FIRE + RESCUE

POSITION STATEMENT SUMMARY

Plastic pipe in combined fire hydrant and sprinkler systems

Position

Effective 5 December 2024, the following is a position of Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW):

Section 3.2 of AS 2118.6–2012 indicates that pipes and fittings shall meet the requirements of AS 2419.1 for the hydrant system, and AS 2118.1 for the sprinkler system.

As a combined hydrant and sprinkler system will be used as a fire hydrant system during fire brigade operations, the minimum requirements of AS 2419.1 should be adopted for any such system.

FRNSW does not support the installation of any plastic pipe above ground as part of any combined fire hydrant and automatic fire sprinkler system.

Reference must be made to the FRNSW website to ensure this position is current at the time of use, and this position has not been superseded or revoked.

Summary

This position statement identifies that AS 2118.6 refers to two secondary referenced standards, regarding the use of pipes and fittings, and that a contradiction exists whereby AS 2419.1 does not allow plastic pipes and fittings above ground when AS 2118.1 does.

AS 2419.1 specifically details the requirements of a fire hydrant system that will be used by the fire brigade. FRNSW consider that the requirements for pipes and fittings as nominated by AS 2419.1 are the minimum requirements for a combined fire hydrant and sprinkler system that must perform as a fire hydrant system during fire brigade operations.

The position iterates that plastic pipe and fittings installed on a combined fire hydrant and sprinkler system does not facilitate the needs of the fire brigade appropriate to firefighting operations, and therefore is not supported by FRNSW.

This position statement has been authorised for release by Chief Superintendent Fire Safety, FRNSW.

Contact us

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Fire and Rescue NSW

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