

MH/KL/NSI 002 22

21 January 2022

To: All NSI ARC Gold approved companies and applicants

Dear Colleague,

PUBLICATION OF BS 9518:2021

We would like to draw your attention to the publication of BS 9518:2021 - Processing of alarm signals by an alarm receiving centre – Code of Practice. This supersedes BS 8591:2014 which is now withdrawn.

The standard gives requirements for the processing of signals by an alarm receiving centre from alarm systems such as intrusion & hold-up alarm systems, fire detection & fire alarm systems, video surveillance systems, social alarm systems and lone worker devices. It includes the monitoring requirements which were previously included in BS 8243, BS 8418 and BS 8484.

Both BS 5979:2007 and BS 8591:2014 contained requirements for the processing of signals from alarm systems. These requirements were reviewed and updated during the development of BS 9518:2021 with specific changes made to reflect the expectations of emergency service organisations in the UK.

ARCs holding approval for scopes relating to BS 5979 or BS EN 50518:2019 are required to implement the requirements of BS 9518:2021.

ARCs holding approval for scopes relating to BS EN 50518:2013 can maintain certification to BS 8591:2014 in addition to implementing the requirements of BS 9518:2021.

There may be conflicts between the requirements given in BS 9518 and those of BS 5979 and/or BS 8591. Where any such conflict exists, the requirements given in BS 9518:2021 will take precedence.

Implementation timescale for approved and applicant ARCs

BS 9518:2021 was published on 31st July 2021. There will be a 12-month transition period ending on 31st July 2022. During this period any non-compliances against the requirements of BS 9518:2021 identified by NSI auditors during your surveillance audits will result in an "Auditor Note" being raised.

Any non-compliances identified after the transition period has expired will result in a formal non-conformance report(s) (Improvement Observation or Improvement Need) being raised.





How do I obtain a copy of BS 9518:2021?

BS 9518:2021 is available as an outright individual purchase directly from the BSI or at a discounted rate from the NSI or, alternatively, as a download via the NSI approved company BSI Standards on Subscription service.

Questions or queries?

If you have any questions or queries regarding the implementation of BS9518:2021, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew Holliday'.

Matthew Holliday
Director of Approval Schemes

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