Residential Fire Protection Pump Systems

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What to look for when selecting a 13D pump system...



What to look for when selecting a Residential Fire Protection Pump System

The most important aspect to a residential fire protection pump system is its emphasis on non-ferrous (or corrosion resistant) construction. Many systems on the market use cast iron pumps and black iron piping. The only advantage to this type of system is that it will save you a few bucks. As with anything done on the cheap, you have to worry about reliability and in the fire protection industry that is unacceptable.

Over time cast iron pumps and black iron piping will rust and corrode, which can result in clogged piping and a seized pump. This potentially negates the entire point of sprinklering a residence.

To avoid this disturbing consequence look for a residential pump system that emphasizes non-ferrous or corrosion resistant construction. A non-ferrous system will include a stainless steel



TEFC pump that has the ability to run during a fire event a year after installation, 5 years after installation and beyond.

Other corrosion resistant elements to look for include: heavy duty plastic bulkhead fittings, copper piping and stainless steel hoses. A residential fire protection pump system constructed with these non-ferrous features is a system you can rely on. Ask yourself what you would prefer in your own home when you make that decision.

There are other features to look for when selecting a 13D residential pump system that make installation, maintenance, and home operation simple and trouble-free.

For instance, a system with a control panel is ideal because it provides the installers and home owners with an easy way to make sure the system in running properly. A control panel can also host many other features like an alarm signal contact and an audible alarm to signal fire fighters or homeowners that the system is running. Many contractors have found that the incorporation of a "Hand-Off-Auto" switch or a "Push to Test Pump" button saves time at installation.

One further feature to look for is a light weight but heavy duty tank that will fit through a standard 30" doorway - a polyethylene plastic construction is ideal.

It is with all these factors in mind that the engineers at General Air Products designed our NFPA 13D pump system. We

would want nothing less in our own homes.

General Air Products' RFP System is the simple solution to the problem of insufficient water supply in a residential sprinkler system. Just remember, not all systems are created equal!

Be sure to look for these features when you are selecting your system:

- Non-Ferrous or Corrosion Resistant Materials
- Stainless Steel TEFC Pump
- Copper Piping
- Stainless Steel Hoses
- Fully Featured Control Panel
- 29" wide, Polyethylene storage tank

Photos Courtesy of Mr. Ron Pierce of Pierce Fire Protection Company