

As not all of you are interested in all areas of development, I have grouped the update together under a range of headings to allow you to dip in and out of the material as relevant.

Security Systems

The certification of organisations supplying electronic security systems still represents the majority of our activities but other areas are gradually expanding as mentioned below. During 2008 we held a number of 'workshops' intended to assist organisations supplying intruder alarm systems to understand the risk assessments required by the European standard.

The development of British and European standards for intruder alarm systems continued during 2008 such that we now have standards for all the basic elements of an intruder alarm system: control panels, movement detectors, magnetic contacts, power supplies and warning devices. Work is progressing on the development of standards for break glass detectors. Also the standards applicable to alarm transmission systems are currently being revised to address changes in technology, e.g. systems using IP techniques and also to simplify the EN 50136 series.

Part 1 (the 'system requirements') of the EN 50132 series of standards for CCTV systems has been conspicuous by its absence for the past 10 years since the series was first introduced. To compensate, we introduced our own code of practice to deal with this situation. I can report that work on EN 50132-1 has proceeded apace and a draft document was circulated to national committees for a 'Yes/No' vote in March. If the result of the vote is positive EN 50132-1 should be published by the end of 2009. Our code of practice will continue to fill the void until this part of the standard has passed through due process and is published.

The task of developing a range of standards for access control systems has now been passed on to the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). Consequently, the existing standards, first published in late 1990's, are being revised at an International rather than a European level and this may take some time!

A European Standard for "Security Fog" devices is also being developed and is now at a mature stage. A draft was circulated to national committees for vote in November 2008, this vote was successful and we can expect this standard to be published later this year. When published, this new standard will replace BS 7939.

Work has also commenced, at a European level, on the development of a series of standards for Alarm Receiving Centres which will ultimately replace BS 5979. The standard is in three parts: location and construction; technical requirements and procedures, and requirements relating to the operation of an alarm receiving centre. Drafts of Parts 1 and 2 have already been circulated by BSI for public comment. The next stage for these documents is for the drafting committee to consider comments and prepare drafts for voting. Accepting the stages these standards have yet to pass through I would not expect to see the standards published until 2010. There will probably be a period of 5 years, from the date of publication, before our UK standards have to be withdrawn so I would estimate it would be around 2014/15 before the new standards become mandatory.

Fire

With the launch of the CFOA Policy and the ever-growing impact of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (RRFSO): 2005, the demand for certification of organisations designing installing and maintaining automatic fire alarm systems is steadily increasing.

The RRFSO extends the responsibility to undertake a Risk Assessment and act upon it beyond just employers to a wider range of duty holders including employees other occupants and owners. The responsibility will rest where the material control of the premises rests, i.e. the "Responsible Person". The 'responsible person' is obliged to ensure that any fire protection systems are adequate and fit for purpose and the safest way they can do this is to use certified firms. Geoff Rendall's article in relation to this is very relevant.

In addition to this, the *Chief Fire Officer's Association* (CFOA) has published a policy document to reduce false alarms and it strongly recommends certification of system and service providers.

In terms of standards, the BS 5839 series has continued to be revised and extended. In 2008 we saw the publication of Amendment No 2 to BS 5839-1 and the publication of a new version of BS 5839-8, dealing with *Voice Fire Alarm* systems.

Security Guarding Services

Whilst security systems standards are now developed in Europe, (or in the case of access control systems, Internationally), standards applicable to security (manned) guarding services are still developed in the UK. In 2008 we saw the publication of a revised version of BS 7984: 2008 *Key-holding and Response Services* and the publication of BS 8507-1: 2008 *Close Protection Services* within the UK.

There are a few significant changes to the revised BS 7984: 2008 and many minor editorial changes. The significant changes include new sections on contracts, documents and data and an additional requirement for the control of keys e.g. a weekly check of keys and key registers by management.

BS 8507-1 is a new standard and gives recommendations for the management, staffing and operational accountability for the provisions of Close Protection Services within the UK.

BS 8507 – 2 *Close Protection Services outside of the UK* and BS 8523 *Operations and Management of Warden's Scheme* are at drafting stage; BS 8517: 2009 *Use of General Purpose Security Dogs* and BS 8484 *Protection of Lone Workers* are out for public comment.

SIA

Thanks to the hard work of Geoff Rendall and Lynn Watts-Plumpkin, from January 1st 2009, SSAIB is able to offer its PASSPORT certification scheme to firms that provide Security Guarding, Mobile Patrols, Keyholding and Response Services, Door Supervision and CCTV Management and Operations. It is ideal for firms that wish to achieve ACS approved status, but also suitable for firms that have already achieved ACS status and wish to maintain it.

The Passport scheme is the third route option for firms wishing to gain SIA ACS status, the others being the Standard and Fast Track routes. SSAIB has taken this additional route option to ensure that cost-effective choices are available to all its certification clients.

For more information email Lynn Watts-Plumpkin at SSAIB (lynn@ssaib.org).

ISO 9001

November saw the publication of ISO 9001: 2008. This will replace the '2000' version and will be introduced over the next 2 years. The '2008' version of the standard does not include any new requirements, so firms with ISO 9001 need not be too concerned. You may also be pleased to hear there will be no additional costs associated with the changeover to the new standard as this will be done during our routine surveillance inspections.

Ireland

Our activities in Ireland continue to grow and we intend to increase our presence in Ireland during 2009 though a range of promotional events. I mentioned ISEC in my earlier piece, also we plan to hold 'Regional Forums' for registered firms and any other organisation wanting to join our schemes. Subject to demand SSAIB will also be

holding 'risk assessment' workshops for firms installing intruder alarm systems. These will explain the requirements of IS CLC/TS 50131-7 and provide guidance on how its risk assessments can be conducted in accordance with the standard.

Reflecting our commitment to supporting our customers in Ireland, Dave Roscoe will be carrying out all assessment and surveillance inspections in the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland with respect to our security systems scheme. Lynn Watts-Plumpkin will continue looking after our security guarding services scheme in Ireland.

We have also gained UKAS Accreditation (product and quality management systems) for a number of schemes: Guarding Services to IS 999:2004; Electronic Security Systems – Monitoring Services to SR 41:2005 and Alarm Systems, Access Control, CCTV to SR 40:2005 and Monitoring Centres for Intruder Alarms to IS 228: 1997.

During 2008 SSAIB attended all of the Certification Body Forums hosted by the Private Security Authority. SSAIB's contribution to these events has been received in a very positive manner. Lynn and David will continue to represent SSAIB at these forums, bringing their individual expertise to bear.

BS EN ISO/IEC 17021

Whilst all the above work we do on standards impacts upon your business, BS EN ISO/IEC 17021 has a similar impact upon ours. To enable SSAIB to offer Quality Management Systems certification in accordance with the requirements of ISO 9001, we are accredited by UKAS in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 45012. However this standard has been replaced with BS EN 17021 and earlier in the year SSAIB was assessed against this standard. I am pleased to report we have gained our accreditation in accordance with the new standard and can continue to provide quality management systems certification to you.

The new standard has a major benefit in that it applies to all 'management systems' and we are now in the process of applying for accreditation to offer certification in accordance with BS EN 14001 Environmental management systems.

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