



3 Kent Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM10 8HA,
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 845 686 6066

Fax: +44 (0) 845 686 6067

Email: info@resikom.com

Web: www.resikom.com

WATER LEAK DETECTION & WATER SHUTDOWN: FLOOD-STOPPA



The FLOOD-STOPPA 2 is a powerful self-contained composite Water Leak Detection and Automatic Water Valve Shutdown System designed specifically for Domestic, smaller Industrial, Office or Leisure applications. The FLOOD-STOPPA can also be used to monitor/shut off water to individual items such as washing machines, ice makers etc. If the FLOOD-STOPPA detects a water leak, it automatically shuts the valve supplying water to that item or that area, and prevents any further flood damage. The FLOOD-STOPPA can also be used to switch off the water when the premises is vacant.

The system features a mains powered compact wall mounted Control Unit. (A 'low voltage' option is available where the FLOOD-STOPPA would be supplied with an external mains adaptor and low volt socket on the unit.) The typical location for the FLOOD-STOPPA is close to the water valve, or adjacent to a water heater or a coffee machine for example. For a house or apartment, it should be located just after the main incoming manual water stopcock. The unit will require a mains power supply spur, or socket, to be fitted adjacent to the Control Unit. In the standard 'self assembly' form, the FLOOD-STOPPA Control Unit is supplied with three pre-fitted cables. One is a 2m long Mains Cable, the second a 2m long Valve Control Cable, both glanded to the base of the cabinet, and the third is a plug connected 2m Link Cable which connects to 3m Linear Sensor Tape. Sensor Tape monitors along its whole length and should be positioned in the monitored area. The mains power cable needs to be hard wired to an adjacent mains spur (or to be fitted with a mains plug for socket connection). The valve cable is provided with the special connector which fits to the valve. The system can be supplied with either a 1/2" Solenoid Valve or a 3/4" Solenoid Valve, - other valves can be ordered if necessary. The valve should be fitted in the water supply pipework on entry to the monitored area. Optional coupling adaptors are available to convert the 1/2" valve to 15mm piping and the 3/4" to 22mm piping.

The standard FLOOD-STOPPA is supplied with a plug connected 2m Link Cable which connects to a 3m Linear Sensor Tape. The Sensor Tape should be positioned in the area being monitored, e.g. clipped to the floor of a kitchen below the washing machine. Pads or Probes can be positioned in drip trays under coffee machines or under air conditioning units, and Overflow Sensors can be fitted in overflow pipes of water tanks. Specific mains/valve/tape/sensor and link cable lengths are available to order.

The Sensor Tape is a flat ribbon with sensors embedded into the surface. Water coming into contact with the sensors will conduct a current between the two, generating a 'leak detected' response. It is therefore important to ensure that the Tape does not 'short' on any metallic or conductive surface. Optional plastic insulation netting can be provided to insulate the Tape when used on metallic pipes etc., or to enable the Tape to be folded at right angles over itself for fitting around corners. For more specific applications a purpose designed wipe-clean flexible Water Detection Sensor Cable is also available. In cases where any of these optional Sensors are used, a Link Cable can connect the Control Unit to the sensor.

When the FLOOD-STOPPA is switched on, a green LED lights up, indicating the Sensor is active and monitoring for any conductivity between the sensor cores or probes. Water, or any other conductive agent, will instigate the alarm sequence. The FLOOD-STOPPA in standard form has no audible alarm and has the valve in a powered state ('normally closed'). When the alarm is initiated, the red Alarm LED will illuminate and power to the valve will immediately switch off. The valve shuts under spring pressure. The system also simultaneously disconnects the voltage to the sensor. The valve will remain shut, and the control system passive, until the system is re-set. Once the leak and the water have been cleared, the Reset Button needs to be pressed on the Control Unit. If the water has not dried when Reset is pressed, the internal relay clicks and the green light will flash. The duration of the flash is dependent on the dampness of the sensor. A saturated sensor will result in a flash every second or so, and when nearly dry, it will strobe. To reset one can allow it to dry or 'force' it by unplugging the Sensor Link Cable. The Reset button resets the system and reinstates the power to the valve, which then re-opens. (A 'normally open' FLOOD-STOPPA option is also available, but it should be noted that with a 'normally open' system, the valve would open automatically during mains power failure, allowing the leak to continue flooding. With the 'normally closed' system the valve 'fails shut' on system or mains failure, so may benefit from the optional manual Bypass Loop).

The FLOOD-STOPPA can also be configured to shut the water supply and also to switch off the power supply to the item being monitored. This can be achieved by either hard-wiring the monitored item to terminals within the FLOOD-STOPPA (if the valve control is not used), or via a mains adaptor between the machine plug and mains socket. Shutting off the power can close the solenoid valves on appliances such as washing machines, thereby stopping further flooding. This way the water and power would be cut together.

Resikom Limited

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