

APPLICATION SPOTLIGHT

Firetrace System Protects UPS Units From Fire

Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) units offer critical backup power for mission-critical equipment and business processes. These units also experience fires. UPS units are often located in critical areas where fires, if not suppressed inside the unit itself, can cause serious damage to not only the UPS but also to other expensive equipment. A UPS fire not suppressed in the interior of a room might also initiate a discharge of a larger, “total flood” suppression system incurring considerable expense in refill charges.

Recently, a Firetrace Distributor in the Midwest installed a Direct Low-Pressure (DLP) system using FM-200[®] to protect a UPS unit located in an Ohio newspaper plant. The Firetrace system is conveniently installed in the interior of the UPS. Its installation flexibility allows system service from the front of the unit, given that the UPS is installed against a wall with limited access from the rear.

This DLP system has Firetrace tubing installed throughout the UPS enclosure providing linear, pneumatic, fire detection throughout the unit. When the DLP system senses a fire, the tubing closest to the fire bursts and forms a nozzle from which the FM-200 is discharged directly at the fire’s source. A pressure switch was included to terminate power to the unit and activate the main building’s fire alarm. The system’s tubing terminates in a panel-mounted gauge allowing simple visual system inspection by maintenance staff.



The newspaper was so pleased with the UPS application that they installed additional Firetrace DLP systems in their battery backup enclosures located in the same area. In this application, Firetrace tubing runs conveniently across the bottom of each battery shelf providing detection and discharge capability right above the fire risk area.

This is an excellent Firetrace application and another example of an initial installation that lead to additional systems within the end-user site.

FIRETRACE

AUTOMATIC FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

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