

**Transfer Inc. (WETT Inc.)**

**SITE (System Inspections and Technical Evaluation)**

SITE is a set of standardized guidelines recommended by WETT for the inspection and/or evaluation of wood-burning systems. This chart identifies what each inspection level includes, its purpose and what process will be followed. An inspection at a specific level may include more but not less than outlined in the SITE Chart and Guidelines.

	<b>Level 1 Inspection “Readily Accessible”</b>	<b>Level 2 Inspection “Accessible”</b>	<b>Level 3 Inspection “Concealed Accessibility”</b>
<b>Scope (What is included)</b>	The inspection of “readily-accessible” components of: (1) a solid-fuel-burning appliance, or (2) a site-built fireplace, and (3) the venting system for: (a) proper use of required components, and (b) clearance to combustibles, and (c) readily-visible system obstructions or deposits.	(1) A Level 1 inspection and (2) an inspection of all “accessible” components of the system for clearance to combustibles and for obstructions or deposits; and (3) an evaluation of the construction, sizing, condition and suitability of “accessible” components of the system.	(1) A Level 1 and 2 inspection and (2) an inspection of system components in areas of “concealed accessibility” for clearance to combustibles; and (3) an evaluation of construction, sizing, condition and suitability of components of the system in areas of “concealed accessibility”; and (4) an examination of surrounding construction for evidence of damage.
<b>Purpose (Why and When)</b>	(1) To verify code compliance of the readily-accessible components (a) at a homeowner’s request, or (b) with a homeowner’s permission, when requested by a third party (e.g., insurance company, home buyer, etc.).	(1) When a Level 1 inspection is deemed insufficient because of a detected or suspected hazard, or (2) when verification of the suitability and integrity of the system components is required, or (3) after an operating malfunction or external event, likely to have caused damage to the system, or (4) when an appliance is replaced, or (5) when a major system component is replaced or requires significant repair.	(1) When a Level 2 inspection is deemed insufficient because of a detected or suspected hazard that cannot be fully verified without access to concealed areas, or (2) after an incident that may have caused damage to any concealed parts of the system or building construction, related to the system.
<b>Process (What to expect)</b>	(1) A basic, visual inspection by a WETT certified SITE inspector; performed without a ladder or specialized tools. (2) A report using WETT’s recommended inspection checklist(s), or similar checklist(s), for the type of system being inspected.	(1) Inspection of accessible system components, which may include the possible disassembly of accessible system components, by a WETT certified SITE Comprehensive Inspector or by a WETT certified technician, as a part of an installation or major system component repair process. (2) A report using WETT’s recommended checklist(s), or similar checklist(s). (3) A written evaluation of the suitability, integrity of the system.	(1) The inspection, by invasive means, of concealed areas of the system by a WETT certified SITE Comprehensive Inspector, including the removal of non structural building components and/or the disassembly of parts of the system. (2) The possible use of specialized tools or equipment. (3) A comprehensive written report of the findings and possible inclusion of inspection check lists.

# Wood Energy Technology Transfer Inc. (WETT Inc.)

## SITE (System Inspections and Technical Evaluation)

### Guidelines

## 1. Inspection Level Details

### 1.1 Level 1 Inspection (Readily Accessible)

#### 1.1 (a)

“Readily Accessible” means quickly or easily reached for inspection. A Level 1 inspection does not require the use of special tools for opening or removal of any panel, door or other covering; nor does it require the use of ladders. It does not require the disassembly of system components. A tape measure, light, mirror, camera, magnifying glass and binoculars comprise the usual tools required to perform this inspection.

#### 1.1 (b)

A Level I inspection includes:

- (1) a determination of compliance of readily accessible system components, including the proper use of required components, their required clearances to combustibles, their proper support, as well as their condition and structural integrity;
- (2) a determination of compliance of readily accessible shielding, outdoor air components, enclosures and ductwork, if present;
- (3) readily accessible evidence of operating malfunction, including but not limited to smoke spillage; (4) obstructions and combustible deposits visible through readily accessible cleanout doors or inspection ports.

### 1.2 Level 2 Inspection (Accessible)

#### 1.2 (a)

“Accessible” means able to be reached without any invasive action to the building or property. Access may require the moving or removal of a panel, door or other covering or the disassembly of accessible system components. It may require the use of ladders and tools such as a screwdriver, wrench, hammer, cleaning equipment or other service tools or equipment.

#### 1.2 (b)

In addition to all aspects of a Level 1 inspection, a Level 2 inspection includes:

- (1) areas of the chimney liner that can be observed through openings, such as a breech pipe, cleanout or venting system termination for the presence of a continuous chimney liner and for its proper installation; (2) accessible system components to verify for freedom from combustible deposits and blockage or obstructions; (3) accessible system components for defects, damage, deterioration, proper support and mechanical connections; (4) internal surfaces of fireplaces, smoke chambers and appliances for damage, deterioration, evidence of operating malfunction;
- (5) all areas of the appliance and chimney, including its surroundings and/or enclosure(s) that can be accessed without invasive means, to determine clearances and code compliance. The inspection may include locations within attics, crawl spaces and basements that can be accessed through doors, hatches or other openings that do not require removal of parts of the building construction that are considered to be permanently attached;
- (6) the venting system and where applicable, any ductwork, to determine proper sizing and suitability for the connected appliance;

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### **1.3 Level 3 Inspection (Concealed Accessibility)**

#### **1.3 (a)**

“Concealed Accessibility” means not accessible except by invasive means. This may require the removal of constructed (but not structural) areas of the system or building, to gain access to concealed areas of the system. It may also require the use of specialty tools and equipment, such as a video scanning device or flue tile removal system.

#### **1.3(b)**

In addition to all aspects of a Level 2 inspection, a Level 3 inspection includes:

- (1) an examination of concealed areas suspected of containing system non-compliance or malfunction hazards and/or damage to system or building components.