

## ***NFPA to Consider Burglar Alarm Standards Again***

Some of you may recall that several years ago the National Fire Protection Association contemplated writing standards for premise security at the behest of several individuals.

At that time CSAA successfully spearheaded a fax and mail campaign to the NFPA Standards Council to thwart any attempt to write standards that belonged in the purview of the alarm industry. We understand that over 75% of the CSAA members wrote or faxed messages of opposition to Casey Grant, Secretary for the Standards Council and/or George Miller, President of NFPA when this was tried before.

CSAA was joined by other groups as well in their opposition to the effort and it was ultimately withdrawn.

**A proposal was recently made to the Standards Council which would attempt to do the same thing again and gain control over burglar alarm standards.**

This proposal was made to the Standards Council at their Sept. 30, 1999 meeting, therefore, NFPA will shortly be calling for comments on their intent to pursue premises security standards.

A second standard would be redundant in nature and could potentially cause confusion among consumers and AHJ's. CSAA believes that the standards set by CSAA and SIA serve the industry well and are constantly being improved.

CSAA **strongly urges** you to write to Casey Grant at NFPA and voice your opposition to any attempt in this area.

Please copy George Miller at NFPA and the CSAA office. Listed below is the NFPA address and fax number along with the CSAA fax number so that we might gauge the extent of our members' involvement.

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**Central Station  
Alarm Association**

# Signals

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## **ACCENT + Y2K = A+**

Members of ACCENT, the CSAA/SIA-sponsored listserver, breathed a sigh of relief when on December 31, 8:06am, 15 hours before the Year 2000 roll-over in the U.S. they received the first e-mail from **Cliff Dice**, President of **Dice Corporation**.

"Welcome to 2000. New Zealand rolled to the year 2000 two hours ago. With 80,000 accounts on our Dice Systems there. No phone failures, No power losses. It was a non-event at this point," wrote Dice.

Dice sent a total of 17 messages as his company received Y2K reports from clients in Australia, Japan, The Philippines, Europe and the U.S.

The only problems reported were an increase in burglar alarm signals and unscheduled opens due to customers testing their systems; an increase in LTCs due to premises closing late; and some power losses due to clients switching to generators.

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**ACCENT + Y2K**

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"I can not begin to tell all of you how surprised I was to see things around the world go so smoothly. I think that last night will be reflected in history as a turning point for technology, and the fact that mankind overcame its largest obstacle. All of you should get ready for more business, because last night was a vote of confidence to the consumer," concluded Dice.

Another great source of information was the **Monitoring Automation Systems'** (MAS) Web-based Y2K Operations Center. According to **Carl Root** who also reported to ACCENT, "during the last four days, over 20,000 hits have been registered on the site."

Other listserver members who participated in the exchange included **David Brown** (SAI North Central Command Center), **Bart Didden** (U.S.A. Central Station Alarm Corp.), **B. J. Byrne** (CDS); **Evelyn Legot** (Burglar Alarm Technicians, Inc.), **Tina Jones** (Figaro Consulting), **Ron Petrarca** (Electronix Systems Central Station), **Bill Gerth** (Electronic Security Services), **Irv Fisher** (API Alarm Co.), J.P. Shull (Monitronics), **Joe Pfefer** (Jade Alarm), **J.D. Benfer** (United Central Control), **Melissa Skellenger** (RTC Alarm Monitoring Services) and **Darla Davis** (Tel-Tec Security Systems Inc.).

Thanks to all who participated in this exciting event!

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**ACCENT** is an **electronic mailing list** (listserver) of e-mail addresses of people interested in the alarm industry. It was developed by the **Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA)** and **Security Industry Association (SIA)** for the exclusive use of their members.

The acronym stands for the **Alarm Call Center Education, Networking and Training**.

To receive more information about the listserver or to download an application, visit [www.csaul.org/ACCENTListserver.htm](http://www.csaul.org/ACCENTListserver.htm)

**NFPA & Burglar Alarm Standards**

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In the past, your letters and faxes stopped this redundant effort. We cannot do it unless you are willing to take five minutes and write to NFPA to voice your opposition.

Thank you! ☐

WRITE TO NFPA:

Mr. Casey Grant  
Secretary  
Standards Council  
NFPA  
1 Battery March Park  
Quincy, Ma. 02269

CC: Mr. George Miller  
President

Phone 617-770-3000  
Fax 617-770-0700

**Please fax a copy of your letter to CSAA:**

Fax 703-242-4675

## New Accreditation Program Approved

The **Residential Fire Safety Institute (RFSI)** recently approved a proposal to create an accreditation program for installers of sprinklers in one- and two-family homes. The proposal is an updated version of an idea advanced previously by the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA). RFSI will be administering the program for the National Fire Sprinkler Association.