FIRST-IN®
FIRE STATION ALERTING SYSTEMS
WESTNET®

THE CALL

When the constant fight is against the clock, timing is everything. When the difference between life and death comes down to a matter of seconds, you need all the help you can get - you are performing tasks during the critical golden hour. When the difference may be between a knock down or a flashover, time is either your friend or your foe. Whether the call is a medical emergency or a structure fire, how quickly you arrive on scene can determine your success. This ongoing battle hasn't changed since the fire service was first formed in early America. However, the way in which you respond to these emergencies has changed - it has improved your ability to make a save. The tools that you use have also changed. Horse-drawn steamers have become powerful pumpers and aerials. Manual jacks have become hydraulic cutting tools and spreaders. Bucket brigades have been replaced by large diameter hose lines and master streams. Firefighting is steeped in a proud and honorable tradition and has progressed in a manner that has revolutionized the way it performs.

Caught between tradition versus technology, firefighters are doers - they get the job done and will use any tool or advantage they can to make it happen. The equipment you reach for on scene is essential in helping you make the save and fight the fire, yet the wheels would not roll out of the house if you didn't get the call in the station - the alert from dispatch is fundamental to your response. Your size up begins as soon as you get the information from dispatch and the way in which you receive this information can make all of the difference. Information is power - it arms you with the details you need to prepare for what you and your crew might face.

The First-In® Fire Station Alerting System was designed to provide all of the information necessary for crews to respond in the fastest possible manner. First-In uses ramped, cardiac-kind tones and visual display devices located throughout the station to give you the key information you need to respond. The First-In Fire Station Alerting System is a reliable, dependable, modular system that can be scaled for use in any department. First-In is widely used in career, volunteer, combination and military departments throughout the country.

There are eight words that encompass the First-In® Maltese Cross that is our logo and they are a creed to the men and women who build the ***First-In Fire Station Alerting System-***
Courage, Tradition, Determination, Teamwork, Loyalty, Honor, Dedication and Service.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

REDUCES RESPONSE TIMES
LOWERS FIREFIGHTER STRESS LEVELS
RAMPED, HEART-SAFE TONES & RED STATION LIGHTING
VISUAL ALERTING - TV/VIDEO MESSENGERS
COMPANY SPECIFIC, BEDSIDE ALERTING DORM REMOTES
AUTOMATED DISPATCH - TEXT-TO-SPEECH
MULTIPLE WAYS OF ACTIVATION - REDUNDANCY
INTEGRATES WITH CAD SYSTEMS
NETWORK BASED ALERTING
EMAIL AND TEXT ALERTING
PAGER ALERT NOTIFICATION
MODULAR DESIGN VERSATILITY
NFPA COMPLIANT
INSTALLED IN NEW, REMODELED OR EXISTING STATIONS
INCREASES FIREHOUSE SAFETY
ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY LED LIGHTING

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RESPONSE TIME

FIRST-IN® FIRE STATION ALERTING SYSTEMS

Current recommendations of response time standards indicate optimal response at one-minute turnout time and four-minute response time. Recent reports suggest that "barely over a third of departments nationwide meet national standards for response time." Given the diverse range of operations that fire/rescue departments must perform, the environment and scenes have forever changed. "In the 1970's, scientists at the National Institute of Standards and Technology found that at that time, people had about 17 minutes to escape before being overcome by heat and smoke. Today, the estimate is three minutes." Bill Dedman. Deadly Delays: The Decline Of Fire Response, Boston Globe.

Westnet®, Inc. understands the critical nature of responding to the scene of an emergency in the quickest time possible. The First-In Fire Station Alerting System uses cutting edge technology and is specifically designed to reduce response time. "For years, the conventional wisdom was that help must come within 10 minutes (for cardiac patients). But new findings from the Mayo Clinic show that lives actually are saved or lost within six minutes." Robert Davis. Six Minutes To Live Or Die, From USA TODAY, a division of Gannett Co., Inc.

REDUCED RESPONSE TIME IS CRITICAL TO SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF EVERY EMERGENCY SERVICE YOU PERFORM.

FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY

The Nature Of The Job

"Heart attacks continue to be the leading cause of death for on-duty firefighters", according to U.S. Fire Administration reports. The NFPA states that "heart attacks due to stress and overexertion are the leading cause of fatal injury and usually account for close to half of total deaths." Rita F. Fahy and Paul R. LeBlanc, Firefighter Fatalities In The United States, NFPA Journal. While the rigors of fighting fires, victim extrication, swift water and structural collapse rescues are for the most part obvious, the stress of receiving alerts in the fire station is not so apparent. Year after year of shocking alarms, bright lights and constant sleep deprivation from night calls takes its toll on the human body. "Few realize that from the time the alarm sounds in the station until the call clears [and the dispatch is completed], heart rates soar to astonishing levels that may be sustained for more than an hour. "Studies show that within 15 seconds after an alarm sounds, heart rates soar 61 beats per minute on average. While resting, our heart beats about 60 to 70 times each minute. Therefore, the heart rate nearly doubles within 15 seconds of an alarm." Garrett Law. Hearts A Fire. Kinder Alarm Systems & Physical Conditions May Defuse The Heart Attack Bomb Among Firefighters, Fire Rescue Magazine.

REDUCING FIREFIGHTER STRESS LEVELS IS A PRIMARY CONCERN.

Making A Difference

There is a difference between being awakened for a call and being scared to death. As the leader in fire station alerting, Westnet, Inc. has proven that technology can make a significant improvement in the quality of life for fire personnel and the public they serve. Westnet's First-In Fire Station Alerting System is the first turnkey solution engineered for firefighters to reduce response time and firefighter stress. First-In's patented technology uses Cardiac Kind ramped tones and a human voice pre-announcement to awaken firefighters. First-In Knight Vision® Lighting provides low intensity red light to illuminate dormitories and exit corridors, reducing the cardiac and optical stress during night calls.

LOUD TONES ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO ALERT FIRE AND EMS CREWS.

The First-In® Solution

Westnet's First-In Fire Station Alerting System utilizes a series of remote alerting modules placed strategically throughout the fire station to notify fire and EMS personnel of an emergency call in the quickest, safest and most advanced means possible. The modular design of the First-In Fire Station Alerting System provides public safety agencies affordable equipment options, which range from basic alerting functions to maximum alerting capability and full control of the fire station.

The First-In Fire Station Alerting System provides your department with a wide variety of customized alerting methods, design and expansion capabilities, service software, unmatched reliability and unsurpassed technology. Just as each fire department has its own demands, each fire station may have needs unique to the challenges its crews face on a daily basis (i.e. aviation crash rescue stations). The flexibility of the First-In System allows your department to design an alerting system that addresses these distinct needs.

Throughout the following pages, you will see an array of First-In Smart Station® alerting modules specifically designed to reduce response time and minimize firefighter stress levels.

MASTER CONTROL UNIT™

Overview

The First-In Master Control Unit (MCU) is the heart of the First-In Fire Station Alerting System. Although the final design of each station may vary, all First-In Systems begin with and require the MCU. The MCU receives all alerts sent from the dispatch center. Upon activation from dispatch, the MCU sends a pre-announcement throughout the station, notifying emergency personnel of the assigned company, the nature of the call and the tiered response level required. The MCU can also be equipped with the First-In Automated Voice Dispatch™ (FiAVD) option, which is a fully automated text-to-speech function that automatically announces units assigned to the call, nature of the emergency, the incident address and any additional call information.

The MCU communicates the pre-announcement and dispatch information through the First-In Smart Station alerting modules in this catalog, producing both an audible and visual notification of the alert. For stations which do not utilize Smart Station alerting modules, the MCU activates the station's existing lights and public address systems.

The MCU has several ways in which it can be activated. All methods can be used as a primary means of activation or a back-up method, providing many layers of redundancy.

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Watch rooms, telecom rooms, communications and IT rooms.

MCU MOUNTING BRACKETS:

Space in fire stations can be difficult to come by. The MCU does not require large amounts of rack space and can be mounted in a small cabinet or in a rack if desired.

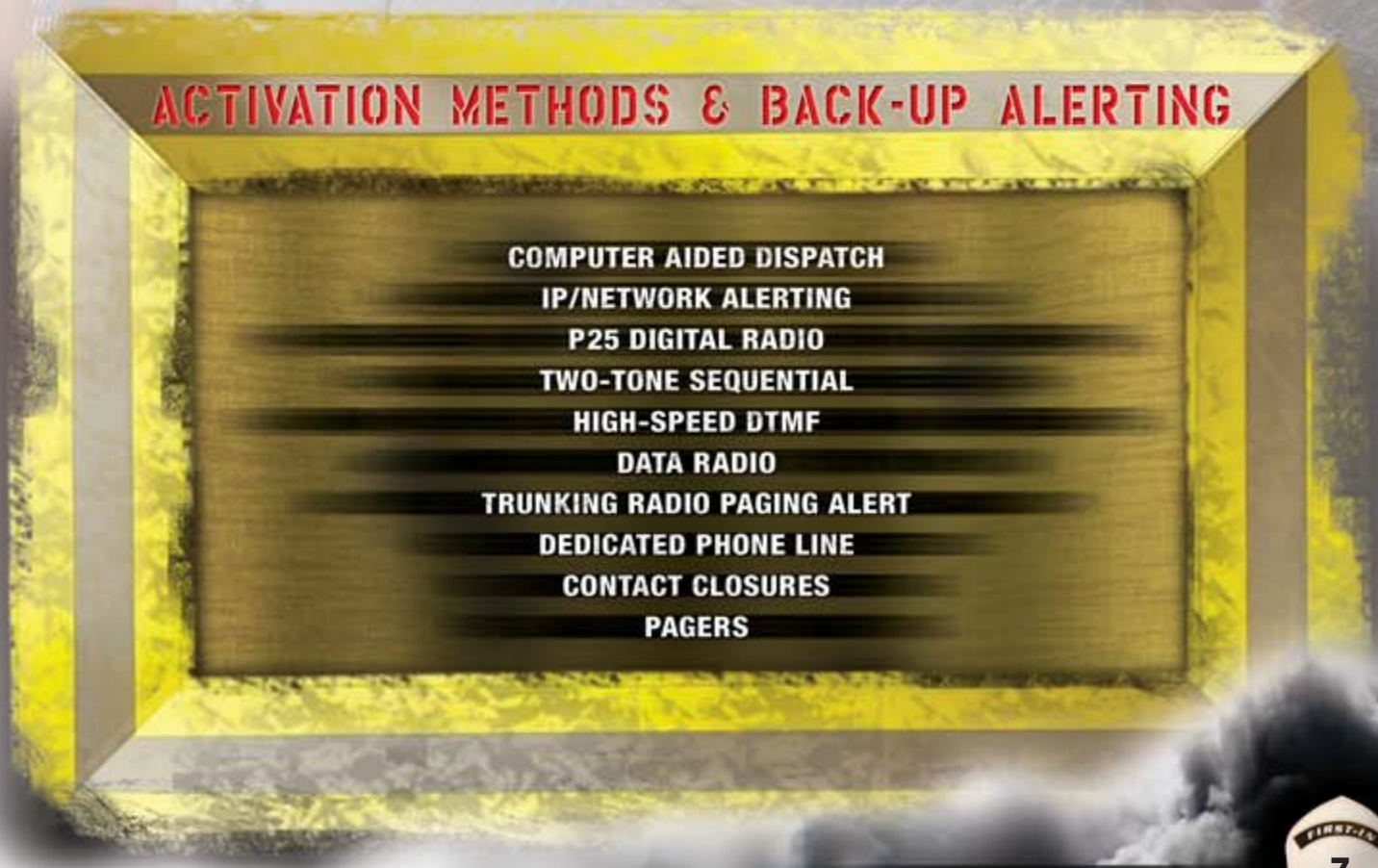
MCU PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

As soon as the dispatcher learns the nature of the call, he or she alerts the MCU in the station. Conveying the assigned units, nature of the emergency, response level and geographical identifier provides enough information to allow crews to instantly begin responding, reducing turnout and company response times. For example, a pre-announcement of "Engine 3, Cardiac Arrest, Delta Response, Box Number 1524" designates a medical aid call. While the crews prepare to leave the station, the dispatcher continues collecting additional incident information. This information can be displayed on the First-In visual alerting modules located throughout the fire station, and a printout can be sent station printer to provide all details necessary for the responding company (e.g., incident address, units on the call, call type and other incident information). During most calls, this feature reduces the need to communicate with the dispatcher, which eliminates redundant dispatch information and clears the dispatch channel.

THE MCU PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT FEATURE IS CRUCIAL IN REDUCING RESPONSE TIME.

PRE- ANNOUNCEMENT AND STRESS REDUCTION

Deafening bells used to alert firefighters are no longer needed to signal an emergency call. The MCU uses Cardiac Kind tones which precede the pre-announcement. The tones and the pre-announcement are automatically adjusted in volume for daytime and nighttime. In the morning, the MCU tone and pre-announcement audio levels increase, as ambient noise in the station is higher during the day. In the evening, when station noise is quieter, the MCU automatically decreases its volume levels. The result is that the MCU awakens firefighters without the extreme stress that startling or ear-piercing tones can produce.



ALERTING MODULES

VIDEO MESSENGER™

The First-In Video Messenger provides a visual dispatch of the call on a station television. The First-In Video Messenger can be used and located anywhere a television exists in the station.

For fire departments using IP network alerting from Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), the Video Messenger can display which apparatus is needed, the type of call (medical aid, structure fire, etc.), the address or location of the incident and other relevant information. For fire departments not using IP alerting, the Video Messenger will notify the crew of an incoming alert.

Video Messenger Features

- Immediately displays call information on the television
- Unit assignment, incident type and address information can be displayed
- One Video Messenger is needed for each television
- An unlimited number of Video Messengers can be used

TURNOUT TIMER™

The First-In Turnout Timer provides a visual readout of the time elapsed since the call was received at the fire station. The First-In Turnout Timer is used to assist firefighters in meeting the department's response time goals and equips them with the information they need to continue working towards decreasing turnout times and getting out of the station quickly.

Turnout Timer Features

- Timing begins when the fire station receives the alert from dispatch
- Assists in monitoring the status of meeting NFPA 1710 & 1720
- Resets at the end of the alert sequence
- Available in small, medium and large sizes

DORM REMOTE®

The Dorm Remote® awakens first responders with low, ramping tones, a soft human voice pre-announcement and Knight Vision Lighting, which provides a red glow of light distributed around the room. From the front panel of each Dorm Remote located in the dormitory, the crew member selects his or her apparatus assignment. For example, a paramedic would program "paramedic" into his or her Dorm Remote when they get on shift. Any alarm that comes in for a paramedic activates all "paramedic" Dorm Remotes. Dorm Remotes programmed for truck, engine or other companies will not activate. This feature allows firefighters not needed on calls to continue sleeping and reduces the common sleep deprivation experienced by firefighters awakened for calls to which they need not respond.

Each Dorm Remote automatically resets in the morning at a time designated by the fire department to an "All Zones" mode. This mode announces all calls until the firefighter sets the Dorm Remote to his or her company and disables all other zones. Automatically returning the Dorm Remote to an "All Zones" mode prevents missed calls in the event a firefighter forgets to program in his or her specific company before going to sleep.

Dorm Remote Features

- Reduces chronic sleep deprivation by alerting only crews needed on call
- Ramped, Cardiac Kind tones
- Ramped, Knight Vision red lighting
- Programmable from front panel at each bed

"Sleep deprivation is linked with increased errors in tasks requiring alertness, vigilance and quick decision-making." IAFC. The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Fire Fighters and EMS Responders. Recovery from night calls and sleep deprivation is something you take home with you after each shift - it has its consequences. Sleep deprivation is a serious problem in the fire service that the Dorm Remotes help alleviate.

Located next to each bed, the Dorm Remote can either be flush or surface mounted. The Dorm Remote Knight Vision Lighting module can be mounted on the Dorm Remote Unit or in the ceiling overhead.

ALERTING MODULES

Satellight Controllers and Satellights are mounted overhead in the ceiling.

Each company is assigned a specific color determined by the fire department.

RESPONSE	LIGHT COLOR
Engine Company	RED
Truck Company	YELLOW
Hazmat or Specialty Unit	GREEN
Paramedics	BLUE
Battalion Chief	WHITE
All Units	ALL COLORS

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Hallways, bathrooms, dayrooms, kitchens and common areas where alert audio is required.

SATELLIGHT CONTROLLER® & SATELLIGHT®

The First-In Satellight Controllers® and Satellights® are installed throughout the fire station to perform the dual purpose of providing the alerting audio and visual notification of the call. When the station is alerted, the Satellight Controller verbalizes both the pre-announcement and dispatch audio. In addition, the Satellight Controller activates a company-specific colored light indicator. For example, when an alert comes in for paramedics, the Satellight Controller pre-announces "Medic Response" and the blue light indicator activates, visually signaling a Medic Response. With a simple glance at the Satellight Controller company indication lights, the crew knows immediately who is needed on the call. The necessary companies can begin responding instantly, reducing turnout time and overall response time.

An additional feature of Satellight Controllers & Satellights is Knight Vision Lighting. Firefighters were traditionally awakened with harsh, white lights when a night alarm sounds. Knight Vision Lighting provides a low intensity red glow, which gradually becomes brighter during the alarm sequence. Rather than waiting for their eyes to adjust to the bright lights, or risk injury from an inability to see clearly, Knight Vision Lighting allows sleepy firefighters to safely maneuver through the station and into the apparatus bays while preserving their night vision.

The Satellight Controllers and the Satellights function both as fire station alerting and public address speakers. Existing public address speakers can remain in place as a backup source of dispatch audio, or can be completely removed from the station.

FIRST-IN ZONING

First-In Smart Station® Zoning is the concept of alerting areas of a fire station by company. Each company in the station is assigned a color associated with the rescue services it performs. For example, the truck company may be assigned the color yellow. When a truck company call comes in, Satellight Controllers emit the color yellow to indicate that the truck company is required on the call. The same is true for the remaining companies, such as the engine company with the color red, medics with the color blue, etc. Zoning is particularly helpful in stations with multiple companies.

Satellight Controller & Satellight Features

- Colored Light Indicators for quick response
- Provides all dispatch and paging audio
- Ramped, Knight Vision red lighting
- Reduces optical stress during night alarms

WITH A QUICK GLANCE AT THE SATELLIGHT CONTROLLER, THE CREW KNOWS IMMEDIATELY WHO IS NEEDED ON THE CALL.

ALERTING MODULES

MESSENGERS™

The First-In Messengers visually display the alert information on Messenger alerting modules installed throughout the fire station. In addition to indicating the company assigned to the call, Messengers relay critical incident information, such as response level, address, hazardous materials data, medical conditions, highway detours or hydrant status.

Messenger Features

- Provides instant call information
- Good in high-noise areas
- Available in Single Line, Four Line or Jumbo sizes for apparatus bays

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Apparatus bays, dayrooms, conference and training rooms, fitness rooms, hallways and egress areas.

ALERTING STROBE™

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Fitness rooms and work areas in apparatus bays.

The First-In Alerting Strobe provides a visual notification of an incoming alert. Two or four light units are installed within a room and flash when a call is received from dispatch. Simultaneously, the First-In Satellight Controllers will broadcast the dispatch audio and display what unit is needed on the call through the use of the colored light indicators.

The First-In Alerting Strobe helps insure that emergency personnel are alerted even when conditions are not optimal. This is especially beneficial in situations where personnel are using headphones while working out.

ALERTING MODULES

DYNAMIC AUDIO TECHNOLOGY™

Each fire station is unique. Fire station acoustics not only vary from station to station, but hour to hour. Factors such as environmental noise, building construction, room size and the number of occupants play a role in the ability to clearly hear a dispatch.

Westnet, Inc. engineers invented First-In Dynamic Audio Technology to accommodate fluctuating audio levels within the firehouse. When a call comes in, Smart Station alerting modules utilizing this ground-breaking technology measure room audio levels and automatically adjust their speaker volume so dispatch transmissions can clearly be heard.

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Apparatus bays, the front and back apparatus bay aprons, back yards and work areas.

HIGH POWER AMPLIFIER™

The most difficult and problematic area of fire station audio is the apparatus bay. Westnet's highly successful solution to this problem is the First-In High Power Amplifier. Westnet's Dynamic Audio Technology alleviates the problem of missed calls due to inaudible dispatch transmissions in high-noise environments, such as stations located at airports, military bases and industrial areas. When station noise levels are high, the HPA automatically increases its speaker volume. Similarly, when station noise levels are low, the HPA softens its speaker volume, allowing personnel to comfortably hear the alert and dispatch audio.

COMMONLY LOCATED IN:

Outside locations such as patios, workshops and training areas.

OUTSIDE SATELLIGHT CONTROLLER®

The First-In Outside Satellight Controller provides alerting audio for outside areas. The Outside Satellight Controller consists of two devices, a weather resistant outside speaker and the intelligent controller, which is mounted indoors. The Outside Satellight Controller can be programmed to automatically lower its volume or shut off at night.

APPARATUS BAY COMPANY INDICATOR™

As a visual compliment to the High Power Amplifier, many fire departments use the Apparatus Bay Company Indicator to provide a visual notification of the companies needed on a call. Using the same color scheme as the Satellight Controllers, the Company Indicator notifies the crew of the apparatus assignment with just a glance at the large lights.

ALERTING MODULES

LOCAL ACTIVATION UNITS™

The First-In Smart Station Alerting System includes a variety of Local Activation Units, including an Acknowledgment Switch, a Visitor Notification Doorbell, an Alert System Test Switch, an Emergency Switch, a Monitor Switch, a Speaker Switch and a Stove Reset Switch. When the Local Activation Units are activated, Smart Station alerting modules send an audio notification that is heard throughout the station via the Satellights, Dorm Remotes and HPAs. Additionally, a visual notification can be displayed on Dorm Remotes and Messengers. All messages can be customized to fire department specifications.

First-In Acknowledgment Switch

The Acknowledgment Switch sends a signal back to dispatch confirming that the alert was received and the assigned crews are responding. The Acknowledgment Switch is commonly located in apparatus bays, where crews press it while on the way out of the fire station.

First-In Visitor Notification Doorbell

When a visitor activates a Doorbell, the announcement "Attention personnel, there is a visitor at the front door" is heard. In addition to the audio alert, a visual alert via the Satellights, Dorm Remotes and Messengers occurs. If there are multiple Doorbells, the system will announce and display at which door the visitor is located.

First-In Alert System Test Switch

The Alert System Test Switch allows fire personnel to conduct a full station test of the alerting system whenever desired. "This is a test of the First-In Alerting System, this is only a test" is heard throughout all Smart Station alerting modules. Additionally, all Satellights, Dorm Remotes, Messengers and Company Indicators illuminate and visually display a "System Test" message.

First-In Emergency Switch

The Emergency Switch announcement "Attention personnel, there is an in-house emergency, all personnel report" notifies the station crew of an in-station emergency. When the ES is pressed, all Smart Station audio and visual indicators (i.e. Satellights, Dorm Remotes, and HPAs) are activated and display "In-House Emergency". The system can be programmed to automatically notify dispatch of the incident. The Emergency Alert Switch is commonly located in watch rooms, station lobbies and apparatus bays.

First-In Monitor Switch

The Monitor Switch allows the station crew to monitor all radio traffic through the Smart Station audio units, such as Satellight Controllers, Satellights, Dorm Remotes and HPAs. If the crew does not wish to hear the radio traffic, they can simply turn the Monitor Switch to "off" and then they will only receive the calls for that station.

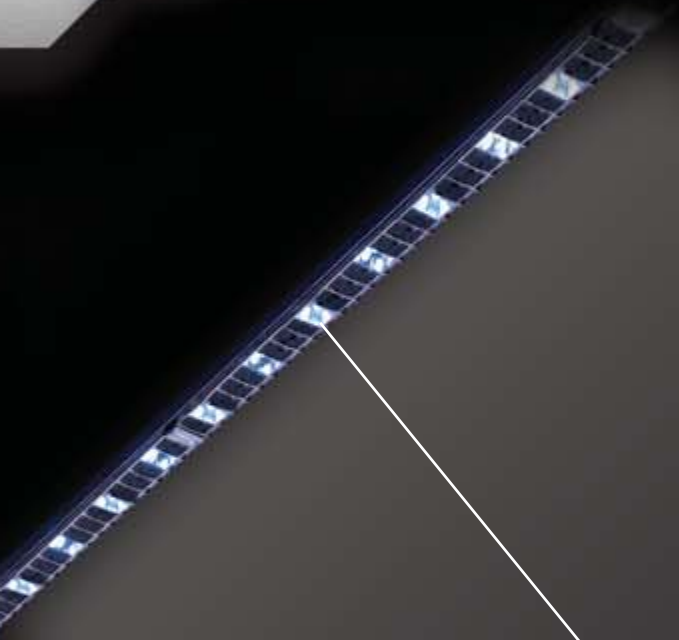
First-In Speaker Switch

The Speaker Switch is used to manually turn off the audio of a Satellight Controller and is commonly used in conference rooms, training rooms and administrative offices. The visual indicators on the Satellights continue to activate during an alert, so that emergency personnel know when an alert is received and who is going on the call. The Speaker Switch is also used to control outdoor speakers, which helps maintain good relations with neighbors adjacent to the fire station.

First-In Stove Reset Switch

During an alert sequence, the stove can be turned off to prevent accidental fire should the crews rush out on a call and forget to turn off the stove. When the crews return to the station, the Stove Reset Switch allows them to turn the stove back on.

ALERTING MODULES



KNIGHT LIGHT SYSTEM™

The First-In Knight Light System is an energy efficient, environmentally friendly dual mode lighting system. At a time designated by the fire department, the MCU automatically activates the Knight Light System each evening and places it into the “Non-Alert Mode”. In the “Non-Alert Mode”, the Knight Light illuminates dark hallways and stairwells with a white glow of light. Light sensors in the Knight Light System cause it to activate during the daytime hours if station lighting levels become low. If the station loses power, the Knight Light System will automatically activate and provide station lighting until the generator starts or normal power is restored. Unless otherwise programmed by the department, the MCU deactivates the Knight Light System the next morning.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

All First-In Fire Station Alerting System visual indicators utilize Light Emitting Diodes (LED) for illumination. LED devices are low voltage and draw very little electricity, making these units extremely energy efficient. LEDs have a long lifetime, averaging 4 million alerts or 100,000 hours of lighting. The First-In Fire Station Alerting System has been engineered to achieve the highest levels of energy efficient standards and Westnet, Inc. continues to work towards manufacturing green and environmentally friendly units.

NON-ALERT MODE

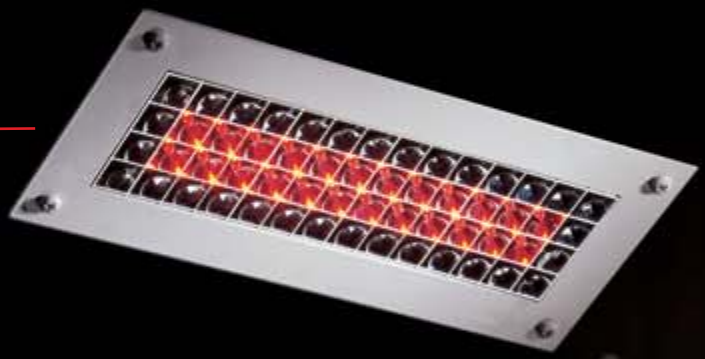
ALERTING MODULES

KNIGHT LIGHTING™

When a station is alerted, the Knight Light System enters “Alert Mode”. In the “Alert Mode”, the white glow of lights switches to red Knight Vision Lighting. The station lighting system remains red until the end of the alert. This feature is especially helpful during night calls, as it preserves the fire-fighter's night vision and provides safe entry into egress areas and appara-tus bays. At the end of the “Alert Mode”, the Knight Light System switches back to white.

ACTIVE X-IT LIGHTING®

First-In Active X-It Lighting visually aids the crew during an alert by emitting a moving, directional glow of red light indicating exits lead-ing to the apparatus bay and pole holes. Active X-It, rather than the Knight Light System, is used in areas where continuous lighting is not needed throughout the night (i.e. open dormitories).



ALERT MODE

The Knight Light System eliminates the optical shock of glaring fluorescent lights when per-sonnel enter a hallway or stairwell.

ALERTING MODULES

CONTROL REMOTE®

The First-In Control Remote is used to perform a wide variety of tasks throughout the fire station by using relays to interface other station systems into the alerting system. The Control Remote is commonly used as a safety tool to automatically turn off stoves and barbeques, thus reducing the risk of fire when crews rush out on a call. Control Remotes are capable of sensing unsafe conditions within the fire station and can report these situations to fire personnel, the dispatch center and Westnet's C3 Center. For fire stations not implementing Smart Station audio and lighting modules, the Control Remote is used to activate a station's existing lighting and public address systems.

Control Remote Features

- Turns off kitchen appliances and barbeques
- Opens apparatus bay doors
- Activates exhaust fans
- Controls traffic lights
- Opens station security gates

SILENCER®

The First-In Silencer automatically mutes infrared-controlled entertainment devices (i.e. televisions and stereos) during an alarm sequence, allowing for quiet and clear audio recognition of the incoming dispatch. The Silencer is frequently used in high-noise areas, such as fitness rooms, dayrooms, dining rooms and kitchens. Once the alert is complete, the Silencer automatically restores the stereo and television equipment back to their prior audio settings. The Silencer can be used in conjunction with the Video Messenger.

TELEPHONE INTERFACE MODULE™

The First-In Telephone Interface Module (TIM) is used for paging personnel within the fire station. The TIM eliminates the need for a traditional public address system by integrating the fire station telephone system into the First-In Alerting System. Intercom paging is heard throughout the station through the Smart Station audio units, such as Satellight Controllers, Dorm Remotes, HPAs and outside speakers.

ALERTING MODULES

POWER MODULE™

The First-In Smart Station Power Module provides the necessary power to all First-In Smart Station alerting modules. Power Modules are located throughout the station, providing distributed power for the alerting system. These intelligent Power Modules are capable of sensing a loss of power. Once a loss or interruption of power is sensed, the alerting system notifies the station crew. The Power Modules can be programmed to notify dispatch, as well as Westnet's C3 Center. All Power Modules come equipped with an external on-line, uninterruptible power supply (UPS).

UPS

All First-In Fire Station Alerting Systems include a minimum of one Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). The UPS provides continuous power in the event of power loss to the fire station, allowing alarm sequences to continue to be received. The UPS also provides line filtering, protecting alerting equipment from power surges or spikes.

CABLE PLANT

All First-In Smart Station Systems include a First-In Cable Plant, which is a pre-fabricated Ethernet LAN Cabling System. Each low voltage cable system has been inspected and tested by Westnet, Inc. The First-In Smart Station alerting modules communicate with each other utilizing Ethernet LAN cabling throughout the entire system. The First-In Cable Plant allows for ease of installation, expandability, multiple configuration options and quick troubleshooting.

RADIO ISOLATION UNIT™

The First-In Radio Isolation Unit is used to protect the MCU from damage occurring from unforeseen electrical transients and lightning strikes. The Radio Isolation Unit is located between the MCU and the fire station radio. If the radio antenna receives a lightning strike, the Radio Isolation Unit filters damaging electrical surges, minimizing or preventing harm to the MCU. Multiple radios can be connected to the Radio Isolation Unit.

DATA LINE SURGE PROTECTOR

Westnet, Inc. utilizes a Data Line Surge Protector to protect the alerting system from data line surges.

SAMPLE STATION

FIRST-IN FIRE STATION ALERTING

LEGEND

MCU	Master Control Unit
PAG	Station Paging Module
CR	Control Remote
RIU	Radio Isolation Unit
PM UPS	Power Module & UPS – REQUIRES 110V. POWER
AUX	Auxilliary Module
SC	Satellight Controller
S	Satellight
SSAP	Smart Station Amplifier
PAS	PA Speaker
PASL	PA Speaker with Lights
FSAS STROBE	Alert System Strobe Controller
FSSL	FSAS Strobe Light
DR	Dorm Remote
DL	Dorm Light
SIL	Silencer
VMSS	Video Messenger
BAY	Apparatus Bay Satellight Indicator
HPA	High–Power Paging Amplifier & Speaker
DUAL HPA	High–Power Paging Amplifier & Dual Speakers
SMSS	Single Line Messenger – REQUIRES 110V. POWER
JMSS	Jumbo Messenger – REQUIRES 110V. POWER
OSC	Outside Satellight Controller
OS	Outside Speaker – IN CONJUNCTION WITH OSC
A–XT	Active–X–IT Lighting
KL	Knight Light
DB	Doorbell
ES	Emergency Switch
SW	Speaker Switch
MN	Radio Monitor Switch
AS	Acknowledgment Switch
TS	Test Switch
CI	Company Indicator
TT	Turnout Timer

www.FirstInAlerting.com

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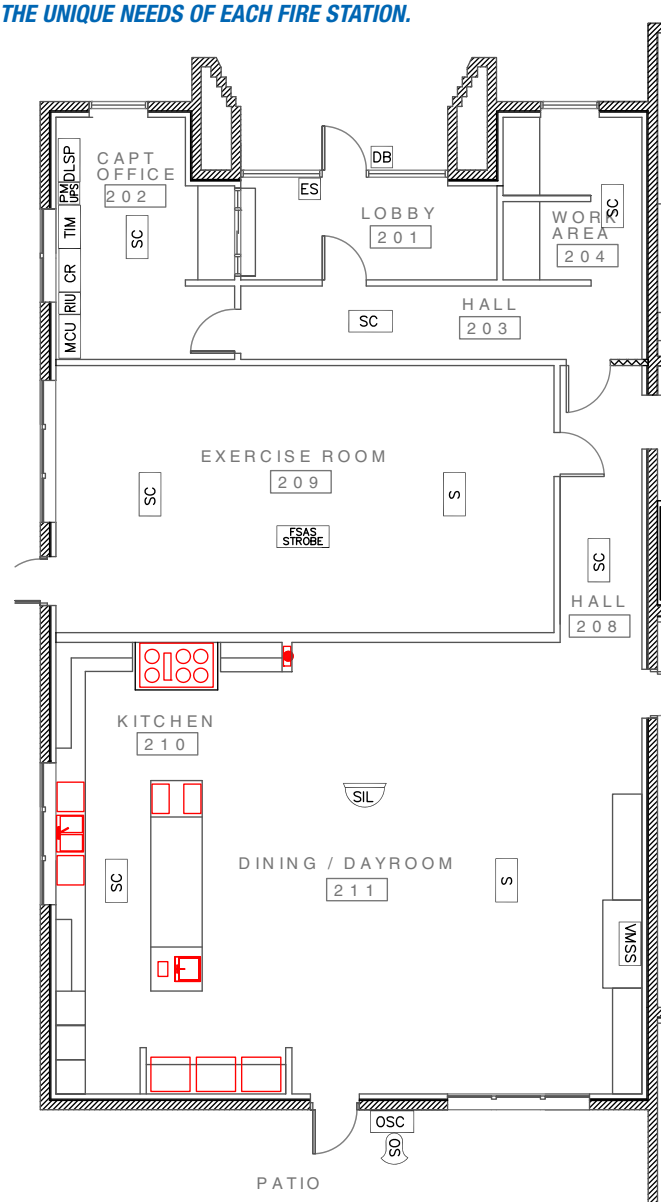
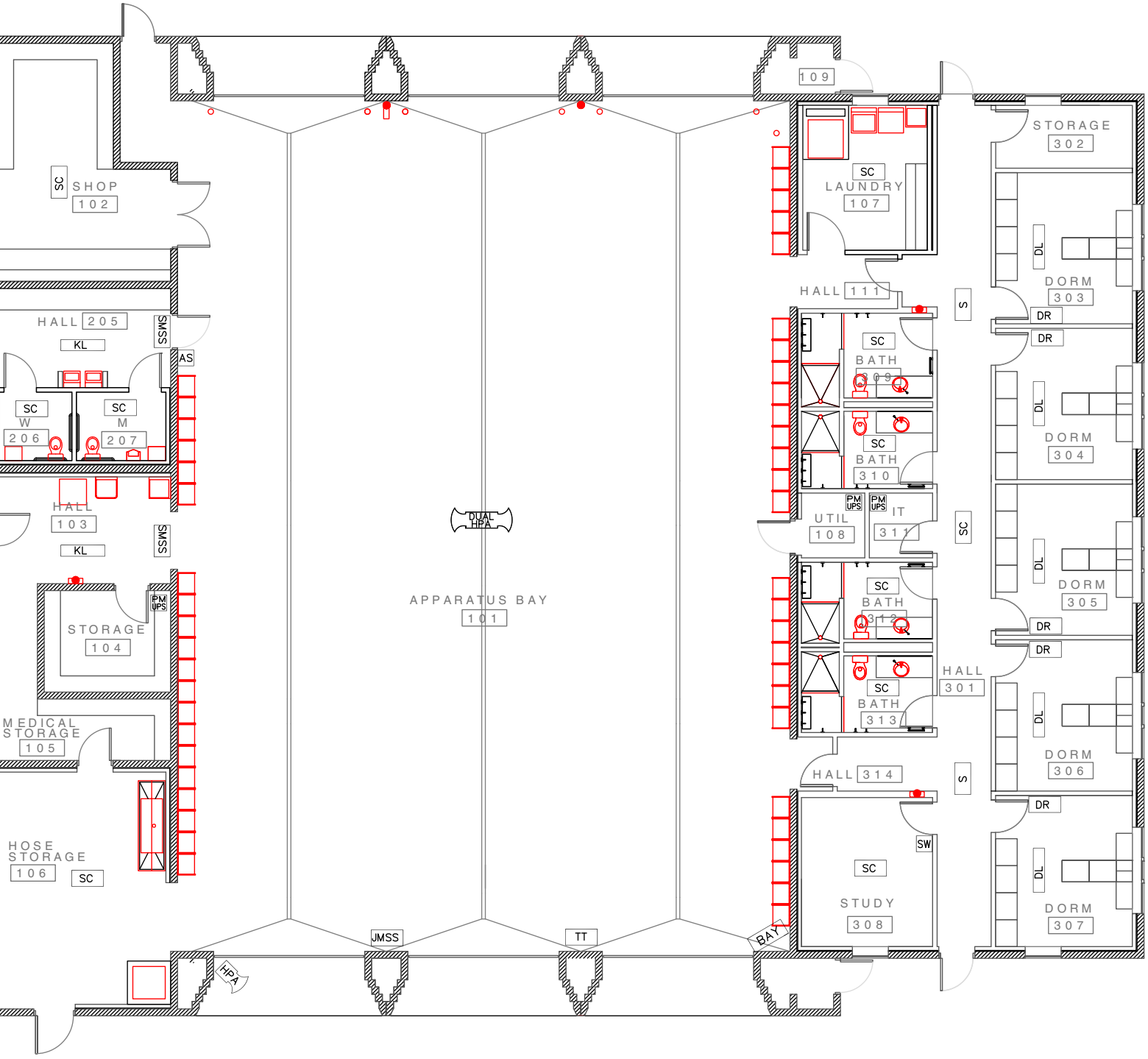
(800) 807-1700

THIS FLOOR PLAN DEPICTS HOW FIRST-IN FIRE STATION ALERTING EQUIPMENT CAN BE PLACED THROUGHOUT A FIRE STATION. FIRST-IN'S MODULAR DESIGN ALLOWS THE CUSTOMER TO IMPLEMENT AN ALERTING SYSTEM TAILORED TO MEET THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF EACH FIRE STATION.



WESTNET, INC. WORKS CLOSELY WITH ARCHITECTS, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS AND FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF TO DESIGN A SYSTEM FOR EACH FIRE STATION.

FOR THOSE DEPARTMENTS UTILIZING EXISTING STATION PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS, THE FIRST-IN "CORE PACKAGE" WILL CONSIST OF A MASTER CONTROL UNIT, CONTROL REMOTE, RADIO ISOLATION UNIT, DATA LINE SURGE PROTECTOR AND A UPS. THESE ALERTING MODULES CAN BE INTEGRATED WITH YOUR CURRENT STATION LIGHTS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM.



WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

If there is one vital element in the life of an emergency, it is the point at which a call is received at the dispatch center. In what could be the worst possible moment in a person's life, they reach for a phone and dial 911. Everything they need to save themselves or their loved ones depends on the actions of the emergency dispatcher, who puts into motion a series of events that sends the much needed help. The critical incident information they collect allows EMS and fire crews to begin taking the actions required for rescue and response. That calming influence on the other end of a desperate phone call is the voice of an unseen hero, the hero that is part of a team that works to save lives and property. In essence, dispatch is where it all begins.

In order to alert the first responders of an emergency in the fastest way possible, both the dispatch center and the fire station must be equipped with technology that allows for rapid transfer of the call information. Westnet, Inc. has designed a suite of products used in dispatch centers to assist communications managers in meeting their operational goals for a consolidated, turnkey product for alerting first responders of emergency situations. The First-In Alerting Platform provides a comprehensive framework for alerting emergency personnel.

DISPATCH INTERFACE

The First-In Fire Station Alerting System has been credited with dramatically reducing response time. A key factor in reducing response time is the way in which dispatch activates the alerting system. First-In can be activated in a number of ways (i.e. IP network, analog and digital radio systems, serial data, etc). While First-In offers an optional suite of dispatch products for enhanced dispatch capability, First-In does not require any equipment in the dispatch center.

AUTOMATIC CAD INTERFACE

Using a two-tone system on a multiple station call can easily delay the dispatch by several seconds, wasting precious time. When used in conjunction with the dispatch center's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and network systems, the First-In System virtually eliminates this delay. Several stations can be activated at once instead of one at a time. The automatic CAD interface allows crews to respond faster.

Another benefit of a direct interface between the dispatch CAD and First-In is automatic failover. The CAD and First-In Alerting Systems are in constant communication with one another and First-In automatically acknowledges every alert back to CAD. If the CAD does not receive the proper acknowledgment, the CAD automatically activates First-In over the back-up system. This automatic failover to a secondary activation method occurs without any delay or action required by the dispatcher.

The First-In Fire Station Alerting Systems interface with most commercial CAD systems, as well as many local systems that were created “in house” by department, city or county personnel.

ALERTING FRAMEWORK

FIRST-IN ALERTING PLATFORM™

The First-In Alerting Platform (FiAP) is a computer-based framework that provides dispatch with a variety of automatic and manual alerting options. The FiAP utilizes network alerting (IP), as well as radio, paging, text /SMS message and email messages to alert first responders both in and out of the station.

Information sent via the FiAP contains the units needed on the call, the incident type, the response level, address and other call details. This information is voiced and displayed at the fire station, transmitted over the fire radio system and can be sent to pagers and cellular phones as text and email messages.

The First-In Alerting Platform offers many levels of redundant alerting, which enables the dispatch center to alert first responders in the event of a primary alerting method failure.

FIRST-IN VOIP DISPATCH™

The First-In VoIP Dispatch System uses VoIP technology to send dispatch audio to the alerted fire stations. This system is used as a redundant path of the dispatch audio on the fire radio system. VoIP enables silent alerting of the fire station without broadcasting the information over the fire radio system. The VoIP data is encrypted to prevent unauthorized reception of the information. The First-In VoIP Dispatch System is supervised to meet NFPA 1221 recommendations of supervised alerting circuits and offers both a high level of operational reliability, as well as a secure audio path to the fire stations.

FIRST-IN MOBILE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM™

The First-In Mobile Notification System (FiMNS) enables the dispatch center to verify that alerted first responders are responding to the dispatch. The alerted personnel confirm that they are en route by auto-dialing the FiMNS from their smart phones with the number embedded in the email message sent to their pager or cellular phone. Response verification is automatically displayed on monitors in the dispatch center, as well as to the CAD system.

AUTOMATED VOICE DISPATCH

FIRST-IN AUTOMATED VOICE DISPATCH SYSTEM™

The First-In Automated Voice Dispatch (FiAVD) feature of the First-In Fire Station Alerting System provides the fire/rescue department and the dispatch center a quick, consistent means of providing complete dispatch information to the responding emergency personnel. This component of First-In offers the most comprehensive, turnkey public safety dispatch notification currently available. The FiAVD decreases dispatch center stress by reducing the amount of time a dispatcher is needed on the 911 call. Once the dispatcher obtains and approves all of the pertinent call information, the CAD sends information to the FiAVD and the FiAVD automatically announces the call information to the appropriate first responders. This call information includes, but is not limited to, the units assigned to the call, the nature of emergency, the incident address or name of the business and more. The automation of the FiAVD alleviates the need for the dispatcher to voice the call information, thus allowing him or her to concentrate on incoming emergency calls and supervise existing calls. This feature not only reduces response time, but helps reduce stress when call volumes are high and dispatchers are handling numerous 911 calls at the same time.

The FiAVD integrates seamlessly with the First-In Fire Station Alerting System station equipment, providing automated voice that completes the entire dispatch message. Administrative management of FiAVD can be done by dispatch center personnel utilizing voice management software that is capable of customizing the speech, cadence, pronunciation and accent of words in the database. The FiAVD Voice Editor is specifically designed for use by dispatch and fire communications personnel and does not require expensive, time consuming creation and editing of .wav files.

FiAVD Features

- Reduces dispatcher stress levels
- End-user voice editing software
- Helps with high call volumes in the dispatch center

ALERT NOTIFICATION

The First-In Alerting Platform provides users with a multitude of alerting notification methods outside of the fire station. Alerts and notifications are sent to first responder pagers, cell phones, and email accounts. The First-In Alerting Platform allows dispatch to designate which personnel receive the alerts. For example, the Battalion Chief's cell phone is not alerted for basic medical aid calls, but is for a commercial structure fire.

FIRST-IN PAGER NOTIFICATION™

The First-In Alerting Platform supports analog and digital, simulcast wide-area paging of first responders. Emergency personnel will receive the call information, such as units needed on the call, incident type, address of the incident and any additional call information on their alphanumeric pagers. The use of pager notification is ideal for career, volunteer and combination departments that need alert notification of personnel in the field. The pager message contains the information necessary to utilize the First-In Mobile Notification System.

FIRST-IN TEXT / SMS MESSAGE NOTIFICATION™

The First-In Alerting Platform supports the ability to send dispatch information as a text message to the first responder's cellular phone, regardless of the wireless carrier. Emergency personnel receive a text or SMS message with the call information. Responding personnel can acknowledge with a response by using the First-In Mobile Notification System, which enables the dispatch center to confirm that personnel are responding to the incident. The use of text message notification is ideal for career, volunteer and combination departments that need alert notification of personnel in the field.

FIRST-IN EMAIL MESSAGE NOTIFICATION™

Similar to the Text Message Notification, the First-In Alerting Platform supports the ability to send dispatch information as an email message to the first responder's smart phone. The email contains the call information, such as units assigned to the call, incident type, address and any additional call information on their cellular phone. Responding personnel can acknowledge their response by using the First-In Mobile Notification System, enabling the dispatch center to confirm that personnel are responding to the incident. The use of email message notification is ideal for career, volunteer and combination departments that need alert notification of personnel in the field.

ALERT NOTIFICATION

FIRST-IN RADIO INTERFACE CONTROLLER™

The First-In Radio Interface Controller System (RIC) provides both automatic and manual activation of the fire station using wireless radio technology. Alert information is automatically sent from the CAD system or the First-In Alerting Platform to the RIC, which transmits the information to the MCU. In the event the dispatch computer or network is down, the dispatcher uses the RIC's keypad to manually alert the station. Even in the manual backup mode, the RIC provides station and company-specific alerting. The RIC System operates on both analog and digital radio systems, as well as the new P25 radio system.

PRINTER NOTIFICATION

The First-In Alerting Platform supports the ability to send dispatch information to station printers, as well as mobile printers using a wireless network. Before exiting the station, emergency personnel receive a printout of the call information (i.e. units assigned to the call, incident type, address, and any additional call information).

NFPA 1221, 1710 & 1720

The First-In Fire Station Alerting System assists departments in meeting the recommendations of NFPA 1221. The First-In MCU accomplishes this through the use of polling when utilizing IP, serial data, or radio frequency (RF) to alert the station. Polling provides instant notification of a lost connection between dispatch and the fire station, which greatly reduces the chance of a missed call. The CAD checks its connection with the fire station's MCU at a predetermined variable, such as every 10.5 seconds. If the CAD does not receive proper confirmation from the MCU, the alerting system announces the loss of connection to the station crew. This feature enables the crew, dispatch, fire and communications personnel to begin proactive, rather than reactive, correction of the problem.

First-In also assists fire departments striving to meet NFPA 1710 and 1720 recommendations for response time. The pre-announcement and Smart Station alerting modules help departments reduce response time and arrive on scene faster. The elapsed alert time displayed by the Turnout Timers helps crews towards meeting response time goals.

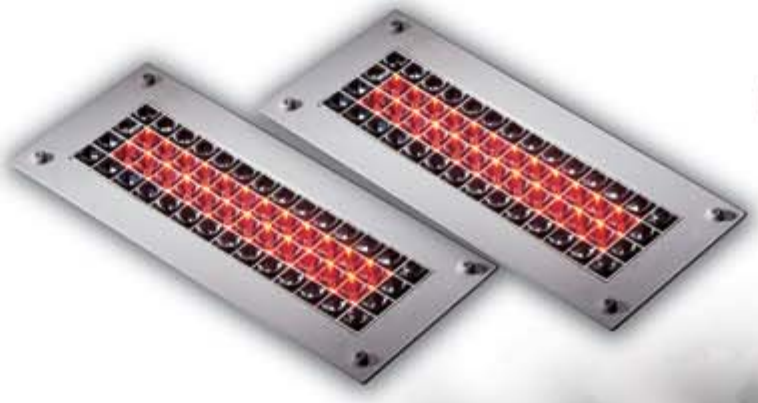
AIRPORT ALERTING

FIRST-IN AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY SYSTEM™
MILITARY & CIVILIAN

Anytime an aviation emergency occurs, lack of immediate and accurate information increases the chance for loss of life. Where is the aircraft? What is the emergency? How many souls are on board? How many pounds of fuel are remaining? Answers to these questions become the critical incident information necessary to perform the quickest and safest rescue. Responding to the crash site quickly enables the ARFF crew to secure escape paths, evacuate the aircraft and extinguish burning debris as swiftly as possible. Time is paramount. The First-In Aircraft Emergency System is used in airports to reduce response time and expedite the flow of information during an aircraft emergency.

WESTNET, INC. OFFERS A COMPLETE SUITE OF AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY ACTIVATION AND ALERTING SYSTEMS.

Due to the unique environment of both civilian and military airport crash stations, the First-In High Power Amplifier is frequently used to broadcast alerts over the loud noise that jet engines can cause. The First-In Alerting Strobe and Jumbo Messengers are also used to indicate an incoming alert and provide critical incident information.



FIRST-IN CRASH PHONE MODULE™

When the Air Traffic Controller picks up the crash phone to alert the ARFF station, the MCU and First-In Crash Phone Module automatically answer the station crash phone. After answering the crash phone, the MCU and Crash Phone Module emit a ringing tone throughout the station. The crash phone audio is then played throughout the Smart Station alerting modules allowing all crew members to hear the dispatch information while suiting up.

INSTALLATION & SERVICE

WESTNET SERVICE VEHICLES

SMART STATION (RAAM) SOFTWARE™

First-In Smart Station RAAM is an optional software suite that enables the customer to remotely administer the alerting system for all stations. RAAM provides immediate access via Ethernet LAN to each station from a central location, such as the department's communications facility or fire headquarters. This feature eliminates costly and time-consuming trips to the individual fire stations throughout the city or county for normal service calls.

INSTALLATION

The First-In Fire Station Alerting System can be installed in new, existing or remodeled fire stations. All First-In Smart Station Alerting Systems include the First-In Cable Plant and mounting hardware. Westnet has a network of certified, national installation companies who provide turnkey installation including on-site, end-user training.

EXTENDED WARRANTIES AND MAINTENANCE OPTIONS

Each Westnet product is backed by a one-year parts and labor warranty. On-site warranties, extended warranties and maintenance plans are also available. Westnet will tailor a Customer Care Plan to fit your department's needs with packages ranging from remote technical support to full on-site maintenance.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

We realize that the job of public safety officials is not 8 to 5. Technical support is available from Westnet's C3 Center, whereby the Westnet Systems Group can directly access a station's alerting system via a VPN connection. This customer service provides a collaborative effort between Westnet and department personnel in order to quickly resolve any issues on a 24-hour a day, 7-day per week basis. Westnet, Inc. also maintains a 24-hour dispatch center for immediate assistance.

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OUR COMMITMENT

FIRE STATION # ZERO®

WESTNET MISSION:

Westnet, Inc. is dedicated to increasing the efficiency and safety of the first responders serving our communities. We are devoted to improving the quality of life not only for the men and women of the fire and military service, but the citizens who rely upon you in times of need. Our goal is to continuously exceed client expectations on every level. Creativity and innovative engineering drive us to produce breakthrough technology in the field of emergency communications.

Westnet, Inc. has been providing the fire service with high quality communication products and consulting for over 25 years. We pride ourselves on building excellent products that public safety personnel can rely upon. Manufacturing first-rate, dependable equipment that lasts has created a strong following of clients who continue to purchase additions to their alerting systems with each passing year. These clients know that Westnet, Inc. stands behind its products. Our reputation is solid and our dedication to the fire service is rooted in respect, as well as a long-term commitment to excellence.

First-In is built by people who understand and respect the fire service. They are dedicated to assisting you perform your duties and helping you go home to your families at the end of your shift.

WESTNET QUALITY ASSURANCE

All First-In Fire Station Alerting Systems are proudly made in the United States of America. Stringent quality control standards are applied to all equipment we manufacture and every product must pass Westnet Integration Laboratory Inspections and Engineering Qualifications. All First-In alerting modules are tested with a minimum of 1,000 successful alerts prior to delivery and installation. Extremely high reliability is a hallmark of Westnet's First-In Fire Station Alerting System.

WHEN LIVES HANG IN THE BALANCE, COMPROMISE IS NOT AN OPTION.

COURAGE

TRADITION

DETERMINATION

TEAMWORK

LOYALTY

HONOR

DEDICATION

SERVICE

WESTNET®

PROUDLY MADE IN THE USA

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