SITE SPECIFIC

PROTECTING YOUR MICRO-ENVIRONMENT

ON-ROAD VEHICLES FIRE PROTECTION SOLUTIONS

FIRETRACE® AUTOMATIC FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS
The problem

Vehicular fire protection is common for a variety of reasons. In some cases, the value of the equipment justifies its protection, in other situations, either the number of people in the vehicle or the fact that passengers may face mobility challenges makes fire protection a necessity.

However, fires in vehicles present unique challenges for both detection and suppression. While the heat and flame from a fire typically rise from the source in a stopped vehicle, in motion these may also be directed elsewhere due to the airflows in and around engine compartments. The build up of dirt that occurs in and around engines over time may also interfere with traditional detection.

Detection, however, is only one-half of the battle. Airflow can also have a very detrimental effect on the dispersion of the suppression agent. An installed system must be designed to protect the vehicle regardless of airflow.

The harsh environment created by vehicles compounds these challenges: extreme temperature variance, vibration and road grime all can be very harmful to most automatic fire suppression systems.

The solution

Firetrace automatic fire suppression systems were designed specifically for the harsh vehicular environment. In spite of working conditions that would cause other fire systems to fail, Firetrace’s unique design enables it to endure the shocks and vibration associated with the operation of these vehicles.

The proprietary red Firetrace Detection Tubing is the key to catching fires when they start. By routing the tubing through the compartment to be protected, Firetrace’s detection can get right to the source of the fire. As the detection tubing is a polymer composition, it is immune to the vibration and shocks that would be harmful to other detection systems.

In the event of a fire, the Firetrace system will release its extinguishing agent automatically, resulting in suppression times faster than could be achieved using manual suppression. Every second saved results in less damage, downtime, and potential saved lives.
How it works

In these vehicles, the Firetrace Detection Tubing is placed both above and behind the potential source of fire, ensuring that the airflow will help direct the heat and flames and enable faster detection. Upon detection, the FDT bursts, causing the system to activate. Agent then flows through the delivery tubing to the front of the engine, working with the airflow to wash suppressant over the entire compartment.

Depending on the vehicle, Firetrace recommends either a clean agent, like FM-200 or dry chemical suppressant.

A Small Solution to a Big Problem

City Buses
A/C, engine, braking, and electrical systems

Ambulance / Fire Trucks
Extensive electrical components, engine and generator areas

Coaches
A/C, engine, braking, and electrical systems

Trucks
Engine, Generator, Refrigeration Units, Electronics
Firetrace has more than 50,000 systems installed protecting critical equipment worldwide. Firetrace has its origins in the late 1980's in the United Kingdom as a special hazard fire suppression system. Through the 1990's applications expanded to include enclosures such as machines, fume hoods, data centers and electrical cabinets as distribution increased in Europe.

In 2001, the worldwide rights to Firetrace were purchased by Firetrace USA, a group of fire suppression industry veterans who saw the value in creating fire suppression systems for “micro-environments”. This concept is simply providing supplemental protection that suppresses fire quickly within the protected space before larger room or building systems would activate. As a result of this supplemental protection, fire damage, both direct and collateral, and costs associated with cleanup and downtime are significantly reduced or eliminated. Available in multiple system sizes (ranging from one pound systems to 50 pound systems) utilizing a variety of fire suppressing agent options, Firetrace is now the choice fire suppressing system for virtually any enclosed application, including server racks and closets.

Firetrace can be fitted in virtually any rack, new or existing.

- Fast, reliable fire detection
- Clean agents that are safe for people, equipment and the environment — no cleanup required
- Installs in new or existing racks
- Doesn’t interfere with installation or maintenance of equipment

Firetrace's Vehicle Applications

Firetrace has more than 20 international approvals and listings including:

- UL
- CE
- FM
- MEA
- NFFA
- HARC

Approvals and listings vary by system type and agent.