

JD/LP/NSI 017/15

30 September 2015

**To: All NSI Fire Gold and Fire Silver approved companies and applicant companies**

Dear Colleague

**Certification of Control and Indicating Equipment (CIE) to EN 54-2:1997+A1:2006 (Options with Requirements)**

As you are probably aware it is a requirement of the Construction Products Regulation that from 01 July 2013 all Control and Indicating Equipment (CIE) in Fire Detection & Fire Alarm Systems must be CE marked, which in turn means the CIE must be third party tested and approved to meet the requirements of EN 54-2:1997+A1:2006.

There is also a requirement within the relevant BAFE scheme documents to use third party certificated (i.e. approved) equipment.

The EN 54-2 standard specifies mandatory functions for CIE as well as some optional functions known as "Options with Requirements" (OwR). This is to allow for differences between some European countries. A CIE complying with EN 54-2 must comply with the requirements of all the mandatory functions together with the requirements of the optional functions that are provided (EN 54-2, Annex B, Table B.1 details the optional functions).

If you intend to use OwRs as part of the system functionality then the CIE must hold independent third party approval not only to the mandatory functions of EN 54-2 but also to the particular OwR(s) being used.

For example, if you intend to use coincidence detection to operate an output to trigger a gaseous fire suppression system then the applicable OwR would be as defined in Clause 7.12.2 of EN 54-2:1997+A1:2006 and any CIE you use would have to be third party tested and approved to this particular requirement as well as the mandatory requirements of EN 54-2.

Certificates of Product Approval issued by independent third party testing bodies must detail any OwRs that the CIE product approval includes.

The Fire Industry Association (FIA) has produced guidance documents which give further detail on the certification of CIE and the Construction Products Regulation:

<http://www.fia.uk.com/resourceLibrary/guidance-for-specifiers-of-control-and-indicating-equipment.html>

<http://www.fia.uk.com/resourceLibrary/guidance-eu-construction-products-regulation.html>



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From 01 November 2015 NSI auditors will be checking that if any of the OwR functions have been used on a CIE then the CIE in question has the relevant third party certification (i.e. approval).

I trust the above is self-explanatory but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Davidson'.

**John Davidson**  
Head of Field Operations (Systems)