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A Quarterly Newsletter from Safety Systems, Inc.

Winter 2022

MORE HELP FROM WASHINGTON DC!

Back in the 1980's, we used a clean agent fire suppression product called Halon 1301. At the time it was the most efficient and practical means of providing fire protection for computer rooms, as the agent was stored as a liquid, dispersed as a gas, and interrupted the chemical process of combustion without reducing the oxygen in the room, making it safe for use in occupied areas.

In 1989, the Montreal Protocol was adopted, which phased out the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) which spelled the end of using Halon 1301, which despite its wonderful fire suppression capabilities was suspected of damaging the ozone layer. At that time, the recommended replacement for CFC's was the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFC's), which didn't have the bad chlorine molecule. Among the available replacement agents for fire suppression use were ECARO-25 and FM-200, both of which were classified as the safe HFC that didn't deplete the ozone layer.

In 2011, the Obama administration drafted the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, which among other provisions contained a mandate to phase down the production of HFC's, now identified as a contributor to global warming. The phase down plan required production to be reduced to 15% of the 2011 production level by 2036. Like a lot of legislation, the AIM act never passed Congress.

However, never rest easy in Washington! On December 27, 2020 Congress passed another Act that had the AIM Act attached to it. The fire protection industry was entirely unaware of this until the EPA started contacting manufacturers this spring. Effective January 1, 2022 restrictions on the amount of HFC's that can be produced go into effect.

At this point we are now quoting alternate agents when ECARO-25 or FM-200 are specified, as the price for the HFC agents will increase significantly in the future. We now only have NOVEC 1230 as a similar agent, it has an ozone depletion potential of 0 and a global warming potential of

less than 1. The other alternative we have is ProInert, which is an Argon mixture that displaces oxygen to extinguish a fire, and can only be used in occupied areas with restrictions.

PHONE LINE CHANGES/CANCELS

Please check with us before cancelling or changing your telephone service. If your alarm system has not been converted to another means of communication, changes to your phone service could prevent your system from communicating properly!

“QUARTERLY QUOTATION”

“When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember the fire department usually uses water” – Unknown

CELL COMMUNICATOR UPGRADES

We are focusing on completing the upgrade of existing cellular communicators prior to the announced discontinuance date. AT&T has announced their intention to discontinue 3G service in February, 2022 and Verizon in December, 2022. Since the bulk of communicators are on the AT&T network, the delayed transition from Verizon doesn't help us much. As we expected, we are now seeing isolated areas where the existing 3G communicator stops communicating, but the new LTE communicator works just fine. Val Kelley from our office is contacting customers to make arrangements to upgrade the soon to be obsolete communicators. We are on track to complete the project in time, but we will need to upgrade all of the 3G units to maintain communications once the phone carriers remove the 3G equipment from their towers.

ACTIVITY STATS

Our central station alarm activity for July, August and September is as follows:

- **Burglaries:**
 - Commercial..... 1
 - School..... 1
 - Church..... 0
 - Residential..... 0
- **Holdups:**
 - Commercial..... 0
 - Financial Institution..... 0
- **Fires:**
 - Commercial..... 2
 - Multifamily Residential..... 0
- **Individuals apprehended..... 0**
- **Fire Injuries..... 0**

COMPANY DIRECTORY:

We sincerely appreciate each of our customers who have entrusted us with their business. While we have implemented a voice mail option on our phone system, a friendly person is always available to take your call. All of our staff can be reached through our toll free number, **(800) 283-3659**. Our fax number is (517) 782-5670. If you prefer to contact one of us directly, we've provided our company directory.

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