



BSI Standards Publication

Fixed firefighting systems — Water mist systems

Part 3: Test protocol for office, school classrooms
and hotel for automatic nozzle systems

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of [EN 14972-3:2021](#).

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee FSH/18/5, Watermist systems.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 14972-3:2021 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval.

It is the view of the UK committee that some of the requirements in EN 14972-3:2021 are suboptimal to the recommendations in the BS 8489 series and to the protocols that have been in use in the UK to date.

The UK committee also has concerns about a number of other aspects of EN 14972-3:2021, including:

- the broad definition of occupancies included within the test protocol;
- the basis of the analysis, i.e. unequal comparison between water mist and sprinkler;
- the lack of limits applied for critical parameters, i.e. ceiling gas temperature and spread to nozzles outside of the protected area;
- the degree of reliance on the design, installation, operation and maintenance (DIOM) manual to constrain critical parameters; and
- the absence of interoperability provisions.

The UK committee believes, based on experience, that existing UK practice in those areas is more robust than the requirements in EN 14972-3:2021.

The UK committee believes that the standard does not sufficiently cover certain technical and safety matters. These have been addressed to some extent in the national annexes to BS EN 14972-3:2021, which are appended at the back of this document.

The limits of application of the fire test protocols and other constraints have not, at the time of writing, been published. The intended scope and clear limits of the fire test protocols to the application of this standard are fundamental to its safe implementation. National Annexes NA and NB contain the UK committee recommendations (i.e. mechanisms to declare and constrain limits of application).

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