

FT Fog Trace

Plumbing Smoke Test Machine

A Modern, Cost Effective Solution for
Identifying Sewer Based Pest Intrusions
Through Plumbing



FogTrace & the Sewer Assassin System

Sewer-based pest intrusions—including rodents, American cockroaches, and drain flies—are among the most persistent challenges for pest management professionals. When repeated treatments, proper sanitation, and standard exclusion efforts fail, the issue is often not the product or service approach—it's the plumbing system itself. Across major U.S. cities with aging infrastructure, cracks, gaps, and failed seals in plumbing lines create hidden pest entryways in walls, attics, crawl spaces, beneath slabs, behind walls, and through plumbing vent systems.

FogTrace is a purpose-built plumbing smoke test machine designed specifically for pest control professionals. It generates dense, long-lasting fog that travels through plumbing systems, clearly revealing hidden defects, breaks, breaches, that are often pest entry points. This white paper explains the limitations of traditional methods, outlines FogTrace's operation, and illustrates why it is the modern industry standard for sewer-based pest diagnostics.



The Problem: Hidden Plumbing Pathways Fuel Pest Infestations



Modern structures rely on complex, concealed plumbing systems. Cracked pipes, poor seals, dry traps, and improper connections provide direct pathways for sewer pests to access interior spaces undetected.

Common sewer-based invaders include:

- Rats (Norway and roof rats)
- American cockroaches
- Drain flies

Without reliable visualization of these pathways, technicians often treat surface symptoms instead of the root cause—leading to repeat callbacks and frustrated customers.



Limitations of Traditional Smoke Candles and Legacy Methods

Smoke candles have been used historically to locate plumbing breaches, but they suffer from several significant drawbacks:

- **Short Smoke Duration:** Candles burn out quickly, limiting inspection time.
- **Strong Sulfur Odor:** Smoke from candles often leaves lingering smells inside structures and can set off fire alarms.
- **Labor-Intensive:** Multiple candles may need to be lit for a comprehensive test.
- **Higher Long-Term Costs:** Smoke candles are consumable, must be replaced frequently, and can be costly or hard to source.

These issues make traditional methods inefficient and impractical for modern pest diagnostics, especially on large or complex systems. Pest control as an industry needed a better way.

The Modern PMP Advantage: *Bringing Diagnostics In-House*

Plumbing-related infestations once meant calling a plumber—more cost, more delays, less control.

Today's PMPs bring diagnostics in-house. With tools like FogTrace, technicians perform fast, documented inspections themselves.

The result:

- Less reliance on plumbers
- Faster solutions for customers
- Clear proof of service
- PMPs positioned as true problem solvers



**Modern PMPs don't guess.
They Diagnose**

THE FOGTRACE SOLUTION

FogTrace was engineered to overcome the shortcomings of smoke candles and legacy smoke testing tools. It produces a dense, controllable fog that thoroughly fills plumbing systems to identify even small defects.



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

High-Output Commercial-Grade Fog Machine

- Power: 1000 Watts
- Voltage: 90–130 V, 50/60 Hz
- Warm-Up Time: 3–4 minutes
- Tank Capacity: 1 liter
- Fog Output: ~5000 CFM
- Control: Wireless remote and wired manual control
- Wireless Range: Up to 165 ft (50 m)

4" iN-LINE DUCT FAN

- High-impact ABS housing
- Permanently lubricated, thermally protected AC motor rated for continuous operation (50,000+ hrs)
- Airflow Capacity: 280 CFMTank Capacity: 1 liter
- Power Consumption: 50 W
- Speed: ~2200–2300 RPM
- Voltage: 110–120 V AC

ACCESSORIES & BUILD

- 4" X 5' Flexible PVC Hose (carbon steel wire coil reinforced)
- 4" to 2 ½" Reducer Nozzle (premium ABS)
- Base: 19" x 8" x 1/2" high density polyethylene
- Overall Size: 23" x 8" x 7"
- Weight: 15 lbs

These specs make FogTrace powerful, portable, & rugged, ideal for both residential and commercial work.

1. Connect the FogTrace machine to a plumbing clean-out or vent pipe/stack.
2. Introduce dense, non-toxic fog under controlled pressure.
3. Fog travels through the plumbing system.
4. Escaping fog highlights breaks, breaches, illegal connections, and pest entry points in real time.

How FogTrace Works



This provides PMPs immediate, undeniable proof of plumbing failures and pest pathways.

ADVANTAGES OVER TRADITIONAL SMOKE TESTING

- Extended Run Time: Continuous fog allows thorough system evaluation.
- Superior Visibility: Dense fog pinpoints minor leaks and cracks
- Lower Operating Costs: A single tank of fog liquid costs pennies compared to traditional smoke candles.



APPLICATIONS



- Detecting sewer based rodent intrusions
- Locating American cockroach entry through plumbing
- Identifying drain fly sources
- Plumbing integrity testing
- Pre and Post plumbing repair verification
- Educating customers & documenting true infestation sources



Value for Pest Management Professionals

FogTrace™ enables PMP's to focus on problem resolution instead of repetitive treatments:

- **Increase service credibility**
- **Reduce callbacks**
- **Generate diagnostic revenue**
- **Strengthen client trust**
- **Provide documentation for corrective action by providing reports to licensed plumbers to guide them in repairs.**

Modern PMP's who perform in-house diagnostics are seen as experts who solve problems at the source, providing long-term solutions instead of temporary fixes.

SAFETY & COMPLIANCE

FogTrace™ uses a non-toxic, high-density fog solution, safe for use in occupied structures when operated according to manufacturer instructions.

CONCLUSION

FogTrace represents a significant advancement in plumbing smoke testing technology. By replacing smelly, expensive, and outdated smoke candles with a modern, fog-based system, PMPs gain speed, accuracy, and credibility in diagnosing sewer-based pest intrusions.

As the industry emphasizes IPM accountability and proof, FogTrace delivers: clear answers, documented results, and permanent solutions, empowering modern pest professionals to bring plumbing diagnostics in-house and lead the way in problem-solving.



Bottom line: FogTrace and Sewer Assassin don't just solve problems—they set you apart.

When you diagnose plumbing issues in-house and turn sewer entry points into recurring-revenue assets, you stop competing on price and start winning on expertise. Customers see proof, speed, and real solutions—leading to more sales, higher-value services, and long-term retention.

Be the company that finds the source, proves the problem, and owns the solution.

Contact Us:

Rich Mead

602-702-1018

rmead@sewerassassin.com

www.sewerassassin.com



Ask us about training