

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Alarm and electronic security systems –
Part 5-1: Alarm transmission systems – General requirements**

**Systèmes d'alarme et de sécurité électroniques –
Partie 5-1: Systèmes de transmission d'alarme – Exigences générales**

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Part 5-1: Alarm transmission systems – General requirements**

**Systèmes d'alarme et de sécurité électroniques –
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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations	7
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	7
3.2 Abbreviations	12
4 General	13
5 General requirements	13
5.1 ATS configuration	13
5.2 ATS categories	13
5.2.1 General	13
5.2.2 Custom category	14
5.3 Applicable network standards	14
6 System requirements	14
6.1 General.....	14
6.2 Transmission link requirements.....	14
6.2.1 General	14
6.2.2 Transmission links shared with other applications.....	15
6.2.3 Transmission network equipment.....	15
6.2.4 ATSN capacity.....	15
6.2.5 Denial of service.....	15
6.3 Performance	16
6.3.1 General	16
6.3.2 Transmission time	16
6.3.3 Monitoring of interconnections	17
6.4 Securing of messages in the alarm transmission system.....	19
6.5 Alarm transmission acknowledgement.....	19
6.6 ATS generated alarms	19
6.7 Availability	20
6.7.1 General	20
6.7.2 Redundancy/duplication.....	20
6.7.3 ATS unavailability.....	20
6.7.4 Duration of faults	20
6.7.5 ATS availability recording	20
6.7.6 ATSN availability	21
6.8 Security	21
6.8.1 General security requirements	21
6.8.2 Substitution security	22
6.8.3 Information security	22
7 Verification of performance.....	22
7.1 General.....	22
7.2 Performance verification of an ATS.....	22
7.3 ATSN performance	22
7.4 Transmission time.....	23

7.5	Verification interval	23
7.6	Availability	23
7.6.1	Records	23
7.6.2	Inspection of records	24
7.6.3	Calculations	24
8	Documentation	25
Annex A (informative) ATS configurations examples		27
Annex B (informative) Availability examples		29
Annex C (informative) Verification of performance		30
C.1	General	30
C.2	Set-up configuration	30
C.3	System evaluation and functional verification	30
C.4	Functional verification	31
Annex D (normative) Classes for category C		32
Bibliography		34
Figure 1 – Logical representation of an ATS		26
Figure A.1 – Example of a simple single path alarm transmission system		27
Figure A.2 – Example of a simple dual path alarm transmission system		27
Figure A.3 – Example of a dual path alarm transmission system		28
Figure C.1 – Block diagram		30
Table 1 – ATS configuration		14
Table 2 – Transmission time		17
Table 3 – Maximum reporting time		18
Table 4 – RCT to AE alarm reporting		19
Table 5 – SPT to AS alarm reporting		19
Table 6 – ATS availability recording		21
Table 7 – ATSN availability		21
Table 8 – SPT substitution security requirements		22
Table 9 – Information security requirements		22
Table C.1 – Verification results table		31
Table D.1 – Transmission time classification		32
Table D.2 – Transmission time, maximum values		32
Table D.3 – Reporting time classification		32
Table D.4 – Availability classification		32
Table D.5 – Substitution security		32
Table D.6 – Information security		33

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ALARM AND ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS –**Part 5-1: Alarm transmission systems –
General requirements**

FOREWORD

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This international standard is based on EN 50136-1:2012.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published 1991. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) The previous version was published 24 years ago, techniques and constraints have been widely changed since that time. Although covering the same subject the contents of the new IEC 60839-5-1 are widely different and there is no constructive issues in trying to find similarities and differences between both versions.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
79/479/FDIS	79/490/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60839 series, published under the general title *Alarm and electronic security systems*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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- replaced by a revised edition, or
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INTRODUCTION

The object of this part of IEC 60839 is to specify the general requirements for the performance, reliability, resilience and security of alarm transmission systems and to ensure their suitability for use with different types of alarm systems and annunciation equipment.

An alarm transmission system may use any type of transmission network.

When the ATS functions are integrated into an alarm system or annunciation equipment the requirements of this standard apply.

The intended users of this standard include alarm transmission service providers, alarm receiving centre operators, fire departments, insurance companies, telecommunication network operators, internet service providers, equipment manufacturers, alarm companies, end users and others.

The IEC 60839-5 series consists of the following parts, under the general title *Alarm and electronic security systems*:

- Part 5-1: Alarm transmission systems – General requirements;
- Part 5-2: Alarm transmission systems – Requirements for supervised premises transceiver (SPT);
- Part 5-3: Alarm transmission systems – Requirements for receiving centre transceiver (RCT);
- Part 5-4¹: (under evaluation);
- Part 5-5¹: (under evaluation);
- Part 5-6¹: (under evaluation);
- Part 5-7: (place holder).

¹ The former IEC 60839-5 series (1991) is being reviewed by an ad-hoc group set-up at the TC 79 meeting in Milano in October 2013. This ad-hoc group is in charge of evaluating the relevance / obsolescence of all parts of IEC 60839-5 series. The result of this analysis can be found in 79/462/DC and 79/477/INF that recommend to:

- keep IEC 60839-5-1 and IEC 60839-5-2 to receive, under identical titles, updated contents, such as the present document;
- withdraw IEC 60839-5-4, IEC 60839-5-5 and IEC 60839-5-6 developed in 1991 that have now no relevance.

ALARM AND ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS –

Part 5-1: Alarm transmission systems – General requirements

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60839 specifies the requirements for the performance, reliability, resilience and security of alarm transmission systems and ensures their suitability for use with different types of alarm systems and annunciation equipment.

An alarm transmission system may use any type of transmission network. When the ATS functions are integrated into an alarm system or annunciation equipment the requirements of this standard apply.

This standard specifies the requirements for alarm transmission systems providing alarm transmission between an alarm system at supervised premises and annunciation equipment at an alarm receiving centre.

This standard applies to transmission systems for all types of alarm messages such as fire, intrusion, access control, social alarm, etc. Different types of alarm systems may in addition to alarm messages also send other types of messages, e.g. fault messages and status messages. These messages are also considered to be alarm messages in the context of this standard. The term alarm is used in this broad sense throughout the document.

[IEC 60839-5-1:2014](https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:code:3965:0001:ics:39:60839-5-1:2014)

Additional alarm transmission requirements of specific types of alarm systems are given in the relevant standards. The intended users of this standard include alarm transmission service providers, alarm receiving centre operators, fire departments, insurance companies, telecommunication network operators, internet service providers, equipment manufacturers, alarm companies, end users and others.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

None.

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

NOTE The definitions below are read in conjunction with Figure 1.

3.1.1

alarm condition

condition of an alarm system (AS), or part thereof, which results from the response of the system, or part thereof, to the presence of a hazard

3.1.2 alarm receiving centre ARC

continuously manned centre to which information concerning the status of one or more alarm systems (ASs) is reported

Note 1 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.3 alarm system AS

electrical installation, which responds to the manual or automatic detection of the presence of a hazard

Note 1 to entry: The AS is not part of the alarm transmission system (ATS).

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.4 alarm transmission equipment ATE

collective term to describe a supervised premises transceiver (SPT), a monitoring centre transceiver (MCT) and a receiving centre transceiver (RCT)

Note 1 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.5 alarm transmission path ATP

route an alarm message travels between an individual AS and its associated AE

Note 1 to entry: The ATP starts at the interface between the AS and the supervised premises transceiver (SPT) and ends at the interface between the receiving centre transceiver (RCT) and the AE. For notification and surveillance purposes the reverse direction may also be used.

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.6 alarm transmission service network ATSN

group of alarm transmission systems (ATSs) of the same category

Note 1 to entry: An ATSN consists of one or more ATSs of the same category, functioning under supervision of the same management and monitoring centre.

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.7 alarm transmission service provider ATSP

person or entity that is responsible for design, operation and the verification of the performance of one or more alarm transmission service networks (ATSNs)

Note 1 to entry: The ATSP may take responsibility for the ATS provision and performance monitoring of one or more ATSN as the design authority, through contracts with customers, ARCs, transmission network operators, etc.

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.8 alarm transmission system ATS

alarm transmission equipment (ATE) and networks used to transfer information concerned with the state of one or more alarm systems (ASs) at supervised premises to one or more annunciation equipments (AEs) of one or more alarm receiving centres (ARCs)

Note 1 to entry: An ATS may consist of more than one alarm transmission path (ATP).

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.9 alarm transmission system category ATS category

set of parameters that define the performance requirements of an alarm transmission system

Note 1 to entry: A category defines minimum ATS requirements.

Note 2 to entry: The alarm system application should specify the appropriate ATS category.

Note 3 to entry: Where resilience and reliability are considered important for the alarm system application, the use of a dual path ATS is recommended.

3.1.10 alarm transmission system management system ATS management system

part of the ATS that is used to manage alarm transmission equipment, supervise alarm transmission equipment and networks and may help to keep the ATS in operation

Note 1 to entry: The management system may also be used to collect data about the ATS availability.

3.1.11 alarm transmission system monitoring centre ATS monitoring centre

centre in which the status and performance of one or more ATS is monitored

Note 1 to entry: A monitoring centre may be a separate centre or part of an ARC.

Note 2 to entry: A monitoring centre may be the place where monitoring centre transceivers (MCTs) are located.

Note 3 to entry: A monitoring centre may be the place where a management system is located.

3.1.12 annunciation equipment AE

equipment located at an alarm receiving centre (ARC) which secures and displays the alarm status, or the changed alarm status of alarm systems (ASs) in response to the receipt of incoming alarms before sending a confirmation

Note 1 to entry: The AE is not part of the alarm transmission system (ATS).

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.13 authentication

exchange of a code to identify that a supervised premises transceiver (SPT) has not been substituted by a similar equipment without this code, or that the information message transmitted has not been modified

3.1.14 availability, general

percentage of time a system or parts of a system are functioning in accordance with the requirements of this standard

3.1.15 diverse technology

technology used in transmission paths in such a way that a single point of failure, or tampering of a single point, cannot cause both alarm transmission paths (ATPs) of a dual path system to fail simultaneously

3.1.16**dual path ATS****dual path alarm transmission system**

ATS consisting of one primary alarm transmission path (ATP) and one secondary ATP using diverse technology, having two transmission network interfaces at the supervised premises transceiver (SPT), to connect one or more alarm systems (ASs) of one supervised premises to one or more annunciation equipments (AEs) of one or more alarm receiving centres (ARCs)

3.1.17**encryption**

systematic encoding of a bit stream before transmission, so that the information contained in the bit stream cannot be deciphered by an unauthorised party

3.1.18**fault condition**

condition of a system which prevents a system or part thereof from functioning normally

3.1.19**fault message****fault signal**

message or signal generated as a result of a fault condition

3.1.20**hashing technique**

use of a mathematical transformation that takes an input and returns a fixed-size string, which is called the hash value

Note 1 to entry: The hash value is used to detect any alteration of the input and therefore verify the contents in an easy way.

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3.1.21**message**

series of transmitted signals which include identification, function data and the various means for providing their own integrity, immunity and proper reception

3.1.22**monitoring centre**

centre in which the status of one or more alarm transmission service networks (ATSNs) is monitored

3.1.23**monitoring centre transceiver****MCT**

alarm transmission equipment (ATE) within the alarm transmission system (ATS) that enables monitoring and management information regarding the status of alarm transmission equipment and networks

Note 1 to entry: The monitoring centre transceiver may be located at the alarm receiving centre or at a separate centre.

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.24**multiple path alarm transmission system****multiple path ATS**

ATS where more than one independent alarm transmission paths (ATPs) are combined to connect one or more alarm systems (ASs) of one supervised premises to one or more annunciation equipments (AEs) of one or more alarm receiving centres (ARCs)

3.1.25**network equipment on site**

equipment that is part of the alarm transmission path (ATP), but is not considered to be alarm transmission equipment (ATE)

3.1.26**packet switched network****PSN**

transmission network that uses packet switching

Note 1 to entry: Messages are broken into packets, which are addressed individually and routed through the network, possibly using different routes. At the end node the packets are re-assembled to be converted back to the original message.

Note 2 to entry: The most prominent example of a packet switched data network is the Internet, making use of the Internet protocol suite, which is specified by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) in so called requests for comments (RFCs).

Note 3 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.27**peer review**

evaluation of work by one or more people of similar competence to the producers of the work (peers).

Note 1 to entry: In this standard the definition applies to cryptographic algorithms, it means there is published evidence that the cryptographic community has confirmed the robustness of the algorithm against attack.

3.1.28**receiving centre transceiver (standards.iteh.ai)****RCT**

alarm transmission equipment (ATE) at the alarm receiving centre (ARC) including the interface to one or more annunciation equipments (AEs) and the interface to one or more transmission networks and which is part of one or more alarm transmission paths (ATPs)

Note 1 to entry: In some systems this transceiver may be able to indicate changes of the status of an alarm system (AS) and to store log-files. This may be needed to increase the alarm transmission system (ATS) availability in case of AE failure.

Note 2 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.29**reporting time**

period from the time a fault occurs in the alarm transmission system (ATS) until the fault information is reported to the receiving centre transceiver (RCT), the alarm system (AS) at the supervised premises and the monitoring centre transceiver (MCT) (if provided)

3.1.30**secured message**

message which cannot be lost (e.g. in the case of power failure) and which can be retrieved

3.1.31**signalling security**

method(s) used to prevent or detect deliberate attempts to interfere with the transmission of an alarm by blocking or substitution

3.1.32**single path alarm transmission system****single path ATS**

ATS that consists of one alarm transmission path (ATP) to connect one or more alarm systems (ASs) of one supervised premises to one or more annunciation equipments (AEs) of one or more alarm receiving centre (ARCs)

3.1.33 supervised premises transceiver SPT

alarm transmission equipment (ATE) at the supervised premises including the interface to the alarm system (AS) and the interface to one or more transmission networks and which is part of one or more alarm transmission paths (ATPs)

Note 1 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

3.1.34 system capacity

maximum number of alarm systems (ASs) that can be connected to an alarm transmission service network (ATSN)

3.1.35 transmission link

part of a transmission network used to carry one or more alarm transmission paths (ATPs)

Note 1 to entry: An ATP can be established by switching together transmission links in several ways (in parallel, in series and in combinations thereof).

Note 2 to entry: A transmission link can carry several ATPs or sections of ATPs.

3.1.36 transmission network

network between two or more items of alarm transmission equipment (ATE)

Note 1 to entry: Where the network is provided by a common carrier (e.g. a public telephone network operator) the network may include items of general transmission equipment, which may not be covered by the requirements of IEC 60839-5-2, e.g. public telephone network operator equipment, mobile telephone operator equipment, ADSL modems, SDSL modems, Routers, Ethernet switches, Ethernet hubs, Firewalls and network wiring.

3.1.37 transmission time

time from when a change of state occurs or an alarm message is presented for transmission at the supervised premises transceiver (SPT) interface to the alarm system (AS) until the time that the new state or message is reported at the receiving centre transceiver (RCT) interface to the annunciation equipment (AE)

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of this document, the following abbreviations apply. The following abbreviations apply to the entire IEC 60839 series.

ADSL	Asymmetric digital subscriber line
AE	Annunciation equipment
ARC	Alarm receiving centre
AS	Alarm system
ATE	Alarm transmission equipment
ATP	Alarm transmission path
ATS	Alarm transmission system
ATSN	Alarm transmission service network
ATSP	Alarm transmission service provider
DSL	Digital subscriber line
DTMF	Dual tone multi frequency
GSM	Global system mobile
ISO	International Standardisation Organisation

ISDN	Integrated service digital network
MCT	Monitoring centre transceiver
OSI	Open systems interconnection
PSN	Packet switched network
PSTN	Public switched telephone network
RCT	Receiving centre transceiver
SPT	Supervised premises transceiver
SDSL	Symmetric digital subscriber line

4 General

(void)

5 General requirements

5.1 ATS configuration

The logical configuration of an ATS shall be as shown in Figure 1. The main function of an ATS is to provide a reliable and secure transmission network from the interface of the AS to the SPT to the interface of the RCT to the AE for the transmission of alarms.

Depending upon the required reliability and resilience of the ATS and the operational features of the ARC, various ATS configurations may be used, including the use of more than one ATP between an AS and one or more RCTs connected to one or more AEs. Each ATP shall have its own transmission network interface at the SPT.

NOTE 1 For example an SPT can use a fixed line network and a radio network.

Selection of the category of ATS used for an AS shall be determined by the required reliability and security for the associated application. Reference should be made to the category of ATS required and the options that may be selected.

NOTE 2 Examples of different ATS configurations are indicated in Annex A, Figures A.1 to A.3.

5.2 ATS categories

5.2.1 General

An alarm transmission system shall be selected from one of ten categories described by this standard. An ATS shall be allocated a category which will determine its performance and resilience.

Categories SP1 to SP6 are based on single ATP ATSs.

Categories DP1 to DP4 add resilience by requiring alternate ATPs.