



Danfoss Headquarters • more than 20,000 employees worldwide • production of more than 250,000 components each day

Fighting fire - as easy as blowing out a match

IMAGINE a fire fighting system that puts out the fire in seconds, with minimal consumption of water and water damage, giving you the best possible protection. With Sem-Safe^{*} – the unique high-pressure water mist system from Danfoss Semco – that is what you can get.

The power behind our business

Focused exclusively on high-technology fire fighting solutions for countless applications, Danfoss Semco A/S was formed from two world-wide industrial leaders: Danfoss A/S and Semco Maritime A/S.



• production of nozzles • 2000 patents, of which 15 relate to water mist • Sem-Safe* protected reception area utilizing glass cooling

The fire-fighting division of Semco Maritime has pioneered the use of high-pressure water mist systems from the very beginning, and has over 50 years of expertise in the design and installation of fixed fire fighting systems. These also include high-pressure and low-pressure CO_2 , foam and dry chemical powder, and have been applied in demanding marine and offshore applications.

Over the same period, Danfoss has cemented its position as one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of nozzles and maintenance-free high pressure pumps and valves, and has been Semco Maritime's preferred component supplier.

By making customer satisfaction top priority, Danfoss has built a reputation for quality products and services. The merger of Danfoss and Semco Maritime's fire department was a natural way to combine and further develop the products, skills and knowledge of the two companies.

Reaching even higher

Simplicity in system design, obtained by using the most advanced technologies, results in the highest operation reliability.

Danfoss Semco has direct access to in-house research, development and manufacturing facilities of all key water mist components. This puts us in a unique position to keep our technology-leading position, which today offers the most compact and only maintenance-free pump for fire applications, as well as the highest water mist nozzle spacing. By developing new advanced components, we will support the fast growing water mist technology.

Did you know that ...

- Fire kills over 3000 Europeans and causes over € 10 billion in property damage per year.
- The investment in fixed installed, pure water based fire suppression systems often counts for less than 1% of the total investment in a new building and means a major reduction in insurance premiums, up to 70%.
- In buildings fully protected by pure, water-based fire suppression systems, 99% of fires are controlled by the suppression system alone, and losses are estimated to be less than 10% compared to unprotected buildings.

The intelligent use of water

High-pressure water mist

For a fire to survive, it relies on the presence of the three elements of the 'fire triangle': oxygen, heat and combustible material. The removal of any one of these elements will extinguish a fire. A high-pressure water mist system goes further. It attacks two elements of the fire triangle: oxygen and heat.

OXYGEN

The very small droplets in a high-pressure water mist system quickly absorb so much energy that the droplets evaporate and transform from water to steam, because of the high surface area relative to the small mass of water. This means that each droplet will expand more than 1700 times, when getting close to the combustible material, whereby oxygen and combustible gasses will be displaced from the fire, meaning that the combusting process will increasingly lack oxygen.

HEAT

To fight a fire, a traditional sprinkler system spreads water droplets over a given area, which absorb heat to cool the room. Due to their large size and relatively small surface, the main part of the droplets will not absorb enough energy to evaporate, and they quickly fall to the floor as water. The result is a limited cooling effect.

By contrast, high-pressure water mist consists of very small droplets, which fall more slowly. Water mist droplets have a large surface area relative to their mass and, during their slow descent towards the floor, they absorb much more energy. A great amount of the water will follow the saturation line and evaporate, meaning that water mist absorbs much more energy from the surroundings and thus the fire.

That's why high-pressure water mist cools more efficiently per litre of water: up to seven times better than can be obtained with one litre of water used in a traditional sprinkler system.



Conclusion

The uniqueness of water mist is that it combines the suppression effect of gas and traditional sprinkler systems. As well as removing the oxygen like a gas system, it simultaneously cools the fire like a traditional sprinkler. The cooling effect additionally lowers the risk of re-ignition.

20 years of pioneering research and testing

- Nozzles: market's highest spacing (5.5 m) 100% capacity and spray pattern tested
- Pumps: maintenance-free market's most compact pump high-energy efficient
 negligible ripple effect
- Valves: stainless steel dirt resistant compact

The unique Sem-Safe key components

As one of the acknowledged pioneers of high-pressure water mist technology, Danfoss Semco has gained vast experience from its many installations across the world. Danfoss Semco is the only water mist supplier with direct access to its own development and production of all three key components needed for a top performance and cost-effective high-pressure water mist system: nozzles, pumps and valves. All our products are made of first-class materials and in a comprehensively tested design.

Specially-designed water mist nozzles

The Sem-Safe[®] water mist nozzles are based on the technique of the unique Danfoss simplex micro nozzles that have been a Danfoss speciality for decades.

Due to their special form, the water gains strong rotary motion in the swirl chamber and is extremely quickly transformed into a water mist that is jetted into the fire at great speed. The large spray angle and the spray pattern of Danfoss micro nozzles enable a high spacing.

The droplets formed in the nozzle heads are created using approx. 100 bars of pressure, and have a size of 10 to 50 micron.

After a series of intensive fire tests as well as mechanical and material tests, the nozzles are specially made for high-pressure water mist. All tests are carried out by independent laboratories so that even the very strict demands for offshore are fulfilled.

Unique pump design

Intensive research has led to the creation of the world's lightest and most compact high-pressure pump. Danfoss pumps are multi-axial piston pumps made in corrosion resistant stainless steel. The unique design uses water as a lubricant, meaning that routine servicing and replacing lubricants are not needed. The pump is protected by international patents and is widely used in many different segments. The pumps offer up to 95% energy efficiency and very low pulsation, thus reducing noise.

Highly corrosion-proof valves

Danfoss high-pressure VDHT valves are made from stainless steel and are highly corrosion-proof and dirt resistant. The manifold block design makes the valves very compact, which makes them very easy to install and operate.

In addition the valves have an IP67/NEMA 4X protection.

Very small stainless steel pipes:

- Nozzle piping is normally from \emptyset 10.0 15.0 mm (Sprinkler typical \emptyset 25 50 mm)
- Ring pipeline is typically from $\varnothing22.0$ 33.4 mm (Sprinkler typical $\varnothing65$ 100 mm)
- Main pipeline is typically from Ø33.4 60.3 mm (Sprinkler typical Ø100 200 mm)

The power behind Sem-Safe

The Sem-Safe^{*} Water Mist System is a unique fire fighting system. By dispersing water at high pressure through specially-designed nozzles, water is forced through micro-nozzles to create an extremely fine mist that has a double extinguishing effect. As well as cooling the fire like a traditional sprinkler, it simultaneously starves the fire of oxygen like gas systems. When the mist comes into contact with flames, it evaporates and expands minimum 1,700 times. The dense vapour created displaces the flames and quickly extinguishes the fire.



0 Sem-Safe Water Mist System with closed nozzles

On stand-by, the system maintains a pipe pressure of approx. 12 bars. When the temperature exceeds e.g. 57 °C, the heat-sensitive glass bulbs mounted in the nozzle heads melt. At this point, the high-pressure pump is automatically activated and water is forced through micro-nozzles at very high pressure (100 bars) to create a fine mist. Only nozzles with melted bulbs are activated. This means that only the heat-affected area will be actively sprayed. Also available for preaction systems.

2 Sem-Safe Water Mist System with open nozzles

On stand-by, the system has dry piping. This system will only activate manually or when sensors have detected heat, smoke or a flame, depending on type and application. The nozzles are dimensioned in sections and all the nozzles in the activated section will be released.

8 Sem-Safe Water Mist System in operation

During operation, the high-pressure pump draws water from the buffer tank (a non-pressurised stainless steel tank) and forces it through a non-return valve to a high-pressure manifold. From here, it is distributed to the relevant section(s) via the section valve. A pressure relief valve controls the pump pressure and is designed to return the full pump capacity to the buffer tank.

Piping material

The piping material is of high-class stainless steel, always meeting or exceeding AISI 316, an acid-resistant type with Mn contents. The pipe material is so soft that it can be bent. The small sizes can be shaped with hand tools saving a large number of fittings and reducing the risk for leakage.









Small pump unit

Large pump unit

Cylinder system

Small cylinder system

Water supply

Water is supplied via either pump units or cylinder systems. This covers small systems of just a few nozzles, right up to systems with thousands of nozzles, with or without electrical power.



Comprehensive nozzle range

A complete nozzle range is available for local applications, public spaces, machinery spaces, turbine enclosures, deep fat fryers and side walls nozzles. Droplet sizes of 10-50 micron.

The benefits of Sem-Safe

The benefits of the Sem-Safe[®] Water Mist System are immense. Putting out the fire in seconds, without using any chemical additives and with minimal consumption of water and close to no water damage, it is one of the most environmentally-friendly and efficient fire fighting systems available, and is totally safe for human beings.



Minimum use of water

- Limited water damage
- Minimal damage in the unlikely event of accidental activation
- Less need for a pre-action system
- An advantage where there is an obligation to catch water
- A reservoir is rarely needed
- Local protection giving you faster fire fighting
- Less downtime due to low fire and water damage
- Reduced risk of losing market shares, as production is quickly up and running again
- Efficient also for fighting oil fires
- Lower water supply bills or taxes



Sem-Safe nozzles

- Cooling ability enables installation of a glass window in the fire door
- High spacing
- Few nozzles architecturally attractive
- Efficient cooling
- Window cooling enables purchase of cheaper glass
- Short installation time
- Aesthetic design



Small stainless steel pipes

- Easy to install
- Easy to handle
- Maintenance free
- · Attractive design for easier incorporation
- High quality
- High durability
- Cost-effective at piece-work
- Press fitting for quick installation
- Easy to find room for pipes
- · Easy to retrofit
- · Easy to bend
- Few fittings needed





Sem-Safe city - the safest city in the world ...

Cost-effective fire fighting, everywhere in the city Sem-Safe Water Mist System

Fire catastrophes are a threat to human life, cultural and industrial assets, private and corporate property and even our environment.

From complex fire suppression systems for museums and heritage sites, to industrial applications over office buildings, universities and wind turbines, Danfoss Semco has a successful track record within commercial and industrial applications using the Sem-Safe* Water Mist System.



Why? Because the Sem-Safe* system provides better protection than existing water systems while being 100 % environmentallyfriendly, harmless to users and with far less impact on buildings and interiors. It significantly reduces lifecycle costs, asset damage and operational downtime in all 'business critical' applications, and offers the best protection of irreplaceable valuables. This offers a greatly enhanced cost/benefit ratio when compared to traditional systems.



Atria

The Sem-Safe* system atomises the water in front of the glass, thereby removing the risk of thermal stress cracks. By using Sem-Safe for window cooling, you can achieve savings up to 500 EUR/ m2, in addition to being able to build a lighter construction.



Hotels

The architectural design of our pipes and nozzles fit well with a beautiful hotel environment. Due to the small and convenient pipe sizes, the system is easily installed, even if retrofitted. The compact system also leaves more space for money generating activities.



Tunnels

High pressure water mist cools the area so that there is an increased possibility of surviving and protecting the structure of the tunnel. The high pressure makes it possible to move the water over large distances, and the high-pressure water mist is not as affected by the ventilation system as low-pressure systems. It is possible to design a system without additives.



Galleries and Museums

Once a part of our heritage is lost, it can never be replaced. Sem-Safe's minimal consumption of water when fighting fires will limit the water damage after a fire and will not harm valuable furniture and fixtures.



Garages

Garages are protected with high-pressure water mist to cool the often intense temperature peaks from a rising fuel fire. Sem-Safe^{*} can extinguish pool fires without spreading the fuel, as is often seen with conventional systems. Sem-Safe^{*} provides you with excellent protection against fire spread.



Engines and Generators

The local protection system protects engines and generators where the fire hazard actually occurs, catching and extinguishing the fire quickly. The Sem-Safe* system has been documented to be harmless to electrical equipment, provided that the protection is better than IP22, and it also prevents shock cooling of cast parts.



Office Buildings

The minimal consumption of water when fighting fire offers you minimal water damage after the fire. Because of this, your furniture and fixtures are protected in addition to the people who would be present in the office.



Schools

The Sem-Safe* system is the environmentally responsible and correct answer when looking to protect your school against fires. The system can be released instantly after detecting the fire, without harming people, giving you faster and more efficient fire fighting.



Cable channels

There is no need for airtight rooms when using high-pressure water mist, making it a good solution for protecting cable channels, for example. It has been documented that our system can protect electrical equipment graded better than IP22 without harming it.



Industrial Deep Fat Fryers

For your food processing equipment, the Sem-Safe* system is ideal because there are no additives and it is environmentally friendly. With fast extinguishing of the oil fire, you will avoid damaging the oil and minimise downtime.



Industrial Production Lines

Our local protection system protects production equipment where the fire risk is greatest, quickly extinguishing the fire and minimising damage. This means minimal production downtime. The Sem-Safe* system also offers you efficient fire protection without having to put your machinery in an enclosure.



Commercial Deep Fat Fryers

Our system is tested according to ISO 15371, which demands no oil splashes. This gives you increased safety for personnel and limits cleaning afterwards. The extinguishing medium is clean water, which eliminates harmful additives in your kitchen.



Special Constructions

The Sem-Safe* solution gives you the opportunity to protect special roof and other constructions. The system is small and compact and the piping can be hidden so that it does not disturb the aesthetic context of a special construction.



Libraries and Archives

The system's low consumption of water limits water damage, keeping valuable books and other effects unharmed. The small pipe sizes also make the system easy to retrofit, without damaging the environment.



Wind Turbine

Our system has low water consumption and only requires small pipe dimensions. This leads to a weight reduction and also allows installation in smaller spaces. The pump unit is compact, allowing the Sem-Safe* system to be fully integrated into the nacelle. Finally, our system does not require closed rooms for it to function efficiently.



Paint Spray Booth

The water mist system is efficient even in the context of highly flammable liquids. The local protection system protects the area where the fire risk is greatest, and hereby quickly extinguishes the fire. To achieve this, a specific nozzle design makes it possible to create a 'water curtain' in front of the spraying booth so that the fire does not spread. This reduces production downtime after a fire.



Computer Rooms

The Sem-Safe* system is harmless to people and is documented not to harm electrical equipment with a protection better than IP22. The quick reaction to a fire also prevents damaging equipment and valuable stored data.



Transformer

The Sem-Safe* system cools the transformer, thus preventing it from burning hot and damaging the structure. The system does not require closed areas in order to operate efficiently, and the local protection offers quick extinguishing and less damage. This means that it also can be used for outdoor transformer protection.



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Built in the renaissance style, Magdeburg's old and beautiful city hall has installed the Sem-Safe[®] Water Mist System. In general, heritage buildings benefit from using a water mist system, due to low water consumption and consequent low water damage, as well as the fact that the small pipes are easily integrated into the surroundings, without harming the irreplaceable building, its interior and fixtures.

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Less damage

Water mist versus traditional sprinkler systems

Water mist has many advantages compared to conventional sprinklers.

One of the key benefits is that it often uses only one tenth as much water as traditional sprinklers. In addition, the majority of the water evaporates, causing much less water damage to buildings, furniture, electrical installations, etc.

In industrial applications, the dramatic reduction in direct damage is of great value, but it is usually even more important that the production line or factory will be able to resume manufacturing very quickly after the fire.

A long period of down-time in production means a high risk of losing market share, which often results in a dramatic long-term negative economic effect, far in excess of the original fire damage.

Statistics show that only 4 out of 10 industries are able to start manufacturing goods again after a major fire.



Clean Architectural Design

Stainless steel pipes are easily integrated into the surroundings. To bend the pipes, there is no need for fittings. This gives you a result that actually contributes to the architectural integrity of the building.

Unique design concept makes Sem-Safe[®] easy to install

The much higher spacing that the Sem-Safe* system offers, compared to conventional sprinklers, results in a major reduction in the number of nozzles, pipes and fittings that need to be installed. Traditional sprinkler systems need up to 60% more nozzles than a Sem-Safe* Water Mist System, as the nozzles with 5.5 meter spacing can cover an area up to 2.5 times larger per nozzle than traditional sprinklers heads. The limited number of nozzles and pipes, and their small sizes, increase architectural freedom and reduce the need for storage space during installation.

In both retrofit installations and new buildings, the small pipe dimensions and ease of handling - due to the low weight of the pipes - have proved to be a major benefit, making installation up to 70% faster.

Due to the compact dimensions and the high-quality material the pipes are made of, a water mist system will not compromise the architectural design. The majority of bends can be made by hand, while press fittings are used on the larger pipes. This means that there is no need to X-ray welds, nor any space problems related to flanges, etc.

When installed, the weight of the water mist pipes, including water, will typically be 85% less than a traditional sprinkler system.

All in all, this results in a very good cost:performance ratio for water mist compared to traditional sprinklers, which explains why the growth rate for this technology is 10 times higher than for traditional sprinklers.

TRADITIONAL SPRINKLER

WATER MIST





National Library in Shanghai, China

The advanced new building 'Phase II' of the national library in Shanghai will have a Sem-Safe^{*} system with 1600 nozzles installed. Our high-quality nozzles and pipes contribute architecturally to the high-tech design and offer a safe environment, also for water-sensitive valuables.

More space to make money



TRADITIONAL SPRINKLER

WATER MIST

- No need to place a large reservoir/swimming pool on top of the building; you can instead use the top floor for penthouse flats.
- On No need for sprinkler units on more floors of the building to prevent pressure loss; the space saved can be used for other money generating purposes.
- No need for large water supply reservoir or for reservoirs to catch the water used by the system; the space saved can be used for an integral garage, for example.

There are several advantages in choosing the Sem-Safe^{*} Water Mist System for high-rise buildings. Besides efficient fire fighting, giving the best possible protection, it gives you the freedom to design your building just as you want. The Sem-Safe^{*} Water Mist System takes up very little space, allowing you to use the space saved for money-generating activities. In addition, the technology offers the possibility of glass cooling, which presents a major cost-saving potential through the ability to specify thinner glass.

University of Southern Denmark

The largest land-based installation of high-pressure water mist in Denmark 'Alsion' – comprising the University of Southern Denmark and the Research Park, as well as a concert hall - has been equipped with the Sem-Safe®Highpressure Water Mist System. Approved according to the European standard TS 14972. A total of more than 2200 nozzles have been installed.

The best choice for window cooling

The excellent cooling features of the Sem-Safe[®] Water Mist System make it the perfect choice for protecting glass facades. Instead of spraying water on the glass, the Sem-Safe[®] system atomises the water in front of the glass. This three-dimensional cooling removes the risk of thermal stress cracks associated with conventional water-based sprinkler systems, and allows the use of a cheaper class of glass.

Cost savings up to 500 Euro/m² as well as lighter construction are key advantages.

WATER MIST







Front view

Side view

The evidence speaks for itself



Water mist versus traditional sprinklers

Cargill's production facilities 'Cerestar' in Krefeld, Germany

Cerestar is the leading manufacturer of starches and starch derivatives in Europe and one of the largest in the world. The Sem-Safe^{*} system protects numerous applications at risk of fire and explosion, including the transformers, diesel engines, filters and cable channels.

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The most secure and cost-effective system



Using only pure water, the Sem-Safe^{*} Water Mist System gives you the best possible protection of human life. In case of fire, there is no need to evacuate the room before releasing the system. The system can be deployed instantly, resulting in less damage. The reduced amount of damage often means that production can start much faster, saving a lot of money.



With a water mist system there is no need to install fire doors and ventilation equipment. As water mist both cools and removes oxygen, the temperature is quickly cooled to normal, resulting in quicker fire fighting and avoiding re-ignition.

The pump unit only takes up little space and needs no special room or safe storage.

The water mist pump based system is ready to use immediately after a fire. There is no need to isolate the room or to fill up cylinders, meaning that, for example, production is back working normally much faster, saving substantial costs.

Local protection



Transformer, China

Paper mill, Denmark

Diesel generator, Denmark

Diesel engine, Germany

Irreplaceable valuables



Roof construction, Germany

Mill, Denmark

Bank server room, England

Museum in a hospital, Shanghai



Wind turbine, Japan

Science Park, Denmark

Cable channel, Germany

Glass cooling, Denmark

Real-life pictures from a few of the many applications where the Sem-Safe[®] High-Pressure Water Mist System is installed.

New unique fire protection opportunities

High-pressure water mist is a unique fire fighting solution, and often the only possible solution for a wide range of special applications.

For instance, in a recent EU project ('UPTUN') for the development of fire protection systems for tunnels in Europe, water mist proved itself the perfect means of preventing tunnel fires.

For more than 13 years, Danfoss Semco has worked successfully with high-pressure water mist for commercial and industrial applications. At present, we have projects in more than 11 countries, with more to come.

Local protection

The Sem-Safe[®] Local Protection System extinguishes the fire at source. Nozzles are placed so that they point at the risk area, catching the fire quickly and preventing it from spreading while the temperature is reduced. This is a major advantage for industrial applications, as equipment can be cooled and downtime and shock-cooling avoided. This is achieved without covering or closing the area that need to be protected.

Irreplaceable valuables

Water mist is ideal in areas where water damage can be more harmful than fire damage. The mist is so fine that it causes almost no damage to irreplaceable valuables.

This is a significant advantage for architecturally or historically important buildings, and libraries or archives that cannot tolerate the impact of excessive water or chemicals.

Special applications

Water mist is a viable alternative where other fire fighting systems cannot deliver. In special applications, water mist has an advantage because the small pipes can be integrated everywhere without being seen. Water mist does not demand air-tight rooms, and can be integrated into even the most complex constructions and tight corners.

Fire Control Centre, East Midland region, England

When selecting a fire protection system for a major new fire control centre, even the fire brigade was certain that investing in a Sem-Safe^{*} High-pressure Water Mist System was the right choice to protect themselves, the new buildings and the interior.

Tested and approved

Danfoss Semco continues to invest heavily in new approvals, as a consequence of new nozzle development as well as the need for adapting to new standards.

These approvals for industrial and commercial applications are obtained by testing according to specifications from, for example, FM, UL and ISO, as well as from the European guideline CEN / TS 14972 and approvals from DIFT, VDS and TÜV.

Danfoss Semco was one of the first to obtain approvals in accordance with the European technical guideline TS 14972 for ordinary hazard with a spacing as high as 5.5 meters, and up to 6 m ceiling height for public spaces.

As a major supplier of water mist, Danfoss Semco has been a member and board member of the International Water Mist Association (IWMA) for many years.

In the marine industry, where high-pressure water mist has had a strong foothold for many years, IMO regulations have set the standards for tests and operational functionality from the beginning. These marine standards are still the benchmark for all water mist applications, including those used for the industrial and commercial market.

As one of the leading suppliers to the marine industry, Danfoss Semco's fire fighting systems have been tested and recognised by all leading classification societies and national maritime authorities, including ABS, BV, DNV, FM, GL, KRS, LRS, NK, PRS, CCS, RMRS, RINA and others.

Besides achieving external approvals, Danfoss Semco also use internal test facilities accepted by DNV, LR, and BV for the component testing of nozzles covering tests that include: leak, hydrostatic, vibration, thermal shock, water hammer, vacuum, stress corrosion and coating test.

In addition to external approvals, Danfoss Semco also internally operates a QA system in accordance with DS/EN ISO 9001:2000, DS/EN ISO 14001:2004, DS/OHSAS 18001: 2004.





For centuries, water has been used to fight fires. In 1806, the first patent was filed in London describing a perforated pipe concept for fire protection systems. This was followed in 1860 by the first sprinkler patent. Later, more advanced sprinkler heads were developed, including bulbs.

The common feature of this development was the use of water as a fire fighting medium for cooling the fire.

As the fire increases the temperature of the water, energy is absorbed from the fire, resulting in a cooling effect. The breakthrough that water mist represents is to use the same method as traditional sprinklers, but to add the effect of converting the water into steam. This means that the cooling effect is up to seven times higher than for traditional sprinklers. Combined with the oxygen displacement effect, this can reduce water consumption by up to 90% compared to traditional sprinklers.

Sem-Safe[®] – the unique high-pressure water mist system from Danfoss Semco



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