



Hydrantist In-Cell Anti-Ligature Watermist System has been chosen to protect 35 Cells at Wakefield Police Divisional HQ Custody Suite

Wakefield Police DHQ is located in Normanton (UK) and was built in 2013 making it one of the most modern police facilities in the country.

The Problem

Wakefield's Divisional Head Quarters is equipped with 35 police custody cells within its custody suite. Ensuring the safety of the person in custody is the primary focus of Wakefield Police.

The Solution

Knowing how Hydrantist's fire custodial fire protection systems have saved many lives to date, the Home Office recommends the use of Hydrantist custodial fire protection equipment in police custody suites. Fast reaction to fire with minimal risk of false alarms, maximum tenability in the event of a fire, and re-set of the system being achieved by the push of a button led Wakefield's Police to choose the smoke detection activated Hydrantist fire protection system with open anti-ligature nozzles. Depending on configuration the system can provide Hydrantist fire suppression to either individual or pairs of cells at a time. The Hydrantist system can be activated manually or automatically giving the police maximum control over the potential outcome of a fire. The Hydrantist in-cell anti-ligature fire protection system has been proven by UK Building Research Establishment (BRE) to suppress the fire, maintain a tenable atmosphere - allowing the Wakefield Police time to respond to the fire threat - and evacuate safely the person in custody. The certification testing proved that the Hydrantist system is effective at reducing consequential loss whilst using very small quantities of water - the result is that the facility has less consequential damage and can return to operation more quickly. Employing high pressure watermist allows water to be used in its most efficient fire suppression mode enabling the custody cells to be reinstated very

quickly and without water damage affecting the surrounding cells. Hydrantist Fire protection systems have already saved many lives in prisons to date. Speedy installation was achieved by the use of small pipe sizes (12-30mm) allowing easy co-ordination with other services whilst works were completed.

Experience

Hydrantist equipment has been installed throughout UK prisons since 2006. The UK home office figures for current prison population is over 86,000 inmates and prisons in the UK are now mostly protected by Hydrantist equipment.

On numbers of persons protected by watermist systems, Hydrantist is undoubtedly protecting more people in the world on a continuous basis than any other manufacturer!

Hydrantist systems were selected by the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office after extensive fire testing at the UK Building Research Establishment proved that Hydrantist systems were much more effective than traditional hose reel systems and would save lives in prisons.

The BRE test criteria were:

- **Maintain a tenable atmosphere for a period of 20 minutes when fire tested in accordance with the Ministry of Justice specifications**
- **Discharge a relatively small amount of water**
- **Deliver a spray of water mist with sufficient momentum to discharge droplets to the back wall of a cell**

The Inundation must last for 5 minutes after pre-burn and operation of internal cell fire detection systems followed by a simulated 'rescue' of an inmate which involved opening the door for a set period of one minute. After the rescue the door is closed and a period of 10 minutes

allowed to elapse during which time the fire must not to resume.

Watermist Ltd tested Hydrantist[®] products as follows:

- **Mobile 8 and Hose reel mounted hand held lances**
- **"In-Cell" anti-ligature nozzle using a locally mounted pump unit**

In all tests Hydrantist[®]:

- **Successfully extinguished the fire at the first attempt**
- **Dramatically reduced cell temperature, toxic gases & smoke to 'tenable' levels**
- **Ensured sufficient oxygen was available to sustain life throughout the cell**

Note: During the 'rescue' and the ten minute waiting period after inundation the fire did not resume; temperatures & toxic gases in the cell continued to fall, remaining well below levels that could be harmful to life.

The life-saving capabilities of the Hydrantist system were borne out within weeks of the first installation when a young woman's life became at risk due to a fire breaking out in her cell. The Hydrantist system was deployed and she was safely evacuated - this was the first of many lives saved.



hydramist®
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