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3.1 Site Categories

3.1.1 Differences between different category sites

Category 1A(Upgrade) Sites:

There was only Category 1A(Upgrade) site installed in the UK; this was the original prototype system installed at Leamington Spa. This was replaced in 1997 and therefore there are no longer any Category 1A(Upgrade) sites in the UK.

Category 1B Sites:

The early SSI installations (except the prototype at Leamington Spa) were Category 1B sites. These where the first to incorporate the interlocking ID in the Data Link messages, and had redesigned Points and Signal modules, Data Link Modules and the ability to have multiple Central Interlocking (CI) joined via an Internal Data Link. There are no Category 1B sites still in use.

Category 2A Sites:

These sites have a redesigned central interlocking cubicle, with revised MPMs and PPMs (with removable Memory Modules) and a revised Technician's Terminal. There are no Category 2A sites still in use.

Category 2B Sites:

Category 2B sites allow the use of LDTs and also provide support for IECCs.

There are 2 types of Category 2B site, Standard Memory and Extended Memory. As the name suggests the Extended Memory versions have an increased memory capacity for interlocking and diagnostic data.

Category 3 Sites:

There are 2 types of Category 3 sites, both have MPMs with the main processor running at 2MHz instead of 1MHz. These 'faster' MPMs reduce the need for complex data structures to overcome the limitations of data processing speeds. This can help improve reliability, particularly in complex cross-boundary areas. ALSTOM and Westinghouse each manufacture equipment for Category 3 sites; these are known as a Category AL3A site and Category WS3A site respectively.

WESTLOCK and SMARTLOCK Sites:

WESTLOCK from Westinghouse and SMARTLOCK from ALSTOM have are replacements for the SSI Central Interlocking. Each can replace approximately five conventional SSI CI. They can be configured using

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standard SSI data, and interface with standard SSI trackside data links using special interface systems. These do not use SSI CI hardware (no MPMs or PPMs) and thus do not have an SSI Site Category.

3.1.2 Identifying the Site 'Category'

Check the BR Spec. number on the rear of the installed MPMs, if this is BR1905 (not BR1905A) then the site is a Category 1A(Upgrade) or 1B site. Note that these MPMs can also be identified by the absence of removable Memory Modules.

If the installed MPMs are to specification BR1905A (or ALSTOM MkIIA) then the software version needs to be checked to confirm the category of site. The software version is shown on a label on the front of the removable Memory Module.

Software to version C1 indicates that the site is a Category 2A site.

Software to version C3 or C5 indicates that the site is a Category 2B (Standard Memory) site.

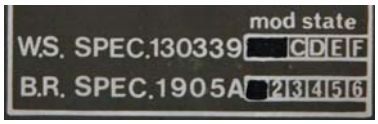
Software to version D2 or D4 indicates that the site is a Category 2B (Extended Memory) site.

If the installed MPMs are to Specification AL1905B, then the site is a Category AL3A site.

If the installed MPMs are to Specification MkWSIII, then the site is a Category WS3A site.

3.2 Module Identification

Each module has a plate on it containing the BR Spec. and modification state, and may also include the manufacturer's Spec and a manufacturer's mod state.



Example Spec. and Mod State Label

Where a mod state is referred to in documents, unless specifically stated as being the manufacturer's mod state, the BR mod state should be used. The first number of the BR mod state that is not crossed out is the module's current mod state.

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