

Title	Contract Research Report 166: Management of alarm systems	
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Executive Summary	<p>This report describes a research project carried out by Bransby Automation Ltd to determine current best practice in the chemical and power industries on the procurement, design and management of alarm systems.</p> <p>A significant activity of the project has been to carry out visits to 15 chemical and power plants and to discuss alarm system performance issues with a variety of operations and engineering staff. Considerable information was obtained in the course of the visits. In addition, a questionnaire survey was made of 96 control room operators.</p> <p>The project also involved discussions with engineers at corporate engineering centres on the design and procurement of alarm systems, and a questionnaire survey of engineers involved in specifying alarm systems. There has also been a major review of literature on alarm systems.</p> <p>The above source information has been analysed to highlight current industry best practice. Recommendations are given on the management of existing alarm systems and the procurement of new ones.</p> <p>This report and the work it describes were funded by the Health and Safety Executive. Its contents, including any opinions and/or conclusions expressed, are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect HSE policy.</p>	
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