

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Management of alarm systems for the process industries**

**Gestion de systèmes d'alarme dans les industries de transformation**

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**MANAGEMENT OF ALARM SYSTEMS  
FOR THE PROCESS INDUSTRIES****FOREWORD**

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IEC 62682 has been prepared by subcommittee 65A: System aspects, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation. It is an International Standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes minor technical changes with respect to the previous edition, based on changes to ANSI/ISA-18.2:2016. These include the inclusion of packaged systems in the scope (Clause 1), definitions (Clause 3) and alarm system requirements specification (Clause 7). There are changes to improve clarity in wording throughout the document.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
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Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

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## INTRODUCTION

This International Standard addresses the development, design, installation, and management of alarm systems in the process industries. Alarm management includes multiple work processes throughout the alarm management life cycle. This document defines the terminology and models to develop an alarm system, and it defines the work processes recommended to effectively maintain the alarm throughout the life cycle. Ineffective alarm systems have often been cited as contributing factors in the investigation reports following major process incidents. This document is intended to provide a methodology that will result in the improved safety, quality, and operation in the process industries.

The first edition of this document was adapted from ANSI/ISA-18.2-2009, *Management of Alarm Systems for the Process Industries*, an International Society of Automation (ISA) standard, and with due consideration of other guidance documents that have been developed throughout industry. This second edition has incorporated some changes made in ANSI/ISA-18.2-2016.

This document is not the first effort to define terminology and practices for effective alarm systems. In 1999 the Engineering Equipment and Materials Users' Association (EEMUA) issued Publication 191, *Alarm Systems: A Guide to Design, Management and Procurement*, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition published in 2007 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition published in 2013. In 2003 the User Association of Process Control Technology in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries (NAMUR) issued worksheet NA 102, *Alarm Management*, which was updated in 2008. During the development and maintenance of this document, every effort was made to keep terminology and practices consistent with the previous work of these respected organizations and committees.

This document provides requirements for alarm management and alarm systems. It is intended for those individuals and organizations that

- a) manufacture or implement embedded alarm systems,
- b) manufacture or install third-party alarm system software,
- c) design or install alarm systems,
- d) operate and maintain alarm systems, and
- e) audit or assess alarm system performance.

This document is organized in parts. The first part (Clause 1 to Clause 3) are normative without any mandatory requirements. Clause 4 contains mandatory requirements. Clause 5 is normative without any mandatory requirements. The main body of the standard (Clause 6 to Clause 18), describes mandatory requirements and non-mandatory recommendations.

Within this document, mandatory requirements are stated with "shall", non-mandatory recommendations are stated with "should", and permissible requirements are stated with "may". The phrase "is required" indicates the requirement has been stated previously in the document.

# MANAGEMENT OF ALARM SYSTEMS FOR THE PROCESS INDUSTRIES

## 1 Scope

### 1.1 General applicability

This document specifies general principles and processes for the management of alarm systems based on controls system and human-machine interfaces (HMI) for facilities in the process industries. It covers all alarms to be presented to the operator through the control system, which includes alarms from basic process control systems, annunciators, packaged systems, and safety instrumented systems.

The practices in this document are applicable to continuous, batch, and discrete processes. There can be differences in implementation to meet the specific needs based on process type.

The primary function within the alarm system is to notify operators of abnormal process conditions or equipment malfunctions and support the response. The alarm systems can include both the basic process control system (BPCS) and the safety instrumented system (SIS), each of which uses measurements of process conditions and logic to generate alarms. Figure 1 illustrates the concepts of alarm and response dataflow through the alarm system. The alarm system also includes a mechanism for communicating the alarm information to the operator via an HMI, usually a computer screen or an annunciator. Additional functions of the alarm system are an alarm and event log, an alarm historian, and the generation of performance metrics for the alarm system. There are external systems that can use the data from the alarm system.

Figure 1 is not intended to represent physical wiring.

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