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NSI 007/13

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**To: All NSI Fire Gold, Fire Silver approved and applicant companies  
All NSI Life Safety Fire Risk Assessment Gold, NSI Life Safety Fire Risk  
Assessment Silver approved and applicant companies**

Dear Colleague

**NEW 2013 EDITION OF BS 5839-1**

I am writing to you about the new British Standard (BS) Code of Practice BS 5839-1:2013 – “Fire detection and fire alarm systems for buildings – Part1: Code of practice for design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of systems in non-domestic premises”.

The new BS came into effect on 31 March 2013 and supersedes BS 5839-1:2002+A2:2008 which is now withdrawn. However existing NSI approved companies have until 1 July 2013 to comply with the new BS.

The new BS introduces a number of technical changes to BS 5839-1:2002+A2:2008 and whilst there are no fundamental differences in the way that fire detection and alarm systems are designed, installed, commissioned and maintained there are some changes that you need to be aware of. These are detailed in NSI Technical Bulletin 0023 which is available from the approved company login area of our website.

Hard copies of the new BS may be purchased from NSI or BSI. The cost from NSI is £231.00 per copy.

You can gain access to the new BS via the on-line subscription to Standards on the NSI website, which is renewable annually. Whilst the on-line subscription does provide a low cost access to standards there are restrictions including one that limits downloading to a single computer and another that prohibits printing. For further information on obtaining Standards please visit our website at [www.nsi.org.uk](http://www.nsi.org.uk) or telephone NSI's Maidenhead office on 01628 637512.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding BS 5839-1:2013 that are not covered in the Technical Bulletin.

Yours sincerely

**John Davidson**  
Fire Schemes Manager

