

# Health and Safety Executive OC 483/19

Field Operations Division

To

FCG Specialist Inspectors (Elec)

## BS 5036 : Part 2 : 1990

SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

### Introduction

1 This instruction, which is based on TD Minute TD/1B/T/21/1990, draws attention to the technical information contained in the above recently issued Standard.

### Background

2 The Standard details requirements for the design and installation of automatic sprinkler systems.

3 There is no specific advice relating to electrical switchrooms or substations. There is advice contained in a general statement in Clause 4.2.1 (c) which states:-

"Obligatory exceptions. Sprinkler protection shall not be provided in the following parts of a building or plant : areas, rooms or places where the water discharged from a sprinkler may present a hazard".

The commentary and recommendations for this clause only refer to salt baths, metal melt pans or frying ranges.

4 Clause 4.2.2.1 provides for optional exceptions and part (c) refers to rooms, or compartments containing electric power distribution apparatus such as switchgear and transformers. This clause suggests considering sprinkler installations for such areas but there is no need to provide such a system.

5 Clause 7.3 deals with earthing of all exposed metalwork. The commentary refers specifically to the 15th Edition of the IEE Regulations for Electrical Installations.

6 Other electrical advice is contained in Clause 17.4.12 Electric Motor Driven Pumps, Clause 34.3. Weekly Routine, and Clause 3.1.5 Electric Switches and

Control Panels.

7 It was suggested that where sprinkler systems are found provided in electrical switchrooms, control rooms or substations, a hazard analysis be carried out to justify the installation.

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## **ASI headings**

Electrical equipment (excluding hand tools): sprinkler systems: switchgear and switches.