

Fike Enhances Fire Safety At A Fast-Food Restaurant In Pennsylvania With Its DuraQuench System

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During its scheduled 20-year renovation project, a major fast-food restaurant in Pennsylvania learned that the flow rate supplied from its main hydrant/riser supply line (about 350 gpm) was too low to support its sprinkler systems within local fire codes (about 500 gpm).

Growth in the area had placed additional demand on the local water main over the intervening years, making a once-suitable water supply, no longer adequate.

Fire Sprinkler Pump



Fire protection distributor BFPE International proposed a water mist system to solve the problem

To remain within code and in operation, the restaurant had two options: install a water tank with a fire sprinkler pump, or trench to the other side of a major thoroughfare to upgrade the water supply line serving the building. Both options would require a significant financial investment, delay the restaurant's re-opening and postpone remaining renovation work.

In lieu of these undesirable options, fire protection distributor BFPE International proposed a water mist system to solve the problem. Specifically, they suggested Fike's DuraQuench system, said BFPE International's York PA general manager Lee Schmelyun.

Conventional Sprinkler Systems

"Once we explained to the restaurant owner and fire marshal that the DuraQuench system offered them a more efficient fire protection system than a normal sprinkler system, and that it is more cost effective than a fire sprinkler pump and tank, both were excited about the application," Schmelyun said. The local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), Steve Dunkle, agreed that DuraQuench was a viable option to keep the restaurant within code.

"We were very excited to learn about something new, and to see that every question asked was met swiftly with supporting documentation," Dunkle said. DuraQuench was ultimately chosen for the project because of its ability to use 50 percent less water than conventional sprinkler systems and to connect to the domestic potable water supply at the site. *"The DuraQuench system saved the day at this site,"* said Tony Smith, the project's construction manager. *"When we became aware of the additional benefits, it was not just a choice—it was the only choice."*

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