HUMBERSIDE
Fire & Rescue Service

Prevention of System False Alarms

Are you receiving support from your Alarm Engineer and Alarm Receiving Centre (ARC) to prevent false alarms?

Work through the check list with your alarm system service engineer/electrician to act and plan to prevent false alarms.

Action complete

- Following installation, has the installer provided you, the occupier with a suitable level of instruction and information on how the system works, so that you can operate it and avoid false alarms? (As recommended by the British Standard). ☐
- Make sure **accurate** up to date drawings have been provided to assist with the operation of the system and location of detector heads that have activated? (As recommended by the British Standard). ☐
- Has the service engineer/installer provided you with a log book to record all testing and false alarms activations? (as recommended by the British standard). ☐
- Has the service engineer/installer made certain the most appropriate detection has been fitted in **problem locations** or, made recommendations for upgrades to avoid false alarms? (Improved detectors such as multi detectors can dramatically reduce false alarms. Seek advice from your service engineer/installer regarding upgrading in problem areas). ☐
- Have protective covers been fitted to call points in areas of high traffic with consideration of side impact protection in areas where contact with trollies or heavy equipment is likely to lead to accidental activations? ☐
- Have protective covers (possibly with screech alarms) been fitted to prevent malicious activations? ☐
- In areas such as waiting rooms and bars has consideration been given to locating the break glass call point away from the final exit to prevent malicious activation (If this is to be done your fire risk assessment should reflect this action and include a record of control measures you have in place to allow this). ☐
- Have green magnetic door lock overrides been suitably positioned ensuring the red fire alarm break glass call points are separated to avoid confusion and accidental operation? ☐
- Has your service engineer/installer checked your records have been correctly completed in the log book? ☐
- Have you discussed with your system engineer (subject to your Fire Risk Assessment) the possibility of setting up a fixed time delay on your signal to your Alarm Receiving Centre (ARC) to allow time for trained staff to investigate the alarm and prevent the **false** signal reaching the Fire Service? ☐

Actions for Alarm Receiving Centres (ARC's)

- Is there a robust weekly test procedure/agreement in place to avoid false signals reaching the Fire Service. ☐
- In non sleeping risks can an agreement be put in place preventing automatic alarm signals during working hours and when the building is occupied being passed on to the Fire Service (subject to Fire Risk Assessment) ☐
- Can a call challenge/delay procedure be put in place to ensure the alarm has been investigated prior to being sent to the Fire Service? ☐
- Has your Alarm Receiving Centre ensured your occupier details and agreements are up to date? ☐

For further advice or information please call us on 0300 303 8242 or visit www.humbersidefire.gov.uk

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