

Installation and configuration of intruder alarm systems designed to generate confirmed alarm conditions — Code of practice

ICS 13.310

Committees responsible for this Draft for Development

The preparation of this Draft for Development was entrusted by Technical Committee GW/1, Electronic alarm systems, to Subcommittee GW/1/2, Installed alarm systems, upon which the following bodies were represented:

Alarms Inspectorate and Security Council
Association of British Insurers
Association of Burglary Insurance Surveyors
Association of Chief Police Officers of England and Wales
Association of Security Consultants
BRE/LPC Laboratories
British Bankers' Association
British Security Industry Association
Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
Electrical Contractors' Association
Metropolitan Police
National Security Inspectorate
Security Facilities Executive
Security Industry Training Organization
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Foreword

The preparation of this Draft for Development was entrusted by Technical Committee GW/1, Electronic security systems, to Subcommittee GW/1/2, Installed alarm systems. DD 243:2002 will come into effect on 1 July 2002 and will then supersede DD 243:1999 which will be withdrawn.

As a code of practice, this Draft for Development takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Annex A is normative. Annex B, Annex C and Annex D are informative.

DD 243 was drafted on the assumption that the execution of its provisions is entrusted to appropriately qualified and competent people.

A Draft for Development does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of Drafts for Development are responsible for their correct application.

This Draft for Development is not to be regarded as a British Standard.

DD 243 is to be applied on a provisional basis so that information and experience of its practical application may be obtained. A review of DD 243 is to be carried out no later than 2 years after publication. The start of the review period, with a request for submission of comments from users of DD 243, is to be announced in *Update Standards*¹⁾. In view of the replies received Subcommittee GW/1 will decide:

- whether DD 243 can be converted into a British Standard; or
- what other action to take.

Observations, which are felt should receive attention before the official call for comments, are welcomed.

Comments should be sent to the Secretary of Subcommittee GW/1/2 at BSI, British Standards House, 389 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 4AL, giving the document reference and clause number and proposing, where possible, an appropriate revision of the text.

Compliance with a Draft for Development does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 25 and a back cover.

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¹⁾ *Update Standards* is available from BSI, British Standards House, 389 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 4AL.

1 Scope

DD 243 gives recommendations for the design, installation and configuration of intruder alarm systems (IASs) that incorporate alarm confirmation technology, where such IASs have signalling systems that signal to an alarm receiving centre (ARC).

DD 243 also includes recommendations intended to minimize the likelihood of false alarms.

DD 243 should be read in conjunction with and supplements BS 4737, BS 6799, BS 7042, BS EN 50131 (as implemented by PD 6662), and BS 6799 as supplemented by DD 244 (i.e. for Class VI wire-free IASs).

Personal attack (hold up) alarms (whether they are stand-alone personal attack systems or the personal attack part of an IAS) are beyond the scope of DD 243.

NOTE 1 This does not mean that personal attack (i.e. deliberately-operated or hold up) devices should not be included as part of an IAS incorporating alarm confirmation technology.

NOTE 2 This Draft for Development is intended to apply to IASs installed in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Attention is drawn to the fact that certain parts of this Draft for Development may not be appropriate in Scotland, where the police service has not adopted a similar policy to the Security System Policy [1] adopted in 2000 by the Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

NOTE 3 Attention is drawn to the Data Protection Act 1998 [2] and the Human Rights Act 1998 [3]

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Draft for Development. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

BS 4737 (all parts), *Intruder alarm systems*.

BS 5979:2000, *Code of practice for remote centres receiving signals from security systems*.

BS 6799:1986, *Code of practice for wire-free intruder alarm systems*.

BS 7042:1988, *Specification for high security intruder alarm systems in buildings*.

BS EN 50131-1:1997, *Alarm systems — Intrusion systems — Part 1: General requirements*.

BS EN 50131-6, *Alarm systems — Intrusion systems — Part 6: Power supplies*.

BS EN 50136 (all parts), *Alarm systems — Alarm transmission systems and equipment*.

DD 244, *Code of practice for wire-free interconnections within intruder alarms*.

DD 245, *Code of practice for management of false alarms*.

PD 6662:2000, *Scheme for the application of European Standards for intruder alarm systems*.

3 Terms and definitions and abbreviations

For the purposes of DD 243, when IASs are installed to BS 4737, the definitions in BS 4737 apply. When IASs are installed to BS EN 50131 as implemented by PD 6662, the definitions in BS EN 50131 and BS EN 50136 apply. In addition, the following definitions apply.

3.1 Terms and definitions

3.1.1

alarm filtering

procedure whereby signalled alarm conditions are intentionally delayed at an ARC and their status reviewed for the purpose of cancelling certain alarm conditions, where such cancellation is authorized by the customer

3.1.2

alarm call

call from an ARC to the appropriate party (or parties), which indicates that an alarm condition has occurred at a protected premises, or which provides supplementary information concerning a previously reported alarm condition

3.1.3

alarm receiving centre

ARC

continuously manned remote centre in which the information concerning the status of one or more alarm systems is reported

[BS 5979:2000, definition 3.1.6]

3.1.4

alarm signal

signal which, upon being received at an ARC, or upon being received and processed at an ARC, identifies a signalled alarm condition

3.1.5

audibly confirmed

confirmed at an ARC by interpreting audio information transmitted from the protected premises and determining that there is a high probability that a genuine intrusion or a genuine attempted intrusion has occurred

3.1.6

audio listening device

ALD

instrument for converting sound waves into electrical energy variations for subsequent re-conversion into sound waves

NOTE A microphone is an example of an ALD.

3.1.7

audio monitoring device

AMD

device activated by sounds above a threshold

NOTE Typically, an AMD would incorporate a microphone.

3.1.8

confirmation time

time allowed for a sequentially confirmed alarm to occur after an unconfirmed alarm has occurred

3.1.9

control and indicating equipment

CIE

<IASs installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

equipment for receiving, processing, controlling, and initiating the onward transmission of information

[BS EN 50131-1:1997, definition 3.1.21]

3.1.10

control and indicating equipment

CIE

<IASs not installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

equipment necessary for the setting, unsetting and testing of an IAS and for sending an alarm condition to WDs and/or signalling equipment

NOTE BS 4737 uses the term “control equipment” for the definition given here as “control and indicating equipment”.

3.1.11

customer

person or organization purchasing the IAS and /or other alarm services from an alarm company and/or ARC

NOTE The term “customer” is synonymous with “subscriber” as used in BS 4737-1.

3.1.12

dual technology detector

detector that employs two different sensing technologies monitored by a common processor with a common alarm output

3.1.13**electric lock**

electromechanical means for keeping a door closed

3.1.14**extended format reporting**

notification to an alarm transmission system of which specific parts of an IAS have activated, generally in circuit, zone or area format

3.1.15**false alarm**

alarm condition which has not resulted from:

- a) a criminal attack, or attempt at such, upon/to the protected premises, the alarm equipment or the line carrying the alarm signal; or
- b) damage, or attempt at such, to the protected premises, the alarm equipment or the line carrying the alarm signal; or
- c) actions by emergency services in the execution of their duties; or
- d) a call emanating from a personal attack system made with good intent.

NOTE Activation of detectors without apparent damage or entry to the premises is considered a false alarm unless proven otherwise.

3.1.16**false alert**

signalled alarm condition, which is regarded by the ARC as cancelled, such cancellation having been authorized by the customer

3.1.17**final exit door**

door designated for exit from the protected premises

3.1.18**imaging device**

device that is able to capture an image in a form that can be transmitted to an ARC

NOTE A camera is an example of an imaging device.

3.1.19**initial entry door**

door designated for entry to the protected premises

3.1.20**listen-in**

action, by an ARC, of listening to stored audio and/or to live audio received from the protected premises

3.1.21**live audio**

audio information that is occurring in real time

3.1.22**mis-operation signal**

signal that is identifiable at the ARC as indicating that the IAS has mis-operated and therefore that the signalled alarm condition is to be cancelled and regarded as a false alert

NOTE The designation of a particular type of signal as a "mis-operation signal" is therefore a matter for agreement between the alarm company and ARC, with the concurrence of the customer.

3.1.23**notification**

<IASs installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

passing of an alarm, tamper or fault condition to warning devices and/or alarm transmission systems

[BS EN 50131-1:1997, definition 3.1.44]

3.1.24

notification

<IASs not installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

initiation of the transmission of an alarm condition from the protected premises to a remote location

NOTE BS 4737 uses the term “signalling” for the definition given here as “notification”.

3.1.25

portable ACE

portable ancillary control equipment used for setting and/or unsetting an IAS

3.1.26

protected premises

<IASs not installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

part of a building to which protection is afforded by an IAS

[BS 4737-1:1986, definition 2.1.2]

3.1.27

protected premises

<IASs installed in accordance with BS EN 50131>

part of a building and/or area in which a hazard may be detected by an alarm system

NOTE BS EN 50131:1997 uses the term “supervised premises” for the definition.

3.1.28

remote centre

location remote from the protected premises, in which the information concerned with the state of one or more alarm systems is collected either for reporting (e.g. an ARC) or for onward transmission

[BS 5979:2000, definition 3.1.23]

3.1.29

reset

process of removing an alarm or fault condition thereby enabling a system to be set

[BS 4737-1:1986, definition 2.1.12]

3.1.30

sequentially confirmed

emanating from two or more independent detectors, which are so configured that there is a high probability that a genuine intrusion or a genuine attempted intrusion has occurred

3.1.31

shunt lock

door lock incorporating a switching device within the lock case

[BS 4737-1:1986, definition 2.2.12]

3.1.32

signalled alarm condition

state of monitoring equipment at an ARC, which indicates an alarm condition

NOTE This does not preclude other signals (e.g. unset, set, mis-operation, fault) being received at an ARC.

3.1.33

stored audio

audio recording(s) made at a protected premises at, before and after the time of an alarm condition

3.1.34

system design specification

specification for a proposed IAS, listing the equipment and components to be supplied, detailing their proposed locations and containing a general indication of their coverage or purpose

3.1.35**system record**

detailed record of an IAS

NOTE 1 Attention is drawn to BS 4737-1:1986.

NOTE 2 Attention is drawn to prEN 50131-7:1998, which uses the term “as fitted document”.

3.1.36**tamper protection**

methods or means used to protect an alarm system or part thereof against deliberate interference

[BS EN 50131-1:1997, definition **3.1.68**]

3.1.37**transmission fault signal**

signal indicating a fault in the alarm transmission path

3.1.38**unconfirmed alarm**

alarm signal that has not been designated as audibly confirmed, visually confirmed or sequentially confirmed

3.1.39**user**

person authorized to operate an alarm system

[BS EN 50131-1:1997, definition **3.1.74**]

NOTE The customer (subscriber) can also be a user.

3.1.40**video monitoring device****VMD**

device that is activated by disturbances above a threshold

NOTE Typically a VMD would be incorporated into an imaging device.

3.1.41**visually confirmed**

confirmed at an ARC by interpreting visual information transmitted from the protected premises and determining that there is a high probability that a genuine intrusion or a genuine attempted intrusion has occurred

3.2**Abbreviations**

For the purposes of this code of practice, the following abbreviations apply:

ACE	Ancillary Control Equipment
ALD	Audio Listening Device
AMD	Audio Monitoring Device
ARC	Alarm Receiving Centre
CIE	Control and Indicating Equipment
IAS	Intruder Alarm System
VMD	Video Monitoring Device
WD	Warning Device