



Case Study

Platypus Fire

Platypus Fire is an Australian owned company dedicated to providing affordable and effective bushfire sprinkler protection for homes and businesses. Jamie Boyles, a pump and water supply specialist, was inspired to invent the Platypus Sprinkler when he recognised the need in the marketplace for a sprinkler that was particularly suitable for bushfire protection. Through many years of research and development, the bushfire sprinkler system has been engineered to the highest standards and the innovative design enables water efficient ember protection. Platypus Fire is committed to selling and installing affordable, reliable and high performance bushfire protection systems along with providing excellent after sales service.

Platypus Fire has been working with Smart Approved WaterMark since 2014 and was

granted the Smart Approved WaterMark Product of the Year Award that same year. Jamie, the company's Director, described Platypus Fire's objective in applying to the scheme. **"I saw that Smart WaterMark had been a recognised Mark that people looked at or referred to for water efficient products; the purpose of applying for the Smart WaterMark was to give our product additional recognition in the industry,"** Jamie said. He explained that the value the Mark provides the company is linked to the rigorous application process of the scheme. **"I was required to provide testing information to satisfy the board for their approval, so from a marketing point of view the Mark reflects that additional independent credibility for a product,"** Jamie said.



Products Approved by Smart WaterMark

Platypus Sprinkler

The Platypus Sprinkler system provides an effective bushfire protection solution for residential, commercial or public assets. The sprinkler system can either be installed with hidden pipework during construction of new buildings or it can be easily retrofitted with exposed pipework on existing buildings. The sprinkler is designed for maximum protection from ember attack through the twin outlet head that spins on a central shaft, which results in a more effective spray pattern. While traditional irrigation sprinklers tend to spray water up into the air, the Platypus Sprinkler works by spraying water out and down so that it is not blown away from the building it's designed to protect. Additionally, the absence of an outer support frame around the spinner of the sprinkler enables a continuous water flow, which ensures the dispersion of a high concentration of large droplets. This design saves water by reducing the effects of winds and misting, which greatly contribute to water wastage.



Platypus Controller

This controller automates your Bushfire Protection System and can be activated by using the touch screen or remotely using SMS on your mobile. The controller measures the ambient air temperature around your building and activates the equipment that supplies water to the sprinkler system when that temperature rises above the temperature set by the user.

Hence your property is protected/dampened when the risk is high with no water wasted and a longer period of protection since the water is managed so well.

The system will run for an amount of time which is set by the user up to a maximum of 60 minutes. The system pauses, checks the temperature and if it is still above the set point the controller will run the system again. The controller also monitors the sprinkler water pressure and shuts down if the water supply runs dry.

During this time the controller will send SMS information to the stored numbers advising the status of the system. An automatic service reminder is also sent annually.

Water Savings

Compared to traditional butterfly sprinklers that spray water in a high arc, the Platypus Sprinkler uses a much flatter spray pattern with maximum stream height of 1.3m. This spray pattern produces larger droplets, which results in less wind effects and therefore less water wastage.



Spotlight

Jamie Boyles, Director

As owner and director of the business, Jamie Boyles designed and tested the original prototypes through to the current Platypus Sprinkler design. With a background in pumps and water tanks, Jamie is passionate about water efficiency and he believes in the importance of a water efficient sprinkler so that people installing the system are able to maximise their available water.