

## **Subsection 6.5.1. General**

6.5.1.1. (1) Repair, replacement and alterations of sprinkler system components shall be in accordance with NFPA 13, “Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems”.

(2) Compliance with the **inspection, testing** and maintenance provisions of NFPA 25, “Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems”, for sprinkler systems is deemed to satisfy the requirements of Subsections 6.5.4., to 6.5.6.

6.5.1.2. Sprinkler systems shall be maintained in operating condition.

### ***Closing sprinkler control valves***

6.5.1.3. (1) Sprinkler control valves shall not be closed in the event of a fire until the fire is

(a) extinguished, or

(b) considered by the **fire department**, or by an industrial fire brigade established by the **owner** in consultation with the **fire department**, to be under control by other means.

### ***Changes in equipment or occupancy***

6.5.1.4. Changes in equipment or **occupancy** that might result in temperatures at sprinklers being more than 38°C or less than 4°C with wet pipe systems shall not be made without previously making provisions to alter the sprinkler system to prevent premature operation or freezing.

### ***Obstructions***

6.5.1.5. (1) No obstructions shall be placed so as to interfere with the effectiveness of water discharge from sprinklers.

(2) Sprinkler systems shall not be used to support anything that will interfere with effective sprinkler system performance.

6.5.1.6. (1) Where alterations or repairs are made to feed mains, cross mains, or risers in sprinkler systems, the systems shall be **tested** in conformance with Sentences (2) to (8).

(2) Except as permitted in Sentence (4), the sprinkler system shall be subjected to a hydrostatic pressure **test** of a minimum of 1400 kPa (gauge), or 350 kPa (gauge) in excess of the maximum static pressure to which the system may be subjected, for a period of 2 h without loss of pressure.

(3) For dry-pipe systems, the clapper of the differential type dry-pipe valve shall be held off its seat, and the ball drip in the intermediate chamber shall be replaced by a plug during the **test**.

(4) The **tests** described in Sentence (2) shall be performed when hydrostatic pressure **testing** can be performed without danger of freezing, and when there is danger of freezing, the sprinkler system shall be pressure **tested** with air at 350 kPa (gauge) for 2 h without loss of pressure.

(5) Sprinkler system water supply pressure shall be **tested** with the main drain valve fully open to ensure that there are no obstructions in the water supply piping to the sprinkler system.

(6) Drainage facilities shall be **tested** to ensure that the drains are capable of taking the full flow from the main drain pipe without overflowing.

(7) Dry-pipe valves shall be **tested** to ensure that they are in operating condition.

(8) Mechanical and electrical alarms shall be **tested** to ensure that they are in operating condition.

### ***Testing of underground mains***

6.5.1.7. (1) When alterations or additions are made to underground mains and lead-in connections of a sprinkler system, the mains and lead-in connections shall be **tested** by

- (a) flushing for sufficient time to remove foreign material at a minimum water flow as specified in Table 6.5.1.A., and
- (b) a 2 h hydrostatic pressure **test** of 350 kPa (gauge) in excess of the maximum static pressure, but not less than 1400 kPa (gauge) and leakage shall not exceed 2 L/h per 100 joints for pipe laid with rubber gasketed joints, and 30 mL/h per 25 mm of pipe diameter per joint for pipe laid with caulked lead or lead substitute joints.

TABLE 6.5.1.A.

Forming part of Article 6.5.1.7.

Size of Pipe, mm	Minimum Flow, L/min
100	1500
150	3250
200	5800
250	9000
300	13000

(2) At seasons of the year that will not permit hydrostatic pressure **testing**, the procedure outlined in Sentence 6.5.1.6.(4) may be followed.

***Records***

6.5.1.8. (1) An **approved** record shall be kept of **inspections** of each system.

(2) The record required in Sentence (1) shall be available for examination by the **Chief Fire Official**.