

SPOT LIGHT ON PD6662:2010

All notified alarm systems installed within the European Union must meet specific basic standards in order to be accepted by insurance companies, and to be allowed to summon a police response.

Background

- The most fundamental standards in the UK governing Intruder Alarms are those in the EN50131 series.
- Until recently, the two main documents that introduced UK specific changes to EN50131 were PD6662:2004 and DD243:2004. Since June 2012 however, these documents have been superseded by PD6662:2010 and BS8243 respectively.
- A large proportion of the changes concern the actual Intruder Alarm equipment installed but several of the changes directly affect the way systems are designed and installed. These changes are outlined below.

Changes to Setting of Intruder Alarms

- The setting of an Intruder Alarm must now be in two distinct stages. The first stage starts the procedure inside the premises and the second completes the setting outside the premises with a separate operation, timed exit is now prohibited.
- Practically this can be achieved by the closing of the final exit door or by pressing a Push-To-Set button outside the building.

Sequential Confirmation

- As with the previous standards, at least two independent detectors must be triggered within the confirmation time in order to start a confirmed alarm.
- BS8243 now eases the requirements of DD243 so that the intruder now only needs to activate one detector off the entry route, either during or after the entry time, in order to cause a confirmed alarm.

Installation of magnetic door contacts

- In situations where it is not possible to install a magnetic contact on the entry / exit door it is possible to use a PIR as the trigger for the entry route when unsetting the system using a digital key (tag/fob).

Changes to Hold Up (Panic Attack) Systems

- Hold up (Panic Attack) Systems now requires a minimum of two independent alarms within a defined confirmation time to transmit a signal to the police. This can be achieved through several methods:-
 - Activation of a multi action or two separate hold up devices
 - Audio Confirmation
 - Visual Confirmation
 - Telephone Confirmation
- Portable radio transmitters approved to Security Grade 2 can be used to report Hold Up Alarms on a Security Grade 3 (or 4) alarm system without reducing the overall Grade of the system to the lowest denominator.

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