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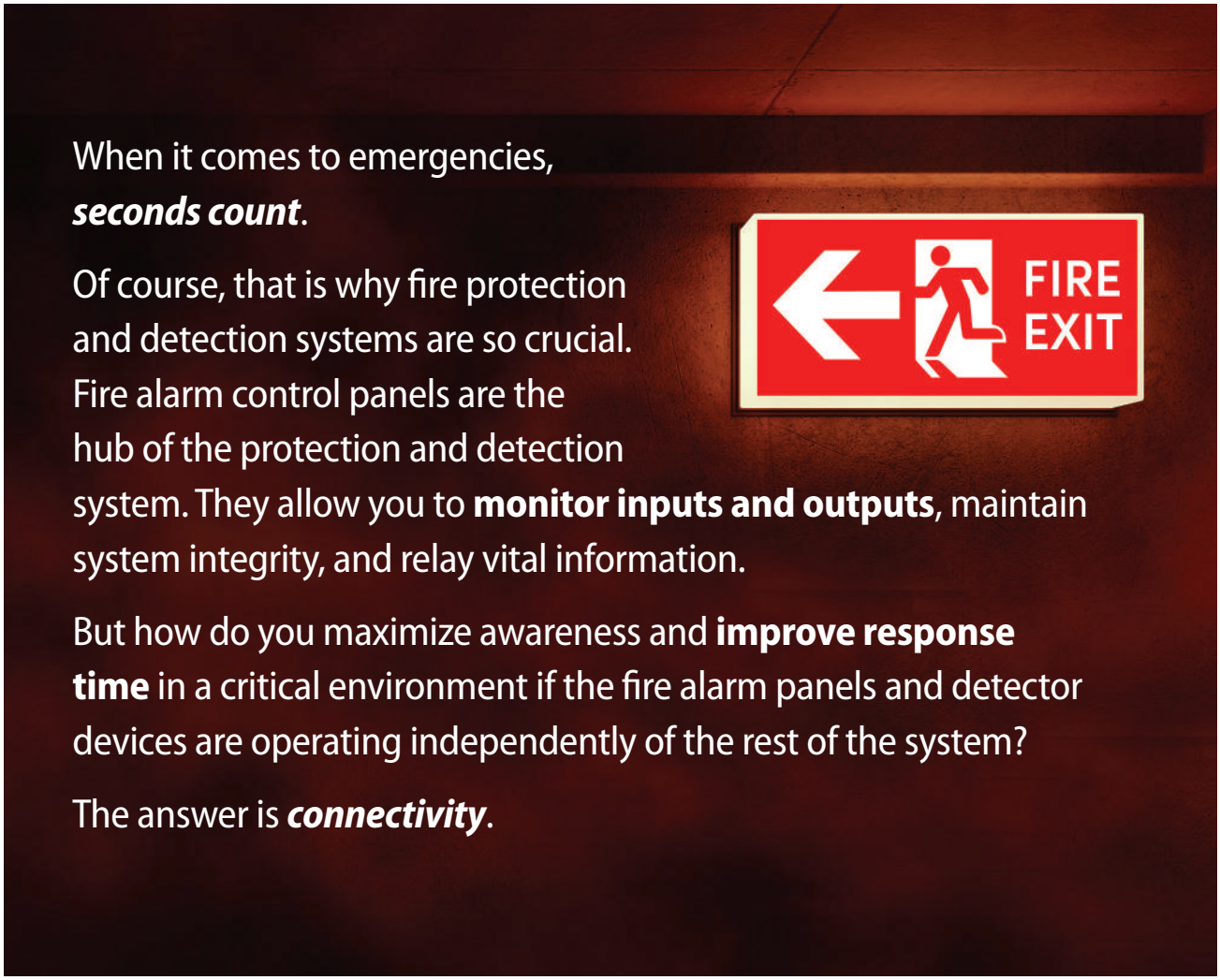
An MSA FieldServer White Paper

Fire Alarm-to-SCADA Integration

A Roadmap to Fast, Cost- Effective Connection



The Rise of Interconnectivity

When you need to act swiftly and seamlessly, here's what a connected system can help you do:

- Improve visibility within the field
- Increase efficiencies by monitoring performance
- Automate real-time information with the support of a variety of protocols
- Minimize risk and reduce loss resulting from false alarms and limited information
- Receive faster, more relevant data for analysis, tracking, and logging

Connecting all your fire-related devices to a SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) network or BMS (building management system) adds visibility and insight into the status of your fire detection system.

If only connectivity was that simple. For many, however, it is not.

The reason why is straightforward. Sensors, actuators, and third-party devices need a means by which they can interface with the SCADA, whether that is via BACnet/IP, Modbus, or another protocol.

That, then, begs the question: "How do I connect fire alarm panels to the SCADA system and how do I do it cost effectively and in a timely manner?"

The Solution for Making the Connection

Advanced technologies can SIMPLIFY AND STREAMLINE CONNECTIVITY.

Why FieldServer?

Get FAST, SECURE ENTRY INTO THE IIOT CLOUD (Industrial Internet of Things).

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION	Easy to use. Simple to install. Works with dashboards, analytics, and other cloud applications.
FAST START	Eliminates trial and error. Set-it-and-forget-it because FieldServer technicians can program the common configurations.
COST-EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION	No need to invest in expensive IT infrastructure.
NO MISSED DEVICES	Automatic device recognition and permission-based connection. No need to understand registers and the like.
SECURE	Robust penetration testing and certified protocols.
UNPARALLELED CONNECTIONS	Features industry-leading interconnection of 140+ different protocols, including Siemens, Edwards, Notifier, Simplex, Silent Knight, and Hochiki.
UNMATCHED SUPPORT	Supports hundreds of devices as well as you and your team, thanks to OEM training, custom user manuals, and the best service in the industry.

No BACnet? No problem – here's what to do.

FieldServer is manufacturer-agnostic. That means regardless of which building automation protocol or fire alarm devices you use, FieldServer can be your solution.

FieldServer has more experience with a wider variety of fire alarm panel protocols and Industry standard protocols than any other single gateway, including:

- BACnet
- XML over HTTP
- KNX
- LonWorks
- Modbus
- EtherNet/IP
- +80 more

Obviously, fire detection is an extremely important part of any SCADA system. Because of the nature of life and safety, organizations naturally have been cautious about adopting technologies that enable connectivity.

Yet, FieldServer has advanced the ease and capability of linking disparate devices from most major fire alarm control panels to a point where now is the time.

Unique Considerations

Here are some things to ask yourself before moving toward connectivity and choosing a gateway solution for fire alarms:

- ☐ Have you experienced false alarms?
- ☐ Have you been left unaware of the nature of the trigger and the severity of the incident?
- ☐ Would you like to increase visibility with respect to life and safety?
- ☐ What types of tertiary fire alarm control panel information would be most helpful to you?
- ☐ Will the solution integrate various and disparate devices into the SCADA or BMS?
- ☐ Do you need for remote and/or mobile access to the SCADA so you can troubleshoot fire alarm panels and devices at any time, in any location, from any place?
- ☐ Does the gateway solution support standard SCADA protocols? Does it support yours?
- ☐ Does the gateway solution allow connection to the full SCADA system as well as the cloud?
- ☐ Is the gateway solution tried and tested and does it outperform others?
- ☐ Does the gateway solution speed time to market and is it cost effective?

Next Steps

- Are you ready to start the journey to connectivity?
- Remember, FieldServer allows you to remotely monitor alarms, check the status of signals, and access valuable real-time data about the performance and operation of systems.
- Even better, it lets you do all this through the SCADA or via the cloud, anytime, anywhere.
- To find out how you can benefit from the latest technologies, talk to your MSA Safety representative.

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0700-167-MC / 06.2021