



Wood Energy Technology Transfer Inc. (WETT Inc.)

SITE™ (System Inspections and Technical Evaluation)

SITE™ is a set of standardized guidelines and procedures for the inspection of solid-fuel-burning systems
 Documentary evidence including a valid certification number of the attending WETT-certified professional is a
 mandatory requirement of the SITE™ process.

This table is intended to assist readers and provide the parameters for which the inspection shall be done.
 An inspection at a specific level may include more, but not less than, that outlined in the SITE™ table.

	Level-1 Inspection “Readily Accessible”	Level-2 Inspection “Accessible”	Level 3-Inspection “Concealed Accessibility”
Scope (What is included)	<p>The inspection of “readily-accessible” components of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a solid-fuel-burning appliance, or (2) a site-built fireplace, or (3) a factory-built fireplace system, and (3) venting system for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) proper installation of required components, and (b) proper clearances to combustibles, and (c) readily visible system obstructions or deposits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A complete level-1 inspection and (2) an evaluation of “Accessible” system components for suitable construction, sizing and condition (including enclosures, and makeup or combustion air), and (3) an inspection of all “Accessible” system components for clearances to combustibles, and (4) an inspection for “Accessible” venting system obstructions and/or deposits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A complete level-2 inspection, and (2) an evaluation of system components in areas of “Concealed Accessibility” for suitable construction, supports and sizing (including enclosures, and makeup or combustion air), and (3) an inspection of all system components in areas of “Concealed Accessibility” for proper clearances to combustibles.
Indication (When required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To verify compliance of the “Readily Accessible” system components at the request of a client (property owner), or with a client’s (property owner’s) permission if requested by a third party. (e.g., insurer, real estate, home buyer, etc.), and (2) as a requirement of the National or Provincial Fire Code.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) When a level-1 inspection is deemed insufficient because of a chimney fire, a detected or suspected hazard, or (2) after a system malfunction, such as damage/failure of an “Accessible” system component, or (3) omission of regular service likely to have caused the malfunction of a system component. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) When a level-2 inspection is deemed insufficient because of a detected or suspected hazard, or (2) after a system malfunction, such as damage/failure of a “Concealed” system component, or an event likely to have caused malfunction of a “Concealed” system component.
Circumstances (Also requiring an inspection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) When an appliance is replaced with one of equivalent or similar input rating and either the same or lesser clearance requirements, or (2) when any other “Readily Accessible” system component is replaced with one of equivalent or similar mechanical attachments, serving the same function and with the same or lesser clearance requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) When an existing appliance is replaced with a dissimilar one, or (2) when any other system component is replaced with one or more of dissimilar type. <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NOTE: Upon completion of an installation, or a repair or replacement of “Accessible” system components, it should be ensured that the system be compliant within the Scope of a level-2 inspection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) When areas of “Concealed Accessibility” must be accessed by invasive methods to verify the suitability of related property construction and system components, or (2) when areas of “Concealed Accessibility” must be accessed to determine if repair, replacement or service of system components can be achieved within the parameters of applicable codes and standards.

Inspection or service of a solid-fuel-burning system may result in a recommendation for further action; including but not limited to repair or replacement of system components, and/or sweeping of the venting system, and/or a higher level of inspection.



SITE™ (System Inspections and Technical Evaluation) Guidelines

INSPECTION LEVEL DETAILS

LEVEL-1 INSPECTION (READILY ACCESSIBLE)

1.1 (A) DEFINITION

Readily Accessible is defined as quickly or easily reached for inspection.

A level-1 inspection does not require the use of special tools for the opening or removal of any panel, door, covering, or system components; nor (unless at the discretion of the inspector and client) would it require the use of ladders.

An inspector should be able to inspect any moveable components of the fireplace, appliance or venting system that are readily accessible. Examples would be components utilized during normal operation or visual inspection by the user of the system, such as readily accessible loading doors, primary combustion chamber, ashpan doors, cleanout doors, dampers, air controls, etc.

A tape measure, light, mirror, camera, magnet, selfie-stick and/or other basic tools should comprise (but are not limited to) the typical tools required to perform for this level of inspection.

1.2 (A) GUIDELINES — GENERAL

A level-1 inspection includes:

- 1) a determination for 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 for compliance of readily accessible shielding, outdoor air components, enclosures and ductwork, if present,
- 3) readily accessible evidence of operating malfunction, which may include but is not limited to smoke spillage,
- 4) obstructions and combustible deposits visible through readily accessible cleanout doors or inspection ports.

LEVEL-2 INSPECTION (ACCESSIBLE)

2.1 (A) DEFINITION

Accessible is defined as able to be reached for the purpose of inspection, without the use of invasive methods to access areas of the building, property or components of the solid-fuel-burning system.

Access may require the moving or removal of doors, panels, other coverings or system components, and will require the use of ladders and common tools typically used by a WETT-certified chimney sweep or technician.

Accessible system and/or building components can be repositioned to their original location and/or condition.

2.2 (A) GUIDELINES — GENERAL

A level-2 inspection includes (in addition to all aspects of a level-1 inspection):

- 1) continuity of accessible venting system and/or ductwork components,
- 2) proper use and suitability of accessible venting system and/or ductwork components, supports and mechanical connections, including proper sizing,
- 3) internal and external surfaces of accessible system components for damage and/or deterioration, for freedom from combustibles deposits, blockage or obstructions and for evidence of operating malfunction,
- 4) surroundings and/or enclosures of accessible system components for proper clearances and construction. 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.

LEVEL-3 INSPECTION (CONCEALED ACCESSIBILITY)

3.1 (A) DEFINITION

Concealed Accessibility is defined as not able to be accessed except by invasive methods.

Access to concealed areas would require the removal of constructed property and/or system components by invasive methods, for the purpose of implementing a level-3 inspection. This may require the use of specialty tools and equipment, such as a video scanning device or flue tile removal system.

It may not be possible to reposition the removed property or system components to their original location and/or condition.

A permit would be required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction when compromising structural building components.

3.2 (A) GUIDELINES — GENERAL

A level-3 inspection includes all aspects of a level-2 inspection plus:

- 1) the examination of concealed areas within, around and enclosing the system components for evidence of non-compliance, malfunction, suspected hazards and/or damage to system or building components, and
- 2) surroundings and/or enclosures of concealed system components for proper clearances.

3.2 (B) GUIDELINES — INVASIVE

Examples of invasive methods may include:

- 1) drilling or cutting holes through the surface of an enclosure wall (chase) to insert a camera or video scanning device,
- 2) removing a thimble or breech pipe,

- 3) removing masonry or other non-combustible materials to expose suspected combustible material,
- 4) removing or cutting a section of drywall or plaster that may conceal an abandoned chimney breech hole,
- 5) removal of facings or flashings to expose suspected hazards or deterioration, or other invasive methods as required, to expose concealed areas for inspection.

3.2 (C) ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

When it is necessary to access and/or remove constructed property (or system components), the inspector and client must sign a consent form:

- 1) to outline what invasive method(s) will be taken, as well as the means to access the concealed area(s), and
- 2) to outline the responsibilities of each party in regard to the condition the property will be left upon completion of the level-3 inspection.