

PRESS RELEASE

Intruder Alarms and a Harmonised European Standard

The Insurers' Property Crime Research (IPCRes) working group has issued its first guidance document: *Intruder Alarms and a Harmonised European Standard*.

The guidance:

- ? reviews the progress that has been made in pursuit of a harmonised European Standard for the design and installation of intruder alarms;
- ? offers practical advice for those uncertain about their choice of intruder alarm.

From 1 October 2005 all new intruder alarm systems in the United Kingdom must be designed and installed to comply with the appropriate Parts of the new European Standard, BS EN 50131: *Alarm systems. Intrusion systems* and the provisions of the related PD 6662: 2004: *Scheme for the application of European Standards for intruder and hold up alarm systems*.

An important variant from the old BS 4737 to the new BS EN 50131 standard is the incorporation of grading systems from 1 to 4 in terms of their security provision and the extent of the detection the system provides. The guidance document explores in detail these changes and the new grades system.

Contents: Introduction; The way forward; BS 4737 and BS EN 50131: the differences; Risk assessment; The Grades; Grade selection; Signalling; Specifying an intruder alarm system; DD 243: installation and configuration of systems; Documentation and claims of compliance; Apex 1: Work towards European harmonisation: BS EN 50131

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Notes for editors

For further information about this publication please contact Dominic Louks, press contact at the FPA on 01608 812500. '*Intruder Alarms and a Harmonised European Standard*' can be purchased from: FPA, London Road, Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 0RH priced at £10.00 per copy.

The Fire Protection Association is the UK's national fire safety organisation and is supported by the Association of British Insurers and Lloyd's.

InFiReS is a scheme operated by a group of insurance companies supporting a series of expert working groups and consultants who are researching and promulgating best practice for the protection of property and business from loss due to fire and other risks.

The IPCRes Working Group, under the *InFiReS* umbrella, is responsible for a large number of core insurance security documents providing authoritative guidance on crime prevention in the domestic and commercial sectors.