

Retard and Auto Test Feature

#### **Features**

- Assembled in USA
- Can be remotely tested without flowing water
- 0-90 second electronic retard
- UL Listed and FM approved models for 2"-8" steel pipe schedules 10 through 40
- Two SPST contacts
- Weatherproof
- Easy to read wire terminal designations

### CAUTION

Waterflow switches that are monitoring wet pipe sprinkler systems shall not be used as the sole initiating device to discharge AFFF, deluge, or chemical suppression systems. Waterflow switches used for this application may result in unintended discharges caused by surges, trapped air, or short retard times.

## **A** WARNING

- Installation must be performed by qualified personnel and in accordance with all national and local codes and ordinances.
- Shock hazard. Disconnect power source before servicing. Serious injury or death could result.
- Risk of explosion. Not for use in hazardous locations. Serious injury or death could result.









### **Description**

The model VSR-AT is an electronic vane type waterflow switch for use on wet sprinkler systems. It is UL Listed and FM Approved for use on steel pipe schedules 10 thru 40 sizes 2" thru 8". See ordering Information chart.

The VSR-AT may also be used as a sectional waterflow detector on large systems. The VSR-AT has two sets of alarm contacts and an adjustable instantly recycling electronic retard. The alarm contacts are actuated when a flow of 10 GPM (38 LPM) or more occurs downstream of the device. The flow condition must exist for a period of time necessary to overcome the selected retard time.

The VSR-AT may be remotely tested without flowing water by using the optional auto test Control model ATC-1or ATC-4 or the use of addressable relays and monitor modules as part of a listed addressable fire alarm panel.

When the auto test feature is initiated, the VSR-AT performs a self test to ensure compliance with UL requirements regarding waterflow detection and retard time. In addition, the auto test feature ensures the integrity of the paddle/trip stem assembly. A successful completion of the auto test will activate both sets of normally open contacts on the flow switch. If the auto test detects a problem with the trip stem/paddle assembly or if there is no water in the pipe, neither normally open contact will operate and the flow switch will indicate a trouble condition at the test switch and transmit a trouble signal to the fire alarm panel.

#### **Enclosure**

The VSR-AT switches and retard device are enclosed in a general purpose, die-cast base and a weather/UV/flame resistant high impact composite cover. The cover is held in place with two tamper resistant screws which require a special key for removal.

### **Technical Specifications**

Conduit Entrances	Two knockouts provided for 1/2" conduit. Individual switch compartments suitable for dissimilar voltages					
Contact Ratings	Two sets of SPDT (Form C) 10.0 Amps at 125/250VAC 2.0 Amps at 30VDC Resistive 10 mAmps min. at 24VDC					
Enclosure	Cover - Weather/UV/Flame Resistant High Impact Composite Base - Die-cast aluminum					
Environmental Specifications	NEMA 4/IP54 Rated Enclosure suitable for indoor or outdoor use with factory installed gasket when used with appropriate conduit fitting.  Temperature Range: 40°F - 120°F, (4.5°C - 49°C) - UL Non-corrosive sleeve factory installed in saddle.					
Flow Sensitivity Range for Signal	4-10 GPM (15-38 LPM) - UL					
Maximum Surge	18 FPS (5.5 m/s)					
Power Requirements	24 VDC From Listed or Approved Source With Battery Backup					
Service Pressure	450 PSI (31 BAR) - UL					
Service Use	Automatic Sprinkler NFPA-13 One or two family dwelling NFPA-13D Residential occupancy up to four stories NFPA-13R National Fire Alarm Code NFPA-72					

Specifications subject to change without notice.

Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC St. Louis, MO Phone: 800-325-3936 www.pottersignal.com



Retard and Auto Test Feature

#### **Installation** (see Fig. 1)

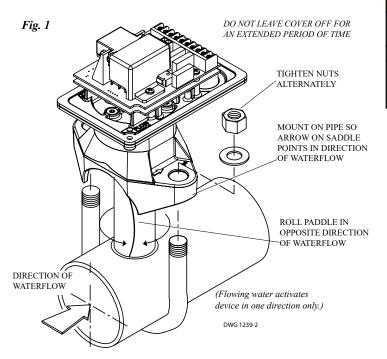
These devices may be mounted on horizontal or vertical pipe. On horizontal pipe they shall be installed on the top side of the pipe where they will be accessible. The device should not be installed within 6" (15 cm) of a fitting which changes the direction of the waterflow or within 24" (60 cm) of a valve or drain.

Drain the system and drill a hole in the pipe using a hole saw in a slow speed drill (see Fig. 1). Clean the inside pipe of all growth or other material for a distance equal to the pipe diameter on either side of the hole. Roll the vane so that it may be inserted into the hole; do not bend or crease it. Insert the vane so that the arrow on the saddle points in the direction of the waterflow. Take care not to damage the non-corrosive bushing in the saddle. The bushing should fit inside the hole in the pipe. Install the saddle strap and tighten nuts alternately to required torque (see the chart in Fig. 1). The vane must not rub the inside of the pipe or bind in any way.

This document contains important information on the installation and operation of the VSR. Please read all instructions carefully and notify the building owner or their authorized representative before any work is done on the fire sprinkler or fire alarm system. A copy of this document is required by NFPA 72 to be maintained on site.

# CAUTION

Do not trim the paddle. Failure to follow these instructions may prevent the device from operating and will void the warranty. Do not obstruct or otherwise prevent the tripstem of the flowswitch from moving when water flows as this could damage the flowswitch and prevent an alarm. If an alarm is not desired, a qualified technician should disable the alarm system.



### CAUTION

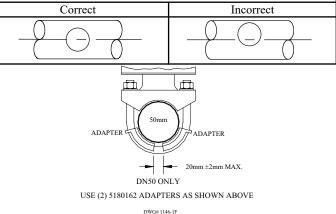
Do not leave cover off for an extended period of time as leaving the cover off could result in damage to the VSR and result in improper operation. On horizontal installations, it may be necessary to install a vent such as the Potter PAV or similar to exhaust air out of the system and allow the piping to fill with water to ensure proper operation of the Auto Test VSR.

### **Retard Adjustment**

The delay can be adjusted by turning switch S1 (see Fig. 6) to the desired time delay (0 = no delay and 9 = 90 second delay). Factory setting is set at 3 = 30 second delay. The time delay should be set at the minimum required to prevent false alarms.

### CAUTION

Hole must be drilled perpendicular to the pipe and vertically centered. Refer to the Compatible Pipe/Installation Requirements chart for size.



Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC

St. Louis, MO

Phone: 800-325-3936

www.pottersignal.com

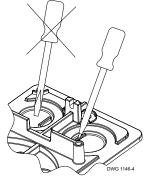


tard and Auto Test Feature

Compatible Pipe/ Installation Requirements																
Model Nominal Pipe		Nominal Pipe		Pipe Wall Thickness							Hole Size		U-Bolt Nuts			
	S	ize	O.	D.	Schedule	10 (UL)	Schedule 40 (UL)		BS-1387 (LPC)		DN (VDS)		]		Torque	
	inch	mm	inch	mm	inch	mm	inch	mm	inch	mm	inch	mm	inch	mm	ft-lb	n-m
VSR AT-2	2	DN50	2.375	60.3	0.109	2.77	0.154	3.91	0.142	3.6	0.091	2.3	1.25 + .125/062	33.0 ± 2.0	20	27
VSR AT-2 1/2	2.5	-	2.875	73.0	0.120	3.05	0.203	5.16	-	-	-	-				
VSR AT-2 1/2	-	DN65	3.000	76.1	-	-	-	-	0.142	3.6	0.102	2.6				
VSR AT-3	3	DN80	3.500	88.9	0.120	3.05	0.216	5.49	0.157	4.0	0.114	2.9	2.00 ± .125	50.8 ± 2.0		
VSR AT-3 1/2	3.5	-	4.000	101.6	0.120	3.05	0.226	5.74	-	-	-	-				
VSR AT-4	4	DN100	4.500	114.3	0.120	3.05	0.237	6.02	0.177	4.5	0.126	3.2				
VSR AT-5	5	-	5.563	141.3	0.134	3.40	0.258	6.55	-	-	-	-				
VSR AT-5	-	DN125	5.500	139.7	-	-	-	-	0.197	5.0	0.142	3.6				
VSR AT-6	6	DN150	6.625	168.3	0.134	3.40	0.280	7.11	0.197	5.0	0.157	4.0				
VSR AT-8	8	DN200	8.625	219.1	0.148	3.76	0.322	8.18	0.248	6.3	0.177	4.5				

To remove knockouts: Place screwdriver at inside edge of knockouts, not in the center.

Fig. 2

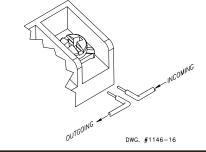


## **NOTICE**

Do not drill into the base as this creates metal shavings which can create electrical hazards and damage the device. Drilling voids the warranty.

### **Switch Terminal Connections Clamping Plate Terminal**

Fig. 3



An uninsulated section of a single conductor should not be looped around the terminal and serve as two separate connections. The wire must be severed, thereby providing supervision of the connection in the event that the wire become dislodged from under the terminal. Failure to sever the wire may render the device inoperable risking severe property damage and loss of

Do not strip wire beyond 3/8" of length or expose an uninsulated conductor beyond the edge of the terminal block. When using stranded wire, capture all strands under the clamping plate.



Retard and Auto Test Feature

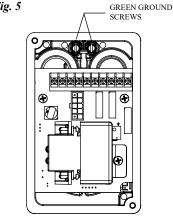
### **Testing**

The frequency of inspection and testing for the Model VSR-AT and its associated protective monitoring system shall be in accordance with applicable NFPA Codes and Standards and/or the authority having jurisdiction (manufacturer recommends quarterly or more frequently).

An inspector's test valve shall be provided for commissioning and test purposes when required by the AHJ. If there are no provisions for testing the operation of the flow detection device on the system, application of the VSR-AT is not recommended or advisable. A minimum flow of 10 GPM (38 LPM) is required to activate this device.

Advise the person responsible for testing of the fire protection system that this system must be tested in accordance with the testing instructions.

#### **Mounting Dimensions** Fig. 5 5.56 in Fig. 4 (141.2 mm) 3.50 in 2.00 in PIPE DIA. U-BOLT NUT 133.4 mm) U-BOLT WASHER PIPE SADDLE PIPE PLASTIC PADDLE NOMINAL PIPE DIA. +1.75 in (+44.5 MM) FOR DN 50 – DN 65 2–2.5 in U-BOLT NOMINAL PIPE DIA. +2.125 in (+54.0 MM) FOR DN 80 - DN 200 3-8 in



#### Maintenance

Inspect detectors monthly. If leaks are found, replace the detector. The VSR-AT waterflow switch should provide years of trouble-free service.

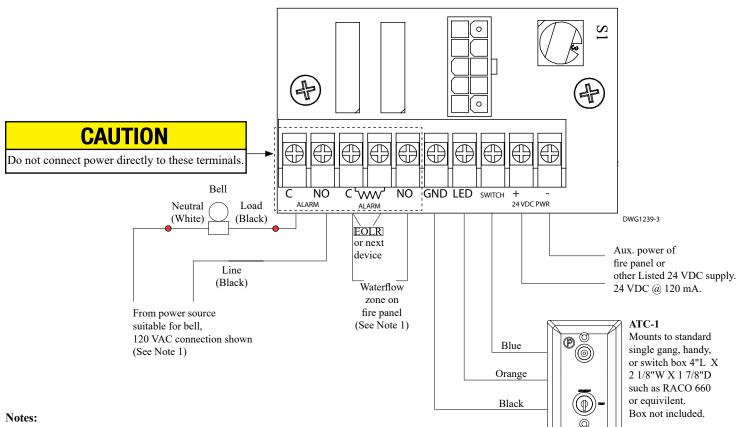
#### Removal of Waterflow Switch

- · To prevent accidental water damage, all control valves should be shut tight and the system completely drained before waterflow detectors are removed or replaced.
- Turn off electrical power to the detector, then disconnect wiring.
- Loosen nuts and remove U-bolts.
- Gently lift the saddle far enough to get your fingers under it. With your fingers, roll the vane so it will fit through the hole while continuing to lift the waterflow detector saddle.
- · Lift detector clear of pipe.



tard and Auto Test Feature

### **Typical Electrical Connections**



- 1. The model VSR-AT has two sets of alarm contacts:
  - The connection to the waterflow zone of the fire panel involves 3 terminals on the VSR-AT. C'ww' and NO. Connect the two wires from the waterflow zone of the fire panel to the C and NO terminals with the End of Line Resistor of the fire panel being connected across the C and other terminal as shown on the drawing. The NO and resistor terminal are internally connected by a normally energized relay. A loss of power or failed AutoTest causes the relay to drop out and initiate a trouble on the fire panel.
  - The second connection may be used for a local audible or visual annunciator.
- 2. For supervised circuits, see "Switch Terminal Connections" drawing and warning note (Fig. 3).

The ATC consists of a momentary push button switch, a key switch to enable/disable the push button and an LED. Turning the keyswitch to Test will enable the push button switch. Momentarily pressing the push button switch will initiate the Auto Test feature. The LED will flash once per second during the test while the retard time is being tested. After the retard time expires, the VSR-AT is put through a simulated waterflow test. If the test was successful, the LED will light for a few seconds and both sets of switch contacts on the VSR-AT will

ATC-4 Mounts to standard two gang, handy box 4"L X 2 4"W X 2 1/8"D such as RACO 683 or equivilent. Box not included.

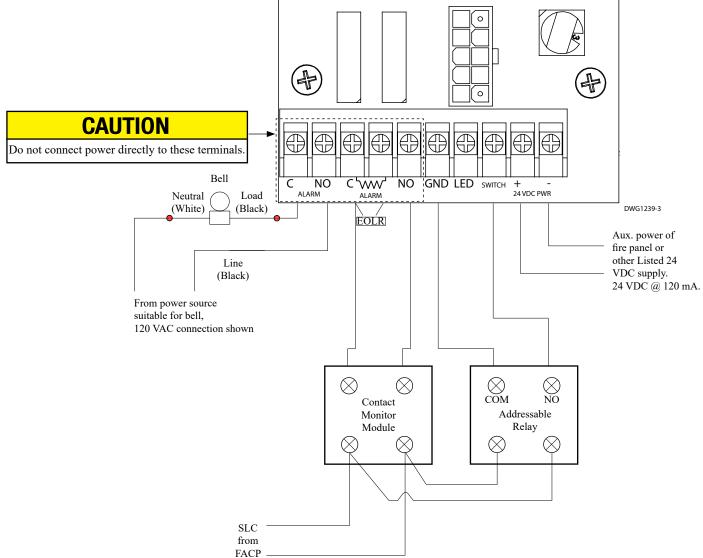
briefly activate, sending a waterflow signal to the fire alarm panel. After the LED goes out, the key switch can be returned to Standby and the fire alarm panel reset. If the test was unsuccessful, the LED will flash 4 times per second, the switch contacts of the VSR-AT will not activate and the VSR-AT will initiate a trouble on the fire alarm panel by opening the circuit between the NO terminal and the End Of Line Resistor terminal.

Phone: 800-325-3936 Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC St. Louis, MO www.pottersignal.com



Retard and Auto Test Feature

### Typical Electrical Connections For Operation by Addressable Fire Alarm Panel



#### **Notes:**

- 1. The model VSR-AT has two sets of alarm contacts:
  - The connection to the waterflow zone of the fire panel involves 3 terminals on the VSR-AT. C 'ww' and NO. Connect the two wires from the waterflow zone of the fire panel to the C and NO terminals with the End of Line Resistor of the fire panel being connected across the C and other terminal as shown on the drawing. The NO and resistor terminal are internally connected by a normally energized relay. A loss of power or failed AutoTest causes the relay to drop out and initiate a trouble on the fire panel.
  - The second connection may be used for a local audible or visual annunciator.

2. For supervised circuits, see "Switch Terminal Connections" drawing and warning note (Fig. 3).

The Auto Test feature can be initiated by momentarily connecting the GND and Switch terminals together using the Auto Test Control (ATC) or any UL Listed switch or relay.

Activating the relay will initiate the Auto Test feature. After the retard time expires, the VSR-AT is put through a simulated waterflow test. If the test was successful, both sets of switch contacts on the VSR-AT will activate for a few seconds sending a waterflow signal to the fire alarm panel. If the test was unsuccessful, the switch contacts of the VSR-AT will not activate and the VSR-AT will initiate a trouble on the fire alarm panel by opening the circuit between the NO terminal and the End Of Line Resistor terminal.

Phone: 800-325-3936 Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC St. Louis, MO www.pottersignal.com



tard and Auto Test Feature

### **Trouble Shooting Guide**

A successful completion of the Auto Test will momentarily activate both sets of normally open contacts on the flowswitch for approximately 2

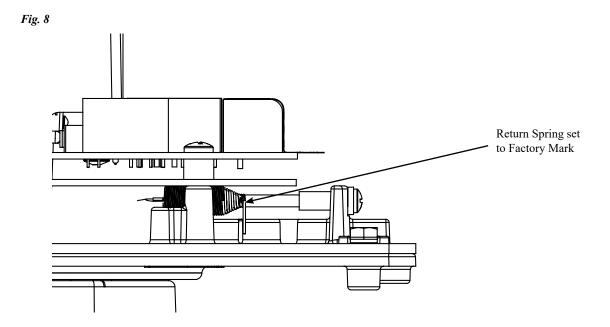
If the Auto Test detects a problem with the trip stem/paddle assembly, or if there is no water in the pipe, neither normally open contact will operate. The flowswitch will then indicate a trouble condition at the ATC test switch and transmit a trouble signal to the fire alarm control panel.

#### When Fire Panel Stays in Trouble:

- Check the wiring
- The zone of the fire panel should be wired to the VSR-AT as shown on pg. 4 of bulletin 5401239. The End of Line Resistor should be installed as shown across the terminals marked C and the terminal to the right of C which is indicated by the other end of the resistor symbol. The zone of the fire panel connects to the terminals marked C and N.O.
- The NO and End of Line Resistor terminals are connected internally by a normally energized relay. A loss of power or failed AutoTest causes the relay to drop out and initiates a trouble at the fire panel.
- The only way to clear the trouble on the fire panel is to conduct a successful AutoTest using the ATC test switch or other test method. Conducting an actual waterflow test will put the panel in alarm but will not clear the trouble.

#### When VSR-AT Fails the Auto Test:

- Is there water in the pipe? The VSR-ST will fail the AutoTest if the pipe it is installed on is not full of water.
- Has the return spring on the VSR-AT been adjusted? This spring has been factory set and should not be adjusted in the field. Refer to Figure 8 to determine the factory spring setting. If the spring is not at the factory setting, turn the spring adjustment screw until the factory spring setting is restored.
- For other issues contact Potter Tech Support at 866-956-1211 or visit our web site at http://www.pottersignal.com/ run your mouse over the FIRE SPRINKELR MONITORING header and select Tools and Resources. Click on presentations to select the VSR-AT Tech brief or troubleshooting video



Phone: 800-325-3936 Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC St. Louis, MO www.pottersignal.com



Retard and Auto Test Feature

## **Ordering Information**

Model	Nominal Pipe Size		Part #	Replacement PCB #	
VSR-AT-2	2"	DN50	1116102	1029074	
VSR-AT-2 1/2	2 1/2"	DN65	1116125	1029075	
VSR-AT-3	3"	DN80	1116103	1029076	
VSR-AT-3 1/2	3 1/2"	-	1116135	1029077	
VSR-AT-4	4"	DN100	1116104	1029078	
VSR-AT-5	5"	-	1116105	1029079	
VSR-AT-6	6"	DN150	1116106	1029080	
VSR-AT-8	8"	DN200	1116108	1029081	

Optional Power Supply: Ordering Information						
Model	Description	Part Number				
-	Power Supply	3006479				
BT-80	12V Battery-8AH (2 REQUIRED)	5130084				

Optional Test Switch: Ordering Information					
Model	Description	Part Number			
ATC-1	Single Zone Test Control	1000221			
ATC-4	Four Zone Test Control	1000224			
SGB-R	Single Gang Box-Red	1000483			
DGB-R	Double Gang Box-Red	1000484			

Flow switches have a normal service life of 10-15 years. However, the service life may be significantly reduced by local environmental conditions.

Potter Electric Signal Company, LLC St. Louis, MO Phone: 800-325-3936 www.pottersignal.com