
GENERAL INFORMATION: CONSEQUENCES OF FALSE/NUISANCE ALARMS

A **False Alarm (due to Electronic problem) or Nuisance Alarm (due to Environmental noises)** is the deceptive or erroneous report of an emergency, causing unnecessary panic and/or bringing resources (such as emergency services) to a place where they are not needed. False alarms have the potential to divert emergency responders away from legitimate emergencies, which could ultimately lead to loss of life. In some cases, repeated false alarms in a certain area may cause occupants to start to ignore all alarms, knowing that each time it will probably be false. The concept of this can be traced at least as far back as Aesop's story of the *Boy Who Cried Wolf*, where many episodes of a boy falsely yelling "wolf" caused the townspeople to ignore his cries when a real wolf came.

COSTS OF FALSE/NUISANCE ALARMS

Each false alarm requires approximately 20 minutes of security operators or police time.

Typical costs include:

- personnel costs of call-takers and dispatchers
- personnel, equipment, and costs related to backup Personnel
- personnel costs associated with analyzing false alarms
- software, hardware, office space, and equipment costs for false alarm management
- administrative and staff costs of notifications, permitting, billing, and education programs
- costs of developing, printing, and distributing reports to educate alarm companies about false alarms
- lost-opportunity costs, when security operators are unavailable to work on actual crime problems
- costs associated with call displacement, because the response to other emergencies takes longer.

RESPONSES TO REDUCE FALSE/NUISANCE ALARM RATES

Nowadays perimeter security industry can provide the market with different technologies for the protection of small/medium/large perimeters, such as: active barriers (IR, MW, Dual Tech), passive sensors (PIR, Dual Tech), sensor cables for fences (Piezoelectric, Microphone, fiber optic), buried cables (Pressure, RF, Piezoelectric).

An holistic analysis of the site, including site topography, boundary structures, surrounding structures and activities, as well as critical environmental factors and agents is mandatory for defining the technology to chose for each specific application.

SICURIT personnel, which has more than 40 years experience in perimeter protection systems will drive you, according to the information provided from the site, on the identification of the most cost effective solution that will guarantee not only reliable protections but even reducing costs related to false/nuisance alarms.

Don't hesitate to contact:

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