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Design, installation and configuration of intruder and hold-up alarm systems designed to generate confirmed alarm conditions — Code of practice

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Summary of pages
This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 31, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 30 June 2021. It was prepared by Subcommittee GW/1/2, *Installed alarm systems*, under the authority of Technical Committee GW/1, *Electronic security systems and products*. A list of organizations represented on these committees can be obtained on request to the committee manager.

Supersession

This British Standard supersedes BS 8243:2010+A1:2014, which will be withdrawn on 30 June 2022.

Relationship with other publications

This British Standard is intended to be read in conjunction with BS EN 50131 (all parts) as implemented by PD 6662.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard and introduces the following principal changes:

- the previous provision for all intruder and hold-up alarm systems (I&HAS) to include sequential confirmation is now optional;
- removal of a number of prescriptive methods from Clause **5** that set recommendations for the design of audio or visual confirmation;
- removal of the provision to declare to the response authority when using detectors incorporating two movement detectors of the same technology within a single housing;
- confirmation of hold-up alarm (HUA) by telephone call back by an alarm receiving centre (ARC) is now permitted only for residential premises;
- confirmation procedures have changed to accommodate the different processes relating to sequential confirmation or where the confirmation status is decided at an ARC;
- removal of Clause **7**, which is to be included in an ARC standard, BS 9518; and
- addition of an option to set/unset the intruder alarm system (IAS) using a remote device.

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As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of recommendations and guidance. It is not to be quoted as if it were a specification. Users are expected to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Users may substitute any of the recommendations in this British Standard with practices of equivalent or better outcome. Any user claiming compliance with this British Standard is expected to be able to justify any course of action that deviates from its recommendations.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "should".

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

The word "should" is used to express recommendations of this standard. The word "may" is used in the text to express permissibility, e.g. as an alternative to the primary recommendation of the clause. The word "can" is used to express possibility, e.g. a consequence of an action or an event.

Notes and commentaries are provided throughout the text of this standard. Notes give references and additional information that are important but do not form part of the recommendations. Commentaries give background information.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. "organization" rather than "organisation").

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1 Scope

This British Standard gives recommendations for the design, installation and configuration of intruder and hold-up alarm systems (I&HAS) that incorporate alarm confirmation technology, where such I&HAS have signalling systems that signal to an alarm receiving centre (ARC) and require a police response.

It includes recommendations intended to minimize the likelihood of false alarms.

NOTE 1 Hold-up alarm system (HAS) alarm confirmation can be used as required in the NPCC and ACPOS/PS security systems policies [1] [2].

NOTE 2 Confirmation of a hold-up alarm (HUA) might be required to regain police response only where the URN (unique reference number) has been withdrawn following false alarms. See the NPCC and ACPOS/PS policies [1] [2].

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions of this document.[1)] For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS EN 50131 (all parts), *Alarm systems – Intrusion and hold-up systems*

BS EN 50131-1, *Alarm systems – Intrusion and hold-up systems – Part 1: System requirements*[2)]

BS EN 50131-3, *Alarm systems – Intrusion and hold-up systems – Part 3: Control and indication equipment*[3)]

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

DD CLC/TS 50131-7, *Alarm systems – Intrusion and hold-up systems – Part 7: Application guidelines*[4)]

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this British Standard, the terms and definitions given in BS EN 50131 (all parts) and BS EN 50136 (all parts) and the following apply.

3.1.1 alarm filtering

procedure whereby remotely notified alarm conditions are intentionally held at an ARC and their status reviewed for the purpose of cancelling certain alarm conditions, where such cancellation is authorized by the client

3.1.2 alarm receiving centre (ARC)

continuously manned centre to which information concerning the status of one or more I&HAS is reported

3.1.3 alarm signal

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

1) Documents that are referred to solely in an informative manner are listed in the Bibliography.
2) This standard also gives an informative reference to BS EN 50131-1:2006+A3:2020.
3) This standard also gives an informative reference to BS EN 50131-3:2009.
4) This standard also gives an informative reference to DD CLC/TS 50131-7:2010.

