



Automatic Fire Alarm System Agreement

Guideline No. 1

Alarm Installation Location Requirements for FRNSW Response

Issued under Automatic Fire Alarm System Agreement
Terms and Conditions (AFA-C-01), clause 4

Field Operations Division

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to provide Automatic Fire Alarm Service Providers (AFASPs) with a guideline to determine the location and number of Alarm Installations required at their Customers' Protected Premises and Protected Sites to support regulatory authority and Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) requirements for Designated Entry Points, in accordance with *AS1670.1*, the *National Construction Code incorporating - Building Code of Australia (BCA)* and *AFA/CAD IP Communication System Interface Specification (AFA-S-01, AFA-S-03)*.

Note: AFASP's Customers' compliance with these requirements assists with effective and timely response by directing FRNSW firefighting vehicles to nominated Designated Building Entry Points (DBEPs) or Designated Site Entry Points (DSEPs).

- 1.2 This guideline also provides examples on how FRNSW applies charging for the initial and subsequent Alarm Installations at Protected Premises and Protected Sites.

Note: See *Schedule of AFASP Fees and Charges (AFA-P-30)*.

2 Definitions

Term	Definition
Designated Building Entry Point (DBEP)	An entry point to a building that provides fire fighters information identifying the location of a fire alarm. (consistent with AS 1670.1 and AS 2118.1)
Designated Site Entry Point (DSEP)	An entry to a site which provides fire fighters with information identifying the location of the building from which the alarm originated. (consistent with AS 1670.1 and AS 2118.1)
Mimic Panel	A repeater panel which shows in diagrammatic form the location of the alarm zones. (AS 2484.2)
Protected Site	A parcel or allotment of land containing one or more buildings under one ownership or management, with one or more Designated Site Entry Points and containing one or more Protected Premises.

Note: See also *Automatic Fire Alarm System Agreement Terms and Conditions (AFA-C-01)*, *clause 1.1: Definitions*.

3 Designated Entry Point Identification Requirements

3.1 Designated Entry Point Identification

- 3.1.1 The AFASP must ensure that DBEPs and DSEPs are nominated locations individually identifiable to FRNSW Communication Centres.
- 3.1.2 For large or complex Protected Premises and Protected Sites, AFASPs must ensure that their Customers consult with FRNSW during the fire protection system design stage to determine the number and location of DBEPs and DSEPs required.

3.2 Designated Building Entry Points (DBEPs)

- 3.2.1 The AFASP must ensure that each Protected Premises has a nominated DBEP. The DBEP will normally be the main entry to the building. The regulatory authority may require large or complex Protected Premises to be equipped with multiple DBEPs. The AFASP must ensure that where a Protected Premises has multiple DBEPs, each DBEP is recognised as a unique Alarm Installation.
- 3.2.2 The AFASP must ensure that at each Protected Premises the Fire Indicator Panel (FIP) is clearly visible and readily accessible at the DBEP or the fire control room, unless the FIP is remotely located, in which case a mimic panel, repeater panel or fire brigade panel is installed at the DBEP. The DBEP must be at the main entry to the Protected Premises unless an alternative entry that is acceptable to FRNSW is used.

3.3 Designated Site Entry Points (DSEPs)

- 3.3.1 The AFASP must ensure that where multiple Protected Premises stand on a Protected Site that has a single entry, that entry will be identified to FRNSW Communication Centres as a DSEP (for example, a gatehouse containing mimic panels which can be used to identify specific Protected Premises).
- 3.3.2 The regulatory authority may require large or complex Protected Sites to have multiple DSEPs. The AFASP must ensure that each DSEP is recognised as a unique Alarm Installation.
- 3.3.3 If a Protected Site with multiple DSEPs has physical barriers preventing access by FRNSW fire fighting vehicles via any DSEP to a Protected Premises, the AFASP must ensure that additional Alarm Installations are installed to identify each DSEP.
- 3.3.4 Where multiple DSEP are provided, Protected Premises must be identified on arrival at the DSEP, via an FIP, Sub-indicator Panel or Mimic Panel, or by means of a visual external alarm indication (red strobe light) on the outside of the Protected Premises, which is visible from the DSEP providing access to the Protected Premises.

4 Designated Entry Point and Charging Examples

4.1 Example 1

4.1.2 Protected Premises Description

The Protected Premises is a multi-storey Class 5 building with one main entry and street frontage. The building contains a smoke detection system and one AS2118 system with four or fewer sprinkler control assemblies. Both systems are reported via the main FIP which is located in the main entry lobby.

4.1.3 **Designated Entry Point**

The DBEP is the main entry lobby.

4.1.4 **Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging**

One Alarm Installation Address ID will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for a initial Alarm Installation.

4.2 Example 2

4.2.1 **Protected Premises Description**

The Protected Premises is a multi-storey Class 5 building located on a street corner or between two parallel streets. The building has a main entry lobby and an alternate entry lobby on the second street frontage. The building contains a smoke detection system and one *AS2118* system with four or fewer sprinkler control assemblies. Both systems are reported via the main FIP, which is located in main entry lobby. A Mimic Panel is located in the second entry lobby.

4.2.2 **Designated Entry Point**

The DBEP is the main entry lobby. The Mimic Panel is not considered to be a separate DBEP.

4.2.3 **Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging**

One Alarm Installation Address ID will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for a initial Alarm Installation

4.3 Example 3

4.3.1 **Protected Premises Description**

The Protected Premises is a large Class 6 building, a shopping centre with entries on two street frontages.

4.3.2 **Designated Entry Point**

If FRNSW is consulted during the fire protection system design stage it is likely that multiple entries will be nominated as DBEPs.

4.3.3 **Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging**

It is likely that two Alarm Installation Address IDs will be assigned, in which case FRNSW will charge the AFASP for two initial Alarm Installations.

Note: If there is only one FIP with two Alarm Installations at the same address FRNSW will charge the AFASP for a initial Alarm Installation and a subsequent Alarm Installation.

4.4 Example 4

4.4.1 **Protected Premises Description**

The Protected Premises is a large Class 7(b) warehouse it has a single entry and street frontage. The warehouse contains a smoke detection system and an *AS2118* system with 20 sprinkler control assemblies. Both systems are reported via the main FIP, which is in the main entry to the warehouse.

4.4.2 **Designated Entry Point**

The DBEP is the main entry to the warehouse.

4.4.3 **Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging**

One Alarm Installation Address ID will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for an initial Alarm Installation.

4.5 Example 5

4.5.1 Protected Site Description

The Protected Site comprises a Class 7(b) warehouse with a separate Class 5 administration building on the same site. The Protected Site has a single entry and street frontage. The warehouse contains a smoke detection system and an AS2118 system with 20 sprinkler control assemblies. The administration building contains a smoke detection system. All systems are reported via the main FIP, which is located in the gatehouse.

4.5.2 Designated Entry Point

The DSEP is the gatehouse.

4.5.3 Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging

One Alarm Installation Address ID will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for an initial Alarm Installation.

4.6 Example 6

4.6.1 Protected Site Description

The Protected Site is an aged care facility comprising five separate buildings on the same site. The Protected Site has a single entry via a gatehouse and a single street frontage. Each building contains a smoke detection system reported by an FIP in that building. Each FIP is mimicked at the gatehouse.

4.6.2 Designated Entry Point

The DSEP is the gatehouse.

4.6.3 Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging

One Alarm Installation Address ID will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for an initial Alarm Installation.

4.7 Example 7

4.7.1 Protected Site Description

The Protected Site is an aged care facility comprising five separate buildings on the same site. The Protected Site has two entries via gatehouses. Some Protected Premises are accessible by FRNSW fire fighting vehicles only via the gatehouse at the main entry, and other Protected Premises are accessible only via the gatehouse at the second entry. Each Protected Premises contains a smoke detection system reported by an FIP in that building. Each FIP is mimicked at the relevant gatehouse.

4.7.2 Designated Entry Point

If FRNSW is consulted during the fire protection system design stage it is likely that multiple gatehouses will be nominated as DSEPs. The two DSEPs are the gatehouses at the site's main entry and second entry.

4.7.3 Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging

Two Alarm Installation Address IDs will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for two initial Alarm Installations.

4.8 Example 8

4.8.1 Protected Site Description

The Protected Site is a university comprising many separate buildings on the same site. The Protected Site is a large campus being tens or hundreds of hectares in area. Buildings contain a variety of appropriate, specialised fire protection systems including AS2118 sprinkler systems and thermal alarms. Some buildings contain high risk areas which justify independent Sub-indicator Panels. The university has several entries via gatehouses on multiple street frontages. There is the potential to mimic each Sub-indicator Panel at any or all gatehouses, or to provide a visual external alarm indication (red strobe light) on the outside of some Protected Premises which are visible from the closest gatehouses. There may be physical barriers preventing access by FRNSW fire fighting vehicles, or FRNSW may judge the use of public streets around the Protected Site to be more effective than the gatehouses as a means of site entry.

Note: Campus buildings that are not within a security protected campus and are accessible for firefighting directly from public streets are not considered to be part of a Protected Site, and are therefore required to be treated as individual Protected Premises.

4.8.2 Designated Entry Point

If FRNSW is consulted during the fire protection system design stage it is likely that multiple gatehouses will be nominated as DSEPs.

4.8.3 Alarm Installation Address ID and FRNSW Charging

Two or more Alarm Installation Address IDs will be assigned, and FRNSW will charge the AFASP for an initial Alarm Installation and subsequent Alarm Installations.

5 Contact for Further Information

5.1 For further information or assistance the AFASP may contact FRNSW's Field Operations Business Services (phone 02 9742 7550), which will refer the AFASP to the relevant Fire Safety Branch.

6 References

Identifier	Title
AFA-P-30	<i>Schedule of AFASP Fees and Charges</i>
AFA-S-01 AFA-S-03	<i>AFA/CAD IP Communication System Interface Specification AFA/CAD IP Communication System Interface Specification: Appendix B:NSW</i>
AS1670.1-2004	<i>Fire Detection, Warning, Control and Intercom Systems - System Design, Installation and Commissioning - Fire</i>
AS2118.1-1999	<i>Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems - General Requirements</i>
	<i>Building Code of Australia (BCA)</i>