

Instruction sheet

"Instructions on installing sprinkler-compatible ceiling fabrics" 2026

General information on stand coverings

Ceiling surfaces must be in materials that as a minimum meet the requirements of building material classes DIN 4102 (B1) or DIN EN 13501 C, allow only limited smoke development at most (s2 under DIN EN 13501) and do not drip on burning (d0 under DIN EN 13501) (see Instruction Sheet Building Material Classes, i4.4).

Rooms and areas with a heightened risk of fire (e.g. kitchens and storage areas, cloakrooms, utility rooms, etc.) must always be open to the top.

In the case of closed ceiling surfaces of 30 m² and more, a suitable number of sprinklers, and in halls fitted with smoke or differential heat detectors (H4A, H7A, H11) a suitable number of heat detectors are to be installed by the relevant ServicePartner.

With the **exception** of halls **4A** and **7A**, halls 1 – 12, 3A and 3C are equipped with sprinkler systems. These must have a minimum **safety clearance** of at least **1 m** at the top edge of the stand, exhibits or decorations for fire prevention and insurance reasons. The minimum safety clearance in closed rooms (e.g. conference rooms) is likewise 1 m. A reduction of the stated safety clearance is always subject to review and approval by NürnbergMesse (Exhibition Technology Department).

The sprinkler system may only be dispensed with:

- if the ceiling is a grid design, whereby not more than 30 % (CEA 4001S) of the ceiling area may be closed referred to the individual square meters. Allowance has to be made for additional lighting fixtures or other installations in the ceiling.

or

- if the fabrics used are sprinkler-compatible ceiling fabrics with a minimum mesh width (in stretched, installed condition) of 4 x 4 mm (maximum web width 1 mm) covering an area of no more than 30 m². This fabric **must only have one layer** and the vertical distance from the sprinkler head must be at least 1.0 m. Sagging of the fabric covering is to be avoided.

or

- if the **fabrics** used have been approved by VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH Cologne for **use in risk areas with sprinklers**. The installation of open mesh fabrics must be in accordance with VdS specifications (see VdS approval certificate).

The use of mesh fabrics and materials with "smoke-out" protection is prohibited. You will find an overview of approved sprinkler-compatible fabrics (components for water extinguish systems – tension fabrics) here:

<https://vds.de/en/>

Basic requirements for stand coverings:

- Several ceiling sections of up to 30 m² are possible within a stand provided there is a minimum distance of 3.00 m between the individual ceiling sections.
- So as not to exceed the maximum area of 30 m² when adding up several ceiling sections, **a distance of minimum 1.50 m to the stand boundaries must be maintained**. Any reduction of this 1.50 m distance (e.g. to the gangways and hall walls) must be approved by the Exhibition Technology Department of NürnbergMesse.
If the stated minimum distances cannot be maintained – also across stands – and if the addition of the closed ceiling area would cause the maximum permissible area to be exceeded, the perpetrator will bear the costs for necessary compensation measures. This also applies explicitly to affected adjacent stands!
- **Cavities under ceilings** (suspended ceilings) with a height of less than 0.20 m can be excluded from the monitoring protection of the fire alarm system. From a height of 0.20 m, the cavity must be monitored by automatic fire detectors installed by the responsible service partner (see Info 4; point 4.4.2).
- A test certificate on the construction material class, fire, smoke and dripping behaviors of the material used, and/or the VdS certificate is to be kept at the stand during the assembly period. In addition, samples of the materials used must be kept on hand for a fire test on site.

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