

## Fire Alarm Definitions

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**Addressable system** is a system in which signals from each detector and/or call point are individually identified at the control panel.

**Alarm of fire** is a warning of outbreak of fire, originated by a person or by an automatic device.

**Alarm receiving centre** is a permanently manned centre, usually provided by a commercial organisation, the staff of which, upon receipt of a fire signal notify the fire service.

**Analogue system** A fire alarm system where the detectors give output signals representing the value of sensed phenomena.

**Automatic fire alarm system** is a fire alarm system comprising components for automatically detecting a fire, initiating an alarm of fire and initiating other action as arranged; the system may include manual call points.

**Beam detector** A type of smoke detector which detects smoke by the obscuration of a beam of infra red light passing between a transmitter and receiver.

**Conventional fire alarm** Normally consists of a control panel linked to a number of circuits of smoke, heat detectors and manual call points, and having a number of sounder circuits. Consists of a control panel providing separate circuits per zone for detectors and call points and at least two circuits for alarm devices.

**Critical signal path** All components and interconnections between every fire alarm initiation point (callpoints and detectors) and every fire alarm device.

**Fault warning** is an automatic indication given audibly and/or visibly that a fault exists in a fire protection system.

**Fire alarm control and indicating equipment** is a combination of fire alarm control equipment and fire alarm indicating equipment.

**Fire alarm control equipment** is equipment which, on receipt of a fire signal, controls the giving of a fire alarm by one or more of the following:

- (a) fire alarm sounders
- (b) fire alarm indicating equipment
- (c) transmitting a signal to other fire alarm control equipment.

**Fire alarm device** is a component of a fire alarm system used to give warning of fire usually a sounder of visual alarm.

**Fire alarm indicating equipment** is part of a fire alarm system located at protected premises which provides indication of any fire alarm or fault warning received from fire alarm control equipment.

**Fire alarm remote indicating equipment** is the part of an alarm system which indicates the status of the protected premises from where a fire alarm or fault warning is being transmitted.

**Fire alarm sounder** is a component of a fire alarm system for giving an audible warning of fire.

**Fire alarm system** is a system of fixed apparatus for giving an audible and/or visible and/or other perceptible alarm of fire and which may also initiate other action.

**Fire alarm transmission link** is an electrical circuit for transmitting fire signals and fault warnings from protected premises to a central (fire alarm) station or to a control room.

**Fire Authority** is the Local Government Authority with a statutory responsibility for providing the services of a fire brigade and supporting services in a given geographical area.

**Fire detection system** is a system of fixed apparatus, normally part of an automatic fire alarm system, in which fire detectors, control equipment and indicating equipment are employed for automatically detecting fire and initiating other action as arranged.

**Fire detector** is a device which gives a signal in response to a change in the ambient conditions in the vicinity or within range of the detector, due to a fire.

**Fire point** is a location where fire-fighting equipment is sited which may also comprise a fire alarm call point and fire instruction notices, the whole being provided and arranged for use by occupants of premises.

**Fire procedure** is collectively and individually all the actions that need to be taken, as part of fire precautions by the occupants of a building or other structure to ensure the avoidance of danger from fire to persons and property.

**Fire protection** is design features, systems or equipment in a building, structure or other fire risk, to reduce danger to persons and property by detecting, extinguishing or containing fires.

**Fire signal** is an alarm of fire originated by an automatic device, given audibly and/or visibly.

**Heat detector** is a form of fire detector which responds to an increase in temperature.

**Ionisation smoke detector** is a smoke detector which responds when smoke, having entered the detector, causes a change in ionisation currents within the detector.

**Lantern Light** A construction standing above the surface of a roof designed to provide light to the space below.

**Manual fire alarm call point** is a device for the manual operation of an electrical fire alarm system.

**Manual fire alarm system** is a fire alarm system in which the alarm system is initiated manually.

**Mimic diagram** is a topographic representation of the protected premises carrying indicators for each sub division so that the indicators of the fire alarm system can be rapidly related to the layout of the premises.

**Phased evacuation** System of evacuation in which different parts of the building are evacuated in a controlled sequence rather than all at once.

**Photoelectric smoke detector** is a form of fire detector having a photoelectric cell which responds when light is absorbed or scattered by smoke particles.

**Point fire detector** is a form of fire detector which responds to the phenomenon detected at a fixed point.

**Smoke detector** is a form of fire detector which responds to particular combustion products.

**Soft addressing** allows the control panel to assign an address to each device automatically instead of it being done manually.

**Self learn mode** allows a totally unprogrammed system to function immediately power and battery are connected (without the need for device related text). The control panel will interrogate each device and assign an address (soft addressing). Manual zone allocation allows the installer to split the devices into zones.

**Short circuit isolator** Component in an addressable system that is able to isolate a detection loop at

both sides of a short circuit, minimising the loss of communication.