Step-By-Step Fire Protection Impairment

What is an impairment to a Fire Protection System?

A fire protection impairment is a condition where a fire protection system, or portions of a system, are out of order and not able to function in a fire event. An impairment can be planned, due to scheduled maintenance on the system, or it can occur unexpectedly if the system encounters a problem.

Follow the simple step-by-step process of conducting a controlled impairment of your Fire Protection/Automatic Sprinkler System:

1. Provide Temporary Protection: Additional Fire Extinguishers, Preconnect Fire Hose to Hydrant, etc.
2. Provide a fire watch, consisting of employees and/or additional watchman rounds
3. Inform Local Fire Dept. and Your Alarm Company of the Impairment
4. Stop Hazardous Operations, Such as Welding, Spray Painting, etc. in the Area
5. Note Time and Date of Impairment Start and Purpose on Log Card
6. Tag the System With an “Out of Service” Tag
7. Note Time and Date of Impairment Completion on Log Card
8. Conduct System Test, Note Date/Time on Log Card (2” Drain Test, Alarm Flow Test, Tamper Alarm Test)
9. Inform Local Fire Department and Alarm Company of Impairment Completion

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