Overview of

Flexible Sprinkler Retrofit Analyzer

A free Excel based tool to evaluate the impact of adding flexible drops to an existing system

Compliance Services and Assessments, LC has been committed to helping code enforcers and contractors achieve code compliance since 2002. This is primarily through our installer qualification exams and photo ID cards.

In addition to evaluating installers and seminars, CSA has developed an Excel based software tool to help jurisdictions and contractors evaluate the impact of retrofitting an existing sprinkler system with flexible sprinkler drops when the system may not have been originally calculated for such drops.

Previously AHJ's may have required contractors to completely re-calculate a sprinkler system before they would allow flexible drops to be incorporated, such as in a retrofit or tenant improvement. Although it is true that some brands and configurations of flexible drops can impact a system upwards of 13+ psi, it is also true that some brands and configuration may have less than a 2 psi impact.

Another consideration involves how many bends may be incorporated in a particular installation. A product may be listed to allow up to 8 bends, which if the AHJ is basing evaluation on the worst case, could result in excessively high friction loss values. When in reality, the contractor is limiting the installation to 3 bends (more realistic).

Armed with better information, it is possible for the contractor to clearly identify their intent without preparing detailed shop drawings, and for the AHJ to feel comfortable in accepting such approach.

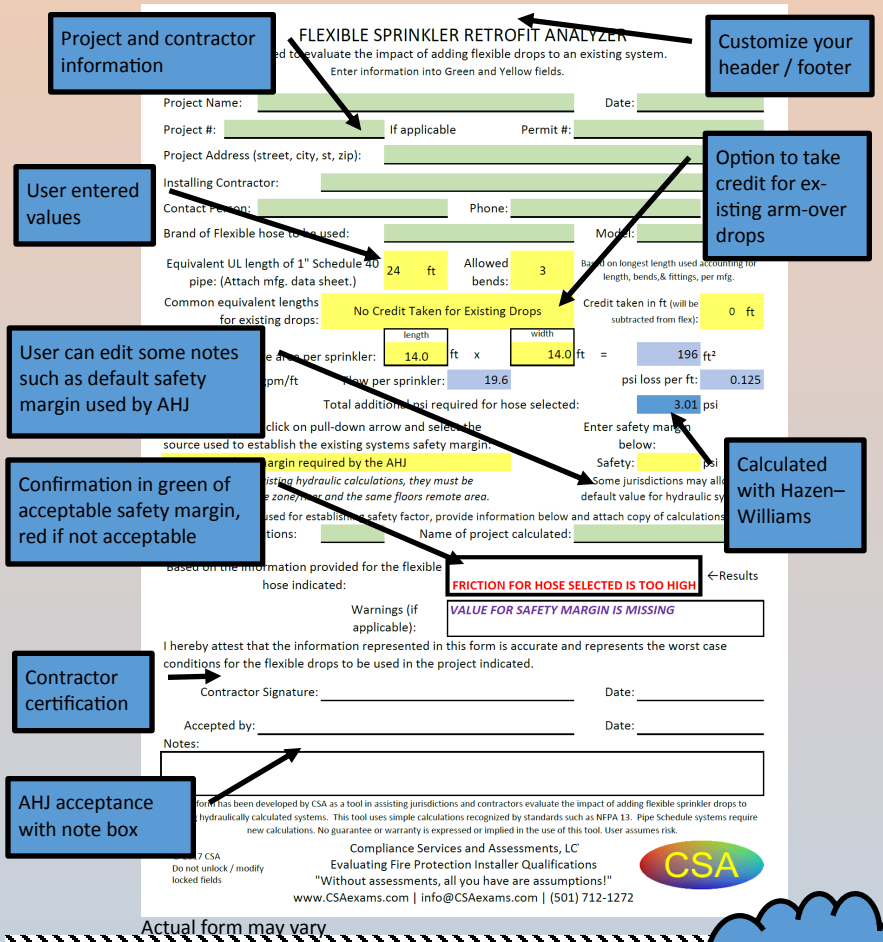
This tool provides this feature.

Many AHJ's already require a minimum safety margin in their calcs, such as 10 psi. Using our calculator the AHJ can verify that flexible drops can be installed within their safety margin without requiring anything beyond the Retrofit Analyzer report.

With this tool, a jurisdiction can allow copies of past calculations to demonstrate there was an adequate safety factor, or a jurisdiction may establish that as long as the impact is 3 psi or less, as established by the Retrofit Analyzer report, no calculations are required. It is up to the AHJ to accept the report or require additional calculations for every project.

The Retrofit Analyzer can be downloaded free at www.CSAexams.com under the Contractor and AHJ links.

CSA is not supported by nor indorses any particular brand of flexible hose. However, CSA does endorse making appropriate decisions based on actual conditions and products to be used.



Actual form may vary