

## Legislative Requirement for Sprinklers in the Czech Republic

According to the Ministry of the Interior Fire & Rescue Service sprinklers are required in the following types of new buildings in the Czech Republic:

- 1) Under Czech code 73 0833 Fire protection of buildings – Buildings for dwelling and lodging, sprinklers are required in apartment buildings or hotels:
  - of non-combustible construction higher than eight storeys
  - higher than four storeys and with more than 50 apartments
  - partially of combustible construction higher than five storeys and with more than 30 apartments
  - of combustible construction higher than three storeys and with more than 20 apartments
- 2) Retail premises with a fire compartment larger than 1,000m<sup>2</sup>.
- 3) Exhibition halls with a fire compartment larger than 5,000m<sup>2</sup>.
- 4) Underground automatic car parks if quick and adequate intervention by the fire service is impossible.
- 5) Second and lower underground floors of multi-storey underground car parks with a capacity of more than 50 vehicles.
- 6) Car parks with a capacity of more than 200 cars that are beneath public assembly buildings such as cinemas and conference centres.
- 7) Stage areas of theatres if the stage is larger than 200m<sup>2</sup> with a gridiron or larger than 400m<sup>2</sup> without a gridiron and the ceiling height is less than 9m; stage areas of theatres if the stage is larger than 150m<sup>2</sup> with a gridiron or larger than 300m<sup>2</sup> without a gridiron and the ceiling height is greater than 9m but less than 30m.
- 8) Storage of flammable liquids of class I or II of a quantity greater than 20m<sup>3</sup> in production areas or 50m<sup>3</sup> in storage areas, if the burning surface area could exceed 100m<sup>2</sup> and it could take more than 15 minutes for fire service intervention. The volume and area limits are halved for underground storage.
- 9) Fixed extinguishing systems are required for storage tanks containing more than 1,000m<sup>3</sup> of Class I or 2,000m<sup>3</sup> of Class II flammable liquids, if the tanks are not blanketed with inert gas; in retaining bunds of more than 500m<sup>2</sup> if the top of the tank is more than 1.5m above ground or for bund areas of more than 1,000m<sup>2</sup> otherwise.
- 10) In telecommunication and postal service buildings a fixed fire fighting system is required in digital centres of mobile telecommunications networks used for radio communications; in telephone exchanges larger than 100m<sup>2</sup> with a capacity of more than 5,000 lines or 2,000 digital lines; cable rooms larger than 100m<sup>2</sup>; stores and forwarding office and monetary enclosures in large post offices with an effective area of more than 800m<sup>2</sup>; electrical switchgear rooms of more than 100m<sup>2</sup> containing oil-filled transformers or radio communication equipment where fire service access is

restricted and in cable tunnels containing cables for fire protection purposes or for communications centres where fire service access is restricted.

11) Sprinklers are required in single storey warehouses larger than 4,000m<sup>2</sup> if the fire load is greater than 180 minutes and the fire service intervention time is greater than 16 minutes. Sprinklers are also required if the fire load is greater than 270 minutes and the fire service intervention time is greater than 12 minutes.