



Seattle Fire Department FIRE PREVENTION ALERT

FIRE PREVENTION ALERT #2013-01b (replaces #2013-01)

ISSUE DATE: September 6, 2013

SUBJECT: Scan Alert Fire Alarm Monitoring Service Termination

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: SFD Plan Review, 206-386-1455

The Seattle Fire Department (SFD) has been advised that effective December 1, 2013, Scan Alert fire alarm monitoring will no longer be available to CenturyLink customers. For information, see

http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/cmp/cr/CR_PC032613-1.html

SFD has been relying on the fire alarm industry to advise their clients of the latest on the switch-over to new fire alarm signaling transmissions methods, which has been in the works for a couple of years now.

With the change from copper telephone lines to fiber optic cable, the 'legacy' systems such as digital dialers (DACT) and active multiplex (Scan Alert, STUs) are becoming obsolete and new technologies using cellular, wireless, IP, etc meeting performance based criteria outlined in NFPA 72 will be the norm. For an excellent overview of the issue, see <http://magazine.sfpe.org/fire-detection-and-alarm/demise-digital-alarm-communicator-transmitter-dact>.

SFD is treating installation of these new transmitters similar to a panel replacement; the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) Electrical Counter can issue a permit without SFD approved plans. Your fire alarm contractor can email a copy of the issued electrical permit and manufacturer's equipment data sheets for the new control panel or transmitter equipment directly to SFD Plan Review at russ.byrd@seattle.gov. An email response will be sent that the transmitter has been approved and the telephone number to call to schedule a site visit by an SFD inspector will be provided.

Applicants must arrange for DPD electrical inspection and approval prior to calling 206-386-1443 (at least 72 hours in advance) to schedule the SFD inspection/acceptance test.

To obtain information on the permit from the Department of Planning and Development Electrical Division – go to <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/permits/permittypes/electrical/default.htm>.

The electrical permit fee for this type of work is \$241.25, and which includes the SFD inspection charge.

Questions pertaining to this Scan Alert and other fire alarm signals transmissions methods may be directed to the Senior Fire Protection Engineer, Russ Byrd, by email to russ.byrd@seattle.gov or by phone at 206-386-1455.