

# **Nuclear**



## **ADVANCED RISK MITIGATION SOLUTIONS**

## Role of Fire Detection

Automatic fire detection systems play an essential role in the overall fire protection strategy:

- First line of defense against fire (thermal) / smoke (non-thermal) threats
- Early intervention by personnel to mitigate potential incidents
- Potentially mitigates need for fire department response
- Initiation of sequential systems or procedures

Remove automatic detection systems from the equation and you've broken the sequence



## Detection Challenges

### Challenges for conventional fire detection technologies

- Airflow
- Dilution
- Stratification
- Barriers
- Temperature
- Interference
- Integrity
- Ambient smoke
- Contamination
- Accessibility



## Detection Challenges

### Challenges for reliable fire detection:

- Smoke dilution
- HVAC Scrubbing
- Airflow interferes with normal dispersion of smoke
- Unpredictable air flow patterns
- The cooling effects of HVAC systems will decrease the temperature of the smoke plume
- Limitations on placement due to:
  - Obstructions
  - Velocity
  - Temperature
- Accessibility for inspection, testing and maintenance once installed can be difficult and risks impact to network operations



Air velocity affect on dispersion of smoke



Unpredictable airflow patterns

# Detection Challenges



# Very Early Warning Fire Detection VEWFD

"One detector monitors the entire progression of fire development"





# Sensitivity Comparison



In simple terms, Obscuration is the effect that smoke has on reducing visibility. Higher concentrations of smoke result in higher obscuration levels, lowering visibility.





# Air Sampling Very Early Warning Smoke Detection Apparatus VESDA

### **Key Benefits:**

- Very Early Warning Fire Detection
- Absolute smoke detection with fixed calibration
- Active vs. passive detection performance
- Predictable detection performance
- Cumulative detection performance
- One detectors monitors entire fire progression
- Multiple alarm thresholds for staged response
- Flexible sampling configurations
- Unaffected by airflow or temperature extremes
- Low maintenance



# Operation of VESDA

#### **Absolute Smoke Measurement Device**

- High stability fixed calibration
- Alarm thresholds between 0.0015 and 6.25% obs/ft
- Optical light-scattering detection principle
- Solid state laser light source

### Reliability

- High tolerance and rejection of nuisance alarms caused by dust, steam and insects, etc.
- High-stability optics

### Integrity

- Active monitoring of all critical detector functions
- Flow, optics and calibration
- Optics automatically cleaned



## Solutions for all Environments

Area	Application				Xtralis Solution							
	Open Area	Ceiling or floor void	HVAC Monitoring	In- Cabinet	VLF	VLC	VLP	VLS	VLI	VFT-15	OSID	VESDA
Electrical switch gear, relay rooms and annexes	x		×	×	x	×	x	×		×		
Control Building	x	x	x	×	x	х	х	x	x	х		х
Cable Spreading Rooms	x				x	x	х	x				
Fuel Building	x				х	x	х	x	x		х	х
Battery Rooms	x			x	x	x	х	x		х		х
Turbine Building	x			x	х	х	x	x	x	x	х	х
Hot Machine Shop	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	
Diesel Generator Building	×			х	x	х	х	x	x	х		х

- Where accessibility is an issue
  - Where Very Early Warning is the objective
    - Where the environment is hostile
      - Where toxic, flammable or corrosive gasses threaten safety
        - Where nuisance alarms cannot be tolerated.
          - For proven performance
            - In large open spaces



## **Hot Cells**



#### **Challenging Environment**

Characteristics of Hot Cells present a unique challenge for conventional fire detection technologies.

#### **VESDA**, a suitable solution

- No electronics in the piping network
- Detector externally located outside cell
- Easily accommodates detection of gases



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### **Engineered for suitability**

- Stainless steel pipe network
- Detector mounted in protective housing outside cell
- Detector exhausted back into cell
- Bag out filter



Questions?

