



BSI Standards Publication

Fixed firefighting systems – Automatic residential sprinkler systems – Design, installation and maintenance

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 16925:2018, incorporating corrigendum April 2020.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by corrigendum is indicated in the text by tags. Text altered by CEN corrigendum April 2020 is indicated in the text by AC AC.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee FSH/18, Fixed fire fighting systems.

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

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 16925:2018 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 16925:2018 – for example those relating to the necessary water application rates – are suboptimal to the recommendations in BS 9251:2014 and to the rates that have been in use in the UK to date. In particular, the application rates recommendations in BS 9251:2014 are based on independent testing of sprinkler heads undertaken on behalf of UK fire regulators. As such, they offer a significant degree of confidence in the reliability and efficacy of sprinkler systems designed to protect life in residential and domestic occupancies. The experience of real fires in premises protected by sprinklers designed and installed to BS 9251:2014 recommendations confirms that the minimum application rates recommended in BS 9251:2014 are appropriate. The committee also has concerns about a number of other aspects of EN 16925:2018, including system design and application, where the committee believes, based on experience, that existing UK practice is more robust than the requirements in EN 16925:2018.

Technical Committee FSH/18/2 also draws users' attention to the inclusion in this standard of National Annex NA (normative) and National Annex NB (informative), which provide requirements and supplementary guidance, respectively, for those using this standard in the UK. It is the intention that the requirements of the National Annex NA (normative) and National Annex NB (informative) will render the requirements of BS EN 16925:2018 equivalent to those of BS 9251:2014 for residential and domestic occupancies up to four storeys or 18 m height, whichever is the lower. As the committee has remaining concerns over the technical suitability of BS EN 16925:2018 for residential and domestic occupancies exceeding this height, it has decided to publish a revision of BS 9251:2014, with an amended scope, which will address concerns such as:

- zoning; and
- use of combined water supplies.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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