ detector sensitivity test after 10 years of installation and then every 5 years.

Sprinkler Systems

Requirement to test any solenoid valves monthly

Sprinkler head testing, sample of heads required to be tested at 25 years, previously at 24 years.

5 yearly test now on all wet systems

Enclosed is the schedule from AS 1851 2005 and AS 1851 2012 side by side for comparison.