



Central Station Service

FM Approvals' Central Station Placarding Program provides independent third-party verification of Code-Compliant Fire Alarm Signaling Systems for commercial and industrial applications. Contact FM Approvals if you are interested in:

- Reduced false alarms
- Increased reliability
- Code compliance
- Runner response
- Systematic follow-up auditing function
- Increased recognition and credibility of your Alarm Signaling System or Central Station Company
- Working with an organization with a proven track record

For further information, please visit FM Global's Web site at www.fmglobal.com/approvals. Or, contact:
Bob Elliott
FM Approvals
P.O. Box 9102
Norwood, MA 02062-9102 USA
Phone: +1 (1)781 255 4832
E-mail: robert.elliott@fmglobal.com



P0329 (Rev. 8/05) Printed in USA (8/05)
© 2005 FM Global Technologies LLC
All rights reserved.

Central Station Service

The 7-Step Approval Process

1. Contact FM Approvals (see sidebar)

FM Approvals provides a documentation package that includes information about the Approval process, including pricing information and other materials that provide more information about the advantages of becoming FM Approved.

If sufficient information is provided (i.e., entity name, site and billing address, contact and listing category [complete service, local company or monitoring only]), FM Approvals provides the client with a proposal letter (with project ID number and cost estimate) and a Master Agreement.

2. Client Authorization

After reviewing the documentation package, the client returns to FM Approvals the signed agreement, applicable documentation and a deposit of 50 percent of the total project cost. This must be done before an examination date is scheduled.

3. Client Documentation Review

An engineer is assigned to review documentation. Once all items outlined in the proposal are received (including the 50-percent deposit) and completed correctly, a mutually agreeable examination date is scheduled.

4. Verification Process (exam or site verification)

The examination includes facilities, receiving equipment, primary and secondary power supplies, signal and test records, and a visit to protected properties with transmission of signals, as applicable, based on scope of company operations. During the examination, the client is advised of any deficiencies and given the opportunity to correct any deficiencies or variances. FM Approvals withholds the right to schedule a second site visit, based on variances and corrective action taken. Verification of methods used regarding the marking and control of "placarded" locations is defined. The Approval process can be halted, pending resolution of any corrective action.

5. Investigator Drafts Report

After all variances are addressed, a draft report is prepared; at this time, FM Approvals must have all addendum and supporting material (i.e., placard and log). A review of the original engineer's report involves checks for accuracy and compliance with Approval Standard 3011 requirements. If satisfactory, the report is printed and distributed.

6. Report Issued, FM Approval Begins

Approval report and Certificate of Compliance is issued to the central station company. Effective date of Approval is shown on report. The central station company is then capable of applying the FM Approved placard at protected facilities, as defined in the report and on the certificate. Listing in the *Approval Guide*, a publication of FM Approvals, occurs in the next publication cycle.

7. Re-examination of Central Station

To maintain FM Approved status, periodic follow-up re-examinations are required. The re-exams are unannounced, with the frequency determined by local authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs). Minimum requirement calls for a re-exam at least every three years, with certain AHJs requiring annual re-exams. FM Approvals can identify the jurisdictions requiring more frequent re-exams.