

NEW ACPO POLICY

ACPO has issued the latest version of its Policy Document for Security Systems, entitled "Police Response to Security Systems" effective from April 1st 2006. Much of the document remains unchanged, but there are some important changes that registered firms need to be aware of.

False Alarm Thresholds reduced

The threshold for withdrawal of response has been reduced for all systems from 5 false calls to 3, and this will be adopted by almost every force with the exceptions of the two London services. The Metropolitan Police and London City Police, will apply withdrawal levels of 3 for unconfirmed systems and 5 for confirmed systems. "Confirmed" may be taken to mean compliant with DD243:2002 or later.

Level 2 response is now withdrawn

The new ACPO Policy recognises only two levels of response, Level 1 and Level 3.

Level 1 – Immediate/Urgent

Level 3 – Response Withdrawn

Most forces are likely to discontinue level 2 but SSAIB is aware that a small number of police services may retain it. Registered firms should check with their local police.

New requirements for P/A (Hold-up) devices

Appendix T sets out a ten-point plan for the deployment of hold-up devices "P/A" buttons, deliberately-operated devices and duress codes etc.

SSAIB System Certificate Numbers needed for URN application

The Police services now require evidence of the certification of each system for which a URN application is made. This will be done by requiring the SSAIB (or NSI) certificate numbers to be included in the URN application form (Appendix F) where a field box has been added. SSAIB understands that URN applications are likely to be returned by the alarm administrators if this information is incomplete.