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Management of Alarm Systems for the Process Industries

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Management of Alarm Systems for the Process Industries

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Preface

This preface as well as all footnotes, annexes, and draft technical reports associated with this standard are included for information purposes only and are not part of ANSI/ISA-18.2-2016.

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Introduction

Purpose
This 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 lifecycle. This standard defines the terminology and models to develop an alarm system, and it defines the work processes recommended to effectively maintain the alarm system throughout the lifecycle.

This standard was written as an extension of existing ISA standards with due consideration of other guidance documents that have been developed throughout industry. Ineffective alarm systems have often been cited as contributing factors in the investigation reports following major process incidents. This standard is intended to provide a methodology that will result in the improved safety, quality, and operation in the process industries.


During the development and maintenance of this standard 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 implement third-party alarm system software,
c) design or implement alarm systems,
d) operate and maintain alarm systems, and
e) audit or assess alarm system performance.

Organization
This standard is organized in two parts. The first part is introductory in nature, (Clauses 1 to 5). The main body of the standard follows (Clauses 6 to 18), which presents mandatory requirements and non-mandatory recommendations as noted.