



Member of the FM Global Group

Approval Standard for Fire Hydrants (Wet Barrel Type) for Private Fire Service

Class Number 1511

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Foreword

The FM Approvals certification mark is intended to verify that the products and services described will meet FM Approvals' stated conditions of performance, safety and quality useful to the ends of property conservation. The purpose of Approval Standards is to present the criteria for FM Approval of various types of products and services, as guidance for FM Approvals personnel, manufacturers, users and authorities having jurisdiction.

Products submitted for certification by FM Approvals shall demonstrate that they meet the intent of the Approval Standard, and that quality control in manufacturing shall ensure a consistently uniform and reliable product. Approval Standards strive to be performance-oriented. They are intended to facilitate technological development.

For examining equipment, materials and services, Approval Standards:

- a) must be useful to the ends of property conservation by preventing, limiting or not causing damage under the conditions stated by the Approval listing; and
- b) must be readily identifiable.

Continuance of Approval and listing depends on compliance with the Approval Agreement, satisfactory performance in the field, on successful re-examinations of equipment, materials, and services as appropriate, and on periodic follow-up audits of the manufacturing facility.

FM Approvals LLC reserves the right in its sole judgment to change or revise its standards, criteria, methods, or procedures.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Purpose	1
1.2 Scope	1
1.3 Basis for FM Approval	1
1.4 Basis for Continued Approval	1
1.5 Basis for Requirements	1
1.6 Effective Date	2
1.7 System of Units	2
II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	2
2.1 Physical/Structural	2
2.2 Markings	3
2.3 Rated Working Pressure	3
2.4 Drawings/Plans/Specifications Required	3
2.5 Manufacturer's Requirements	4
III. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS — APPROVAL TESTS	4
3.1 Shell Strength	4
3.2 Seat Leakage	4
3.3 Hose Outlet Strength	4
3.4 Stem Strength	5
3.5 Head Loss	5
3.6 Other Tests	5
IV. OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS	6
4.1 Demonstrated Quality Control Program	6
4.2 Facilities and Procedures Audit (F&PA)	6
APPENDIX A: APPROVAL MARKS	7
APPENDIX B: UNITS OF MEASUREMENT	8

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

This standard states FM Approval requirements for wet barrel fire hydrants.

1.2 Scope

The standard applies to fire hydrants which are above ground means for obtaining water for fire hose from underground fire protection mains.

1.3 Basis for FM Approval

FM Approval is based upon satisfactory evaluation of the product and the manufacturer in the following major areas:

1.3.1 Examination and tests on production samples shall be performed to evaluate

- the suitability of the product;
- the proper operation and performance of the product as specified by the manufacturer and required by FM Approvals; and, as far as practical,
- the durability and reliability of the product.

1.3.2 An examination of the manufacturing facilities and audit of quality control procedures shall be made to evaluate the manufacturer's ability to produce the product as examined and tested, and the marking procedures used to identify the product. These examinations are repeated as part of FM Approvals' Product Follow-Up Program.

1.4 Basis for Continued Approval

Continued Approval is based upon:

- production or availability of the product as currently Approved;
- the continued use of acceptable quality control procedures;
- satisfactory field experience;
- compliance with the terms stipulated in the Approval Agreement; and
- re-examination of production samples for continued conformity to requirements.

1.5 Basis for Requirements

1.5.1 The requirements of this standard are based on experience, research and testing and/or the standards of other national and international organizations. The advice of manufacturers, users, trade associations and loss control specialists was also considered.

1.5.2 The requirements of this standard reflect tests and practices used to examine characteristics of wet barrel fire hydrants for the purpose of obtaining FM Approval. These requirements are intended primarily as guides, and strict conformity is not always mandatory. Fire hydrants having characteristics not anticipated by this standard may be Approved if performance equal or superior to that required by this standard is demonstrated, or if the intent of the standard is met. Alternatively, fire hydrants which do meet all the requirements identified in this standard may not be Approved if other conditions which adversely affect performance exist or if the intent of this standard is not met.

1.6 Effective Date

The effective date of an Approval standard mandates that all products tested for Approval after the effective date shall satisfy the requirements of that standard. Products Approved under a previous edition shall comply with the new version by the effective date or else forfeit Approval. The effective date shall apply to the entire Approval standard, or, where so indicated, only to specific paragraphs of the standard.

1.7 System of Units

Units of measurement are U.S. customary units. These are followed by their arithmetic equivalents in International System (SI) units, enclosed in parentheses. Appendix B lists the selected units for quantities dealt with in testing these products; conversions to SI units are included. Conversion of U.S. customary units is in accordance with ASTM E380.

II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Physical/Structural

2.1.1 Samples — In order to qualify for fire protection service, hydrants must be examined on a design-by-design, manufacturer-by-manufacturer, and plant-by-plant basis. Sample hydrants, selected in conformance to this criterion, shall satisfy all of the following performance requirements and be installed in a manner identifiable as being within the scope of conditions defined by the testing.

2.1.2 Inlet Connection — The inlet flange shall be an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) flange, or a flange from a nationally recognized standard in the country of installation. Threaded connections are also acceptable.

2.1.3 Hose Outlets — Hydrants shall be designed with two, three or four 2 ½ in. nominal size hose outlets, and may also have a pumper outlet in addition to the hose outlets. Hose outlets shall be securely fastened to the barrel.

2.1.4 Outlet Cap — Caps shall be fastened to the barrel with a suitable flexible connector.

2.1.5 Hose Valves — Each hose outlet shall have an independent hose valve. They shall be built into the barrel.

2.1.6 Operating Mechanisms —

- A. The operating threads shall be so designed that the working of iron or steel parts against iron or steel is avoided. Threaded parts and bushings shall be of corrosion-resistant material.
- B. The operating mechanisms shall have adequate strength for their intended application.
- C. The operating mechanism shall be so designed that the minimum time to close a hose valve shall not be less than 15.0 seconds when operated with the wrench furnished with the hydrant. Alternatively, ten full turns of the operating nut shall be acceptable.

2.1.7 Hydrant Top — The hydrant top (bonnet) shall be designed to:

- eliminate accumulation of water at any point on its surface
- permit lubrication of operating stem.

2.1.8 Operating Nuts and Hose Outlet Cap Nuts — The hydrant operating nut and outlet cap nuts shall be pentagonal in shape. The pentagon shall be 1½ in. (38 mm) from point to flat at the base and 1⅞ in. (36 mm) at the top. Faces shall be tapered uniformly, and the height shall not be less than 1 in. (25 mm).

2.1.9 Hydrant Wrench — Wrenches shall have minimal or no taper in their opening so as to be readily reversible.

2.1.10 Direction to Open — The direction of rotation to open the hose valves shall be counter-clockwise.

2.2 **Markings**

2.2.1 The hydrant shall be permanently marked with the following information which may be cast on the barrel or inscribed on a securely attached, corrosion-resistant metal nameplate:

- manufacturer's name or trademark
- model or type designation
- maximum rated working pressure
- nominal size or inlet
- year of manufacture
- FM Approval mark (see Appendix A).

2.2.2 The word "OPEN" and an arrow showing counter-clockwise direction for opening shall be located on or near the barrel of each opening nut.

2.3 **Rated Working Pressure**

The hydrant shall have a minimum rated working pressure of 175 psi (1205 kPa).

2.4 **Drawings/Plans/Specifications Required**

The hydrants submitted for testing shall be true production samples and shall be free of sharp edges, burrs or other imperfections liable to injure the installer or interfere with proper installation of the unit.

Detail and assembly drawings shall be submitted to FM Approvals before any testing, along with any instruction sheets and parts lists.

2.5 Manufacturer's Requirements

Each hydrant assembly shall be tested internally to two times the rated working pressure, or 350 psi (2415 kPa) minimum for 1 minute. No leakage is allowed through the castings, the gaskets, or the seat. Then each hydrant shall be re-pressurized at the seat inlet. No leakage across the seat or main valve assembly is allowed. Each valve shall be opened and closed at least once.

III. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS — APPROVAL TESTS

3.1 Shell Strength

3.1.1 Requirement

The shell of the hydrant assembly shall withstand a hydrostatic pressure of four times the rated working pressure, with 175 psi (1205 kPa) as the minimum rated working pressure.

3.1.2 Test/Verification

The shell of the hydrant assembly shall be subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of four times the rated working pressure for 5 minutes without evidence of physical damage. Gaskets or joint seals may be reinforced, if necessary, in order to hold this pressure.

3.2 Seat Leakage

3.2.1 Requirement

The seat at each hose outlet shall withstand exposure to hydrostatic pressure in excess of its rated working pressure.

3.2.2 Test/Verification

A hydrostatic pressure of twice the rated working pressure shall be applied to each hose valve seat. The pressure shall be held for 5 minutes. During and at the conclusion of the test, no leakage shall result. Additionally, no fracture, permanent distortion or functional impairment shall occur.

3.3 Hose Outlet Strength

3.3.1 Requirement

To determine adequacy of fastening, a single hose outlet shall be subjected to a torque of 300 lb•ft (407 N•m). The torque shall be applied in both the direction to loosen and the direction to tighten hose attached to the outlet.

3.3.2 Test/Verification

No outlet failure or separation from the barrel shall result.

3.4 Stem Strength

3.4.1 Requirement

To determine adequacy of design, the operating mechanisms shall be subjected to a torque of 200 lb•ft (271 N•m) applied at each operating nut – first, with the hose valve closed, and second, with the hose valve open.

3.4.2 Test/Verification

After this test, each hose valve shall still be operable, i.e., it shall be possible to open and close the hose valve with the wrench provided with the hydrant.

3.5 Head Loss

3.5.1 Requirement

A wet barrel hydrant, for friction loss purposes, shall be measured from the inlet flange of the upper section. This section, when discharging 250 gpm (946 dm³/min) through each 2½ in. nominal size hose outlet, shall not have a head loss greater than shown in the following table:

<i>Number of Hose Connections</i>	<i>Flow</i>		<i>Head Loss</i>	
	gpm	(dm ³ /min)	psi	(kPa)
1	250	(946)	1	(6.9)
2	500	(1895)	2	(13.9)
3	750	(2840)	3	(20.7)
4	1000	(3785)	4	(27.6)

If the hydrant has a pumper connection, the head loss through the main hydrant valve and pumper connection shall not exceed 5.0 psi (34.5 kPa) when flowing 1000 gpm (3785 dm³/min).

3.6 Other Tests

At the discretion of FM Approvals, other tests may be performed to verify the integrity and reliability of an unusual design or material application.

IV. OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Demonstrated Quality Control Program

- 4.1.1 A quality control program is required to assure that each subsequent hydrant produced by the manufacturer shall present the same quality and reliability as the specific samples examined. Design quality, conformance to design, and performance are the areas of primary concern.

Design quality is determined during the examination and tests.

Conformance to design is verified by control of quality in the following areas:

- existence of corporate quality control guidelines
- incoming assurance, including testing
- in-process assurance, including testing
- final inspection and test
- equipment calibration
- drawing and change control
- packaging and shipping
- handling discrepant materials.

Quality of performance is determined by field performance and by re-examination and test.

- 4.1.2 The manufacturer shall establish a system of product configuration control to prevent unauthorized changes, including, as appropriate:

- engineering drawings
- engineering change requests
- engineering orders
- change notices

These shall be executed in conformance with a written policy and detailed procedures. Records of all revisions to all Approved products shall be kept.

- 4.1.3 The manufacturer shall assign an appropriate person or group to be responsible for obtaining FM Approvals' authorization of all changes applicable to Approved Products. FM Approvals Form 797, "Approved Product Revision Report or Address/Contact Change Notice", is provided to notify FM Approvals of pending changes.

4.2 Facilities and Procedures Audit (F&PA)

- 4.2.1 An inspection of the product manufacturing facility shall be part of the Approval investigation. Its purpose shall be to determine that equipment, procedures, and the manufacturer's controls are properly maintained to produce a product of the same quality as initially tested.

- 4.2.2 Unannounced follow-up inspections shall be conducted to assure continued quality control and product uniformity.

**APPENDIX A:
APPROVAL MARKS**

REPRODUCTION ART: FM Approval Marks

**For use on nameplates, in literature, advertisements,
packaging and other graphics.**



- 1) The FM Approval diamond mark is acceptable to FM Approvals as an Approval mark when used with the word "Approved."
- 2) The FM Approval logomark has no minimum size requirement, but should always be large enough to be readily identifiable.
- 3) Color should be black on a light background or a reverse may be used on a dark background.

For Cast-On Marks



- 4) Where reproduction of the mark described above is impossible because of production restrictions, a modified version of the diamond is suggested. Minimum size specifications are the same as for printed marks. Use of the word "Approved" with this mark is optional.

NOTE: These Approval marks are to be used only in conjunction with products or services that have been FM Approved. The FM Approval marks should never be used in any manner (including advertising, sales or promotional purposes) that could suggest or imply FM Approval or endorsement of a specific manufacturer or distributor. Nor should it be implied that Approval extends to a product or service not covered by written agreement with FM Approvals. The Approval marks signify that products or services have met certain requirements as reported by the FM Approvals.

Additional reproduction art is available through

FM Approvals
P.O. Box 9102,
Norwood, MA 02062
USA

APPENDIX B

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

LENGTH:	in. – “inches” (mm – “millimeters”) mm = in. × 25.4 ft – “feet” (m – “meters”) m = ft × 0.3048
PRESSURE:	psi – “pounds per square inch”; (kPa – “kilopascals”) kPa = psi × 0.06895
FLOW:	gal/min = gallons per minute (dm ³ /min = cubic decimeters per minute) dm ³ /min = gal/min × 3.7854
TORQUE or MOMENT:	lb•ft = pound-feet (N•m = newton-meters) N•m = lb•ft × 1.356