

Fire Protection Impairment Notification System

- Using the Risk Logic Impairment Notification System will help ensure proper precautions are taken during planned and unplanned impairments, helping to maintain the fire safety at your plant.
- Pre-planning an impairment (if possible) is essential.
 - Schedule the impairment when facility is not operating or when hazardous processes are shut down.
 - Prior to impairing fire protection systems, the Fire System Impairment Notification Form should be filled out and transmitted to Risk Logic Inc. (RLI).
 - An appropriate supervisor should then fill out a Fire Protection Impairment Tag and issue Part 2 to person(s) performing the work.
- During the impairment of any duration, all applicable precautions should be taken and proper safety procedures strictly followed.
 - A fire watch should be assigned to affected areas.
 - All efforts should be made to complete work on the system prior to closing the facility, or to later shifts when there is lower staffing.
 - If fire protection equipment can be restored, plan to restore protection quickly, should a fire occur during the impairment.
- Upon completion of the work, fire protection equipment should be placed back in automatic service immediately.
 - If sprinkler protection was impaired, a 2-in. drain test should be conducted to help ensure all valves are open and there are no piping obstructions.
 - All personnel and organizations (Emergency Response Team, local Fire Department, central station alarm company, etc.) previously alerted of the impairment should be notified that work is complete.
 - Supervisor should then notify RLI using Fire System Impairment Notification Form.
- Controlled testing of automatic sprinkler systems or fire/booster pumps **is not** considered an impairment, and RLI need not be notified (e.g., weekly churn test of fire/booster pump). Similarly, RLI does not consider less than five (5) sprinklers that are temporarily inoperable an impairment.
- A pump being repaired, a sprinkler system with five (5) or more sprinklers that are inoperable or the primary form of protection are **examples of impairments**. This includes automatic sprinklers, fire pumps, gaseous extinguishing systems, fire service water mains and tanks as well as impairments involving the public water supply.
 - Impairments to fire detection and alarm systems need not be reported to RLI unless these are the only means of detection / protection in an area.
 - RLI need not be notified during regular system testing.
 - All fire protection equipment should remain in service during regular testing (unless it will cause unnecessary discharge of a gaseous suppression system).

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Impairment Notification System, please contact RLI at (201) 930-0700.