

# Argonite Inert Gas Fixed Extinguishant System

Until the early 1990's Halon was the most widely used and effective extinguishing agent for fire protection – especially in occupied areas. However ozone depletion and global warming have changed this view. European Legislation and global agreement require that all Halon products be removed from service by the end of December 2003.

The Argonite system has been developed as a viable but environmentally friendly alternative to Halon. Tested and approved by regulatory bodies throughout the world, Argonite is effective against fires in almost all combustible materials and flammable liquids and is particularly suitable for use in areas where the use of water, foam or powder would be unacceptable.

## Benefits of the Argonite System

- Fast acting and effective against nearly all fire hazards
- Environmentally neutral – zero ODP, zero GWP
- Low installation and maintenance costs
- No post-fire residues or damage to protected equipment
- Electrically non-conductive
- Safe for occupied areas
- Can be integrated with existing detection and alarm systems
- Automatic or manual release
- Total flooding or modular design
- Minimum downtime after a fire



## Applications

Argonite systems are ideally suited to the protection of fixed equipment and plant. They are particularly applicable for high value risks where fires can have devastating consequences way beyond the cost of damage and lost production.

Applications include:

- Computer suites
- Telecommunications facilities
- Archive stores
- Petrochemical plants
- Offshore oil and gas installations
- Gas turbines
- Control centres



# Kidde Fire Protection Services



## System Design

In a closed space almost all fires are extinguished in less than 60 seconds when the oxygen concentration falls below 15%. The Argonite fire extinguishing system, based on a mixture of 50% Argon and 50% Nitrogen, reduces the oxygen concentration to 12.5% - a level acceptable to human exposure over short periods – thus eliminating the fire quickly and effectively without affecting personnel.

Knowing the size and complexity of the area to be protected, the fire hazard present and the requirements of the local approving authority, a dedicated computer program is used to specify the size and geometry of the Argonite system hardware. Generally one of two methods is used to protect an area with Argonite. These are total flooding, where the required amount of gas is released into a room, and modular or local systems that are designed to cover a particular piece of enclosed machinery, equipment, etc.

*In line with our policy of continual development and improvement of products, we reserve the right to upgrade and amend product specification without prior notice.*

## Approvals

Argonite has been approved and/or verified by major international authorities and classification bodies. These include the NFPA, DNV, Lloyds Register, Bureau Veritas, The Loss Prevention Certification Board, CNPP and the Environmental Protection Agency.