



# STA guide to wireless on-site fire alarm systems

Guidance to reduce fire risk during construction

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# Wireless on-site fire alarm systems

The STA represents the structural timber industry and has prepared this data sheet in order to present to main contractors, insurers and professional advisors the recommendations of the STA members with regards to appropriate fire alarm systems.

The STA is continuously researching all relevant aspects of fire safety. Revised guidance will be available on a regular basis. Please contact the STA for the latest information.

## Current guidance

*The STA has current guidance on site fire prevention, Site Safe and the 16 Steps to fire safety on structural timber frame construction sites. For further information on these, please see the end of this document*

## Wire-free fire detection and alarm systems for timber frame construction sites

Site fire prevention is essential in combating the risk from arson or even the unlikely event of accidental fire. However, if a fire does start, the speed with which it can be fought becomes of greatest importance for both life and property safety.

In the case of arson, it is the speed with which the fire service can be alerted which will have the greatest impact on the amount of damage incurred.

In the event of a fire starting during working hours, early alarm will provide additional time for site workers to exit the site safely.

Wireless detection and alarm solutions are available for timber frame construction sites. Fast, easy to use and no wires, mess and little disruption. The impracticalities of wired alarm systems usually result in no system being installed within the building during construction. A wireless detection and alarm system solves the impracticality problems by omitting the most impractical aspect- the wires.

A wireless detection and alarm system would provide invaluable time at the most crucial point in the life and property safety process.

Features of a wireless detection and alarm system are:

- Radio heat detectors / alarms
- Optical smoke detector / alarm
- Wireless sounders / beacons
- 6 alarm zones with individual identification of the device in alarm
- 100 metre operating distance (can be extended)
- Radio controlled panel to connect up to 100 radio detection devices
- Push Button detector, manual call point, with Isolator.
- Internal battery back-up

For further information on wireless alarm systems contact the STA.



## Site Safe

The Site Safe procedure has been developed by the STA to ensure manufacturing member companies work closely with principal contractors/clients to give clear concise information and assistance to the principal contractor regarding fire safety on construction sites.

Adoption of Site Safe is a mandatory requirement of membership of the STA on 'large' timber frame projects.

Site Safe is a procedural process which may necessitate actions to prevent site fires as a result of an individual risk assessment. The risk assessment should consider the items contained in the 16 Steps document.

Site Safe is a 3 stage process for use in the pre-construction planning stage, the site stage when the timber frame is being erected and after the STA member company has handed over the structure to the principal contractor or client.

Full details of Site Safe can be found at [HERE](#)

## The 16 Steps

A key part of the Site Safe process is the adherence to the "16 steps to fire safety on timber frame construction sites". This is a recent document prepared by the STA which outlines the process which must be gone through in order to perform a thorough risk analysis of a structural timber construction site.

The document can be downloaded from the members area of the STA website.

The use of an STA member will ensure Site Safe, 16 Steps and all other relevant fire prevention and safety legislation is followed. Only the use of STA members can achieve this; membership of the STA is the guarantee of quality in the structural timber industry.



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