



BSI Standards Publication

Fixed firefighting systems — Water mist systems

Part 1: Design, installation, inspection and maintenance

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 14972-1:2020.

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 14972-1:2020 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 14972-1:2020 – for example those relating to the necessary fire test protocols – 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 14972-1:2020, including:

- specifications for system design and application;
- limits of application;
- the incomplete suite of fire test protocols;
- 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 14972-1:2020.

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 14972-1:2020, which are appended at the back of this document.

The UK committee draws attention to fundamental issues within EN 14972-1:2020, Table 1, which has not been adequately linked to the as yet unpublished fire test protocols that form part of the EN 14972 series. The limits of application of the fire test protocols and other constraints have not, at the time of writing, been published. The intended scopes 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 recommendations (i.e. mechanisms to declare and constrain limits of application). More details on limits of application will be given in national annexes to the test protocols as published.

The UK committee requested changes in the final draft stage of EN 14972-1:2020. However, they were not included in this published version. [National Annex NC](#) contains some of the changes that the UK committee requested.

Certain critical terms have not been defined in the standard. [National Annex ND](#) contains those definitions.