

THE IMPORTANCE OF UPDATING FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

Upgrades ensure asset protection, life safety, and compliance.

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Upgrading fire alarm systems is an important investment for building owners. Ensuring fire safety systems are up to date not only enhances safety and compliance, but also safeguards assets and futureproofs buildings against evolving regulations and technological advancements.

Futureproof your asset

A modern fire alarm system integrates the latest innovations in fire, smoke, and heat detection and emergency response, providing confidence and reliability for the facility owner and service manager. Upgrading your system will ensure compliance with the latest government regulations and industry standards while aligning with best practices in fire protection, environmental sustainability, and health safety.

Reduce downtime and enhance performance

Older systems with outdated technology are more susceptible to faults, failures, and inefficiencies due to system degradation and often experience prolonged downtime due to the challenges of sourcing obsolete replacement parts. In contrast, a new system benefits from easy access to spare parts and fast repairs, as well as provides enhanced overall system efficiency and reliability.

If a system reaches the end of its life and is unrepairable, the building may face lengthy lead times before a new system can be installed, leaving it vulnerable and requiring temporary protection solutions in the interim.

Comprehensive system considerations

An optimal fire system upgrade should encompass more than just the fire alarm panel. It is essential to consider the facilities' detectors, cables, and ancillary items such as connectors and



mounting trays. These components have stringent standards and require specific approvals and certifications to ensure optimal protection and performance during a fire event.

Best practice is to ensure that all items have the relevant approvals, such as ActivFire® and SAI Global certifications, and appropriate fire ratings. During the upgrade, also consider scalability and ability to accommodate future needs, technological advancements, or regulatory changes.

The value of life safety system upgrades

Recognising the obsolescence of life safety systems early allows for more effective financial planning (capital expenditure for system upgrades) and significantly reduces the risk of leaving an asset unprotected. By staging the work and maintaining a clear understanding of the system's current condition, businesses can ensure their fire alarm systems remain up to date, avoiding unexpected costs and mitigating potential risks. ■

THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCED PARTNERS

Upgrading fire systems, particularly in complex facilities, requires experience and technical expertise. FireSense is an Australian-owned specialist supplier of fire alarm equipment and Fire Rated cables to installers, wholesalers, and service companies. They have successfully delivered many of Australia's largest projects, including numerous system upgrades across various industries.

Employing more than 80 staff nationwide and having the largest technical team in Australia (with more than 10 dedicated experts), FireSense uses advanced software, tools, and processes to ensure efficient operations and exceptional after-sales support.

FireSense also has a dedicated team specialising in system upgrades, offering support throughout the planning and delivery of projects. This team collaborates closely with customers to understand their unique challenges, to recommend the latest fire and life safety technologies, and provide solutions that futureproof systems and safeguard assets for years to come.

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