



Date: 25th Aug 2015

RE: AS1851.2012 Maintenance Requirements for ASD Detectors

To Whom It May Concern,

The introduction of the AS1851 Maintenance Standard in 2012 brought with it a number of changes and additions which impact the maintenance of fire systems overall. Some of these changes and additions are minor whilst others are more onerous.

With regard to the maintenance of Aspirating Smoke Detection (ASD) systems the importance of ensuring consistent detector performance over time was an important safety factor considered by the Standards Working Group. The question was raised,....*"how do we know that an Aspirating Smoke Detector (ASD) installed and operating in situ for several years will still detect and maintain the same sensitivity level as it did when first installed"*?

The main point for consideration related primarily to the calibration of the smoke detection chamber to ensure ongoing reliable smoke detection. Therefore, a new requirement was introduced in the Standard to check the detector after a certain period of time to ensure its calibration has not shifted since first installed. Since its publication the FPA Australia's Technical Advisory Committee for maintenance (TAC/1) identified a number of issues regarding ASD maintenance in AS1851.2012. As a result a TAN (Technical Advisory Note) was released by FPA Australia to the Fire Industry regarding Aspirating Smoke Detection (ASD) maintenance. A copy of the TAN can be found on the FPA (Aust) Website.

A highlight of the TAN is that whilst an ASD system may appear to be functioning as intended, those that are 10 years or older are now required to undergo a calibration check. Unfortunately this test cannot be performed on site and the detector must be returned to the manufacturer. It shall be noted that the cost of detector removal, calibration check and any subsequent failures, repairs and rechecks may render this exercise commercially unviable.

Xtralis ASDs are designed for a service life of 10 years and may continue to operate satisfactorily beyond this point. To help you meet the new maintenance requirements of AS1851.2012 Xtralis is offering a program to allow detector replacement to VESDA as well as the latest VESDA-E technology that not only allows you take advantage of the latest superior detection of the VESDA-E but also the enhanced feature set.

VESDA-E has set a new benchmark in the industry; providing superior detection performance; greater tolerance to nuisance alarms and unprecedented detector stability in a wide range of applications. VESDA-E also introduces the concept of expandable StaX modules to suit different application needs, a new range of connectivity options and Analytics.

Upgrading your 10+ year old VESDA detector will restore long term reliability and provide continued hassle-free operation. Contact your local Xtralis office today for a solution to your smoke detection system upgrade.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Leslie

Product Line Management – Codes & Standards

Xtralis (Aust) Pty Ltd, ABN 62 100 259 381

4 North Drive, Virginia Park, 236-262 East Boundary Road • Bentleigh East • Victoria • 3165 • Australia

T +61 3 9936.7000 • F +61 3 9936.7201

www.xtralis.com