

# Analog Addressable Fire Alarm System

# VS

# Conventional Fire Alarm System



In today's world of technology, addressable fire alarm systems have become the choice for the best type of fire alarm system to install for virtually all fire alarm system installations.

While there is still a place and application for conventional fire alarm systems, such as monitoring sprinkler systems, addressable fire alarm systems are typically the best way to go. **Conventional Fire Alarm Systems** are simply wiring based, while **Addressable Fire Alarm Systems** are still wiring based, but also include programming and software features. **Conventional Fire Alarm Systems** are zoned per large areas with multiple devices sharing the same description of that zone. **Addressable Fire Alarm Systems** have unique descriptions per device and offer multiple levels of troubles, maintenance alerts, and abnormal conditions per device, all using a unique description per device for pinpoint accuracy and status within the protected facility.



# Analog Addressable Fire Alarm System **VS** Conventional Fire Alarm System



Having unique descriptions and addresses per device offers many benefits when using an Addressable Fire Alarm System as compared to a Conventional Fire Alarm System. The unique description gives responding personnel a more accurate description of the exact location of origination of the fire alarm. This individual description can also be uniquely transmitted off site to responding emergency personnel or

fire departments which saves time in locating the fire. When you have a Conventional Fire Alarm System, the description includes multiple devices within a zoned area which only gives a general description of the alarm location. This may force the emergency personnel to search a much larger area for the alarm origination point. Searching larger areas slows down response time in fighting the fire, which causes the fire more time to grow, which causes more property damage and more potential threat to life safety.

It is true that panels and devices for Addressable Fire Alarm Systems cost more than panels and devices for Conventional Fire Alarm Systems. However, installation costs for Addressable Fire Alarm Systems cost less and take less time to install when compared to installation costs for Conventional Fire Alarm Systems. Addressable Fire Alarm System's wiring can be "T-Tapped", whereas, Conventional Fire Alarm Systems must have redundancy in wiring to maintain supervision integrity for the wiring. This can save more than 30% in wiring necessary, which also cuts down on installation time. The more devices in the system or the larger the system, the more prevalent these savings become. Since equipment and device costs differences have become so minimal when comparing the two different types of systems, it doesn't take a very large system until it actually becomes more economical to choose an Addressable Fire Alarm System. Some say if the system requires more than 10 initiating devices; it is more economical to use an Addressable System. Maintenance costs become even more prevalent because Addressable Systems are much easier to troubleshoot and service than Conventional Fire Alarm Systems. Addressable Fire Alarm Systems give you more detail and log more information than Conventional Fire Alarm Systems. This saves time in analyzing and finding the source of the problem; which in turn, saves money.



**There are many additional features and benefits to using an Addressable Fire Alarm System as opposed to a Conventional Fire Alarm System.**



- Addressable Fire Alarm Systems can be programmed to have Day/Night Sensitivity
- Addressable detectors can have their own unique sensitivity individually
- Addressable Systems have maintenance alert capabilities
- Drift Compensation for dirty detectors
- Addressable Fire Alarm Systems have the capability to log each device individually

Every application is different but I think you can see the definite advantages to using an Addressable Fire Alarm System over a Conventional Fire Alarm System. In most cases it is more economical and you get so many more features. In cases where it is not more economical, the advantages almost always outweigh the minimal cost differences.

**Contact SecurCom Today to discuss your Fire Alarm System options!**

**800.949.4724**

