



Advisory Note AN-008

AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019 ‘Gaseous fire extinguishing systems’

This advisory note provides an explanation of the timeline for the pathway for the certification of gaseous fire extinguishing systems to AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019. It includes important information regarding additional requirements for ongoing certification of gaseous fire extinguishing systems to AS 4214 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 4214:2018 + A1:2019 during (re)certification and revalidation of new and existing ActivFire® certified gaseous fire extinguishing systems.

Changes to Certification Provided by CSIRO

New certification of gaseous fire extinguishing system

From January 2023, CSIRO ActivFire® Scheme has required that new certifications are evaluated to AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019 (“the Standard”) in accordance with CSIRO Technical Specification – TS-008. TS-008 details the requirements and evaluation pathway, including testing for fire extinguishing and mechanical performance in accordance with the Standard or internationally recognised test protocols such as UL 2166, UL 2127, FM 5600, and ISO 14520 series.

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 gaseous fire extinguishing system

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

1. ActivFire® certified gaseous fire extinguishing systems to be recognised as a Listed Body Approval (LBA shall be recognised as a Listed Body Approval (LBA) classified product, with an evaluation of conformity report to AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019 by a RACE that is not more than five years old from the time of submission.
2. Registrants of currently ActivFire® certified gaseous fire extinguishing systems must submit an evaluation of conformity report detailing an evaluation of conformity to AS 4214:2018 in accordance with CSIRO TS-008, 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 gaseous fire extinguishing systems to the superseded standards after 30 April 2026.
4. A nominated representative of either CSIRO's Fire Systems Laboratory or ActivFire® Scheme team shall witness the fire extinguishment tests on-site.

Timeline of changes

January 2023

- New certifications of gaseous fire extinguishing systems require evidence of evaluation for conformity to AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019 in accordance with CSIRO TS-008.

January 2024

- AN-008 published (this document).
- Application to update exiting ActivFire® listed condensed aerosol fire extinguishing system to the latest certification requirements opened.

February 2024

- Update to CSIRO Technical Specification TS-008 'Conformity Verification of Gaseous Fire Extinguishing Systems (Mechanical)' published.

April 2024 and April 2025

- Existing ActivFire® listed 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-008 and AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019, 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 requirement of AS 4214:2018 + A1:2019 and CSIRO TS-008.

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