

# First Low-Concentration Ammonia Detector FM Approved

FM Global field engineering had identified a number of exposures that are susceptible to low parts per million (PPM) concentrations of ammonia, particularly in the food and beverage industries where ammonia is used as a refrigerant. However, there were no FM Approved ammonia detectors available to recommend to FM Global clients.

FM Approvals contacted a number of gas detector manufacturers in order to explain our need. One of the first companies to step forward was Sensidyne, Inc. of Clearwater, Fla., USA. Sensidyne informed FM Approvals that its newest design, the SensAlert Plus, was capable of detecting low PPM of ammonia and wanted it certified to FM Approvals' requirements for performance as well as hazardous (classified) location requirements for both Canada and the United States. As of this writing,

Sensidyne is the only manufacturer with an FM Approved, low PPM gas detector for ammonia as well as chlorine, carbon monoxide, hydrogen, hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide.

This is the only ammonia detector that has passed both performance tests (i.e., it can detect low PPM) and can be used in hazardous locations! Non-FM Approved ammonia detectors have not passed a performance test. FM Approvals is working to approve additional ammonia detectors to offer choices in this product area.

For more information on the Sensidyne SensAlert Plus system, contact: Patrick Byrne, senior engineer, FM Approvals, at +1 (1) 781 255 4846, or send an e-mail to [patrick.byrne@fmglobal.com](mailto:patrick.byrne@fmglobal.com) ■

