

When this power wash icon is displayed, this means the fixture is rated IP69K.

What is IP69K?

The IP69K rating is for applications where high pressure and high temperature wash-down are used to sanitize equipment. The IP69K test specification was initially developed for road vehicles, especially those that need regular intensive cleaning (dump trucks, cement mixers, etc.), but has been widely adopted in the Food & Beverage industries as a test of products to withstand sanitary washdown.

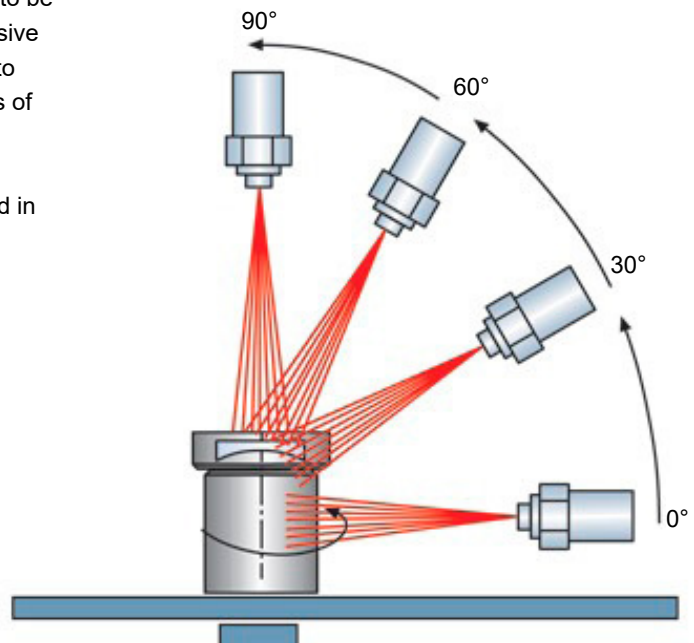
More specifics on IP69K

In applications where devices were regularly exposed to high-pressure or high temperature wash downs, the highest ratings of IP68 was sometimes found to be insufficient. Therefore, a special rating was created by ISO to test this intensive cleaning. In the IEC 60529 rating system, IP6 refers to the product's ability to resist ingress of dust. The 69K refers to the product's ability to resist ingress of high temperature (steam) / high pressure water.

Only if the device passes this test can it be considered IP69K rated and used in harsh environments with high pressure / steam cleaning.

Testing procedure per ISO 20653:
(depicted in image to right)

- A spray nozzle that is fed with 80°C water at 80–100 bar (~1160-1450) and a flow rate of 14–16 L/min.
- The nozzle is held 10-15cm from the tested device at angles of 0°, 30°, 60° and 90° for 30 seconds each.
- The test device sits on a turntable that rotates once every 12 seconds.



IP68, IP69 and IP69K - The facts

Even though you can do an internet search for IP69, it is important to note that there is no IP69 rating. The IP chart goes from IP68 to IP69K. In addition, just because IP69K is a higher number does not mean the coverage or rating is higher or better than IP68. In fact, IP68 and IP69K are very different ratings. While both share the same first digit "6" which is protection against the ingress of solid objects and are rated as dust tight, that is where the similarity ends. IP68 is rated for prolonged immersion in water, IP69K as noted above involves pressure washing at high temperatures.