



Advisory Note AN-007

AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 ‘Condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems – Requirements for system design, installation and commissioning and test methods for components’

This advisory note provides an explanation of the timeline for the pathway for certification of condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems to AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017. It includes important information regarding additional requirements for ongoing certification of condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems to AS 4487 by CSIRO’s Fire Systems Laboratory and ActivFire® Scheme.

Background

The rapidly increasing development of high-risk infrastructure, including renewable energy storage and generation systems and installations, in Australia, has resulted in an increased usage of condensed aerosol and gaseous fire extinguishing systems. Accordingly, CSIRO’s ActivFire® Scheme has updated its certification criteria and processes to further align with the requirements of AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 during (re)certification and revalidation of new and existing ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems.

Changes to Certification Provided by CSIRO

New certification of condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems

From January 2023, CSIRO ActivFire® Scheme has required that new certifications are evaluated for conformity to AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 (“the Standard”) in accordance with CSIRO Technical Specification TS-016. TS-016 details the requirements and evaluation pathway, including testing for fire extinguishing and mechanical performance in accordance with either Appendix D and Appendix E of the Standard, or internationally recognised test protocols such as UL 2775.

It is a condition of ActivFire® certification that the extinguishing application density tests are witnessed by a representative of CSIRO’s Fire Systems Laboratory or ActivFire® Scheme.

Revalidation of currently ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems

To ensure that all condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems registered with CSIRO’s ActivFire® Scheme meet the new certification requirement, CSIRO’s ActivFire® Scheme shall require the following:

1. New ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing system shall be recognised as a Listed Body Approval (LBA) classified product, with an evaluation of conformity report to AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 by a RACE that is not more than five years old from the time of submission.
2. Registrants of currently ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems must submit an evaluation of conformity report detailing an evaluation of conformity to AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 in accordance with CSIRO TS-016, by 31 December 2025 to maintain certification after 30 April 2026 as an LBA classified product.

3. CSIRO's ActivFire® Scheme will no longer revalidate condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems to the superseded AS/NZS 4487:1997 after 30 April 2026.
4. A nominated representative of either CSIRO's Fire Systems Laboratory or ActivFire® Scheme team shall witness the extinguishing application density tests on-site.

Timeline of changes

January 2023

- New certifications of condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems require evidence of evaluation for conformity to AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 in accordance with CSIRO TS-016 (draft).

December 2023

- AN-007 published (this document).
- CSIRO Technical Specification TS-016 'Conformity Evaluation of Condensed Aerosol Fire Extinguishing Systems' published.
- Application to update exiting ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing system to the latest certification requirements opened.

April 2024 and April 2025

- Existing ActivFire® certified condensed aerosol fire extinguishing system will continue to be revalidated.

December 2025

- Application close for existing condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems to be evaluated to CSIRO Technical Specification TS-016 and AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017, to maintain registration after 30 April 2026.

April 2026

- Revalidation of existing ActivFire® listed condensed aerosol fire extinguishing system will only be available where conformity of evidence that is not more than five years old from the time of submission and meets the requirements of AS 4487:2013 + A1:2017 and CSIRO TS-016.

Issuing Authorities

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