



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
State Fire Marshal Division**

**INTERPRETATION**

Interpretation# INTERP FP-02 (2007)	Subject of Interpretation: Water-Assisted Chemical Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression Systems		
Reviewed and Approved By: Jerry Rosendahl	Title: State Fire Marshal	Effective Date: July 10, 2007	Revision Date: July 10, 2007

**APPLIES TO:**

All Inspection Personnel, All Sprinkler Inspectors and Plan Reviewers, All Fire Protection Specialists, All Inspection Supervisors.

**PURPOSE:**

To clarify requirements of the sprinkler licensing statute Minn. Stat. § 299M and how it applies to wet chemical kitchen grease exhaust hood fire extinguishing systems.

**INTERPRETATION:**

The State Fire Marshal Division has reviewed water-assisted chemical kitchen hood fire extinguishing systems consisting of a wet chemical agent connected to a constant water supply and how Minn. Stat. § 299M applies to their installation.

**1.1 Background**

These systems are usually activated by thermal links in the kitchen hood ductwork. The system then provides an approximate ten second supply of wet chemical solution through a series of pre-engineered piping and nozzles. After the wet chemical discharge, the system then provides continuous water through the same nozzles to provide a “cooling” effect.

**QUESTION:** Because these systems *can* use fire sprinkler system water for part of their operation, are they required by Minn. Stat. § 299M to be installed by a licensed sprinkler contractor? The answer is NO, based on the following reasons:

1. Because these systems use a unique design (wet chemical and water) approach for extinguishing fires, they do not resemble traditional sprinkler systems.
2. The system is designed to be fed off of a “domestic” water supply or a wet pipe fire sprinkler system.

**1.2 Requirements**

While the State Fire Marshal Division believes that this system does not fall under the jurisdiction of Minn. Stat. § 299M, the following conditions shall be met:

1. The installed systems shall comply in all respects to UL Listings 300 and 2092.
2. Plans shall be submitted for approval by the local Authority Having Jurisdiction, where applicable, before installation begins.

3. Wet chemical systems may be connected to either the domestic OR sprinkler system, depending upon its listing. If connected to a sprinkler system, the connection may only be done by a certified journeyman sprinkler fitter under a sprinkler contractor licensed under Minnesota Statute § 299M.03.
4. The water supply shall be analyzed and confirmed to be adequate for proper system operation before the plans are submitted to the local Authority Having Jurisdiction.
5. The pre-engineered piping and nozzles shall be confirmed as the proper size (based on the existing water supply) to the local Authority Having Jurisdiction.
6. Installing technicians shall be factory trained and certified for the type of system.
7. The tie-in to the domestic water system shall be done by personnel licensed under Minn. Stat. § 326.37 through 326.45 (Licensing of plumbers).
8. The installation shall comply with MSFC (07) Section 904.11.