

Code of practice for

Intruder alarm systems with mains wiring communication

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Furniture and Household Equipment Standards Policy Committee (FHM/-) to Technical Committee FHM/45, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association for Payment Clearing Services
- Association of Burglary Insurance Surveyors
- Association of Chief Police Officers of England and Wales
- Association of Metropolitan Authorities
- British Retailers' Association
- British Security Industry Association
- British Telecommunications plc
- Construction Security Advisory Service
- Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
- Department of the Environment (Property Services Agency)
- Electrical Contractors' Association
- Electrical Contractors' Association of Scotland
- Electrical Installation Equipment Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA Ltd.)
- Electricity Supply Industry in England and Wales
- Electronic Engineering Association
- Home Office
- Home Office Crime Prevention Centre
- Independent Associated Alarm Installers Ltd.
- Institution of Electrical and Electronics Incorporated Engineers
- Lloyds Syndicates
- Loss Prevention Council
- Metropolitan Police
- Ministry of Defence
- National Association of Goldsmiths of Great Britain and Ireland
- National Supervisory Council for Intruder Alarms
- Post Office
- Royal Institute of British Architects
- Telecommunication Engineering and Manufacturing Association
- Tobacco Advisory Council
- Wine and Spirit Security Liaison Ltd.

The following bodies were also represented in the drafting of the standard, through subcommittees and panels:

- British Fire Protection Systems Association Ltd.
- Department of Trade and Industry (Consumer Safety Unit, CA Division)
- Department of Trade and Industry (Radiocommunications Division)

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Furniture and Household Equipment Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 31 March 1989

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
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Foreword

This British Standard code of practice has been prepared under the direction of the Furniture and Household Equipment Standards Policy Committee. It provides recommendations for intruder alarm systems which use existing mains electrical circuits for the transmission of information between devices in the system.

The code of practice identifies three levels of system performance, in ascending order of sophistication as classes 1 to 3, concerned with the integrity of the information generated or received and aspects of interference with, or from, the system.

BS 6839 and Electricity Council Engineering Recommendation G22/2 identify general considerations appropriate to the use of mains wiring as a communications medium and should be consulted in conjunction with this code of practice, which is specific to intruder alarm systems.

This code of practice does not give any recommendations for degree of protection. A prospective customer should therefore consider carefully the extent and degree of protection required, having regard to the nature of the premises to be protected, the value of its contents and the prevailing circumstances. It should be recognized that comprehensive protection entails substantial expense but that no intruder alarm system can possibly detect all forms of unauthorized entry or be completely tamperproof.

The successful operation of an intruder alarm system requires the active cooperation of the user in carrying out the necessary procedures carefully and thoroughly. The usefulness and social acceptability of the system can be jeopardized by lack of care. This care has to extend to the security of keys and of information regarding the system, its design, installation and method of operation, and to ensuring adequate maintenance, to preserve the protection of property against criminal activity and to reduce the incidence of false alarms.

This code of practice relates only to complete systems and not to individual components in isolation. The accuracy of any claim that a system complies with this code of practice is the responsibility of the claimant under the Trades Description Act of 1968. It is emphasized that claims that individual components of an intruder alarm system are made in conformity or compliance with this code of practice would not be accurate as trade descriptions.

The Control of Noise (Code of Practice on Noise from Intruder Alarms) Order 1981 gives guidance on methods for reducing the incidence of nuisance caused by audible alarms. Action may be taken under the Control of Pollution Act 1974 or the Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 against anyone causing an audible alarm to sound unnecessarily.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations. In particular attention is drawn to the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975 SI 1366 as amended by the Electrical (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 1976 SI 1208 for equipment connected to the mains electricity supply and to the Regulations for Electrical Installations (15th Edition, 1981, IEE).

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 6, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.