

APPLICATION SPOTLIGHT

Firetrace Systems Protect Buses



Image 1 - Full view of burned bus.



Image 2 - Close-up view of engine compartment.



Image 3 - Firetrace system installation.

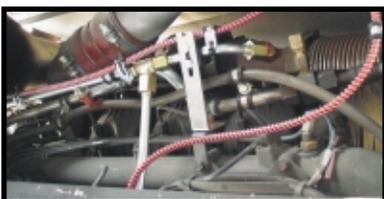


Image 4 - Firetrace Tubing with Protector.

Almost every type of engine compartment poses some level of fire risk as gasoline, oil, grease and high temperatures are all present in the same area. Mass transit vehicles such as buses are not immune from fire either. A fire in the engine compartment can be quite devastating to a bus (*see Images 1 & 2*). Fortunately, there were no injuries as a result of this fire, but the bus was a complete loss.

Since companies that own buses generate their revenue from operating the bus, a fire presents more of a financial loss than a simple insurance deductible. Buses, as with most mass transit vehicles, are not available at the corner car dealer. They have to be ordered, even custom made in some cases. Downtime for the damaged or lost bus can take weeks or months and result in significant lost revenue to the owners.

Fire detection and suppression systems from Firetrace provide an exceptionally effective layer of protection from excessive fire damage. The company that lost the bus pictured here, as well as two others, finally decided to equip their fleet with Firetrace systems. In this case, the company chose Firetrace Indirect Low Pressure systems using fire fighting foam as the suppressing agent (*see Image 3*). They used Tubing Protection (P/N 200163) to add a layer of reinforcement to the tubing as the potential exists for flying objects within the engine compartment (*see Image 4*). With discharge nozzles strategically placed in the engine compartment (*see Image 5*), the detection of a fire by the tubing will “bathe” the entire area in a layer of foam, and the system’s Pressure Switch will activate an audible alarm located by the driver.



Image 5 - Discharge Nozzle.

This is just one example of how a Firetrace system can be configured to protect an engine compartment. Other agents such as dry chemical powder can be used. Plus, various tubing runs can be utilized depending on the engine orientation. The bottom line is that a Firetrace system is effective at protecting a bus’ engine compartment from fire. The potential losses as a result of fire are dramatically decreased and the vehicles are kept operating.

FIRETRACE®

AUTOMATIC FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS