



# Supervisory Smoke ID

The preferred solution where the probability of unwarranted alarms is high or where smoke sensitivity is set to an extremely low level for use as a maintenance alert.

## Improved Management of Nuisance Alarms

A common characteristic of highly sensitive smoke sensors is that the stimuli smoke sensors respond to are commonly found in the environment. Therefore, the more sensitive the smoke sensor is, the more prone it is to nuisance alarms.

A nuisance alarm occurs when a smoke sensor reacts to stimuli that are under most circumstances, allowed in the environment and do not represent a hostile fire. Examples are burning toast, tobacco smoke, release of aerosols such as air fresheners, hair spray or insecticides and many more. When these stimuli trigger a smoke sensor through no direct intent, the result is a nuisance alarm.

Supervisory Smoke ID programmed into every NOTIFIER ONYX® Series fire control panel, provides the ability to use the most sensitive settings on sensors to create a maintenance intervention alert, instead of a general alarm, and without summoning the fire department. Through Supervisory Smoke ID, fire alarm systems today include preventive functions that high sensitivity can provide.

## Improved Response to Unwarranted Alarms

A fundamental change has occurred in the approach to fire systems in multiple family dwellings, hotels, motels and dormitories due to the overwhelming problem with unwarranted alarms caused by cooking, shower steam and cigarette smoke. Under the new standards, a smoke alarm in a dwelling is prohibited from causing the general building alarm to sound. The new standard is written for dwellings being protected by stand-alone 120 VAC smoke alarms that sound only in the dwellings. Using Supervisory Smoke ID, intelligent systems can comply with these same requirements.

A second requirement is if one smoke alarm goes off, all alarms must go off within a dwelling unit. ONYX Series fire panels meet this requirement through the use of sounder bases and advanced programming. NFPA Chapter 11 is clear that smoke alarms in the dwelling cannot cause a General Alarm to sound or result in the dispatch of the fire department. However, heat detectors should cause an alarm. These two requirements create an interesting complexity that more sophisticated fire alarm systems, like the NOTIFIER ONYX Series, can handle much better than direct wire devices.

## Residential Applications

In residential applications, Supervisory Smoke ID:

- Meets the new NFPA requirements for new apartments, hotels/motels and dormitories to avoid evacuating an entire building caused by a nuisance alarm in one dwelling unit.
- Allows intelligent systems to comply with the requirement for smoke detectors/ sensors in residential units to sound only in the dwelling where they are installed but still have local proprietary monitoring and central station notification.
- Allows proprietary monitoring, in accordance with NFPA-72 3.3.193.2, which reports alarms for investigation on a local basis.





## Reduce Business Interruption and Data Loss

Supervisory Smoke ID allows early detection of overheating equipment to reduce or prevent business interruption. Fire statistics clearly demonstrate that the cost of business interruption greatly exceeds the cost associated with the physical loss of the property itself. By sensing the problem in the very early stages, maintenance people can be alerted to adjust, repair or replace the overheating equipment before the fire occurs, reducing downtime to minutes instead of days or weeks.

More costly than business interruption is data loss. By sensing overheating equipment the loss of data can be minimized, or prevented. This is especially true for accounting, sales and transaction records. Supervisory Smoke ID also allows monitoring of overheating printed circuit boards, without nuisance alarms.

## Commercial Applications

In commercial applications, Supervisory Smoke ID:

- Allows smoke sensors placed in equipment enclosures, cabinets and server/ telephone rooms to be set at the most sensitive setting for quickly sensing overheating equipment prior to serious damage occurring.
- Upon activation, these smoke sensors can be annunciated at an indicator panel only in the maintenance department and not to the building's fire safety staff – to avoid alerting others unnecessarily.
- Dispatches maintenance crews to locate, investigate, and repair overheating equipment when smoke is sensed in these critical areas prior to serious equipment damage or an actual fire.

## High Sensitivity Smoke Sensing

A more sophisticated application of this design feature incorporates the use of high sensitivity smoke sensing equipment. The design concept is to have the system react to materials as they begin to overheat, allowing operator intervention prior to major damage to the equipment.

Traditionally, this type of system was found only in very expensive clean rooms, main-frame computer and telephone exchange buildings. With low cost spot-type laser sensors, like the NOTIFIER VIEW (Very Intelligent Early Warning), high sensitivity smoke sensing is practical in more locations. Using an exceptionally bright, controlled laser diode, VIEW can detect the extremely small smoke particles produced in the early stages of a fire.



There are numerous locations in every building where high sensitivity smoke sensing is a real advantage. Locations include labs with expensive electronic equipment, electrical switch-gear rooms, telephone and internet cabinets, medical storage facilities, museums, art galleries, and archives. Historically people were concerned about creating unnecessary nuisance alarms in these areas by installing high sensitivity smoke sensing. However by using these devices in "supervisory" mode, the system can alert the operator to investigate, but there is no need to evacuate or dispatch the fire brigade.

## Service and Support

NOTIFIER products and services are offered through authorized Engineered Systems Distributors. These distributors are ready to assist you in the design, installation, commissioning and management of your NOTIFIER fire alarm system.

To learn more about the ONYX Series of fire alarm panels, the VIEW laser detector or other NOTIFIER products visit us at [www.notifier.com](http://www.notifier.com).

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