

Workshop on

„Design, Testing and Application of Foreign Software in Alarm Systems”

The workshop took place on June 21/22, 2001, in Berlin. About 30 Experts from 7 countries followed the very interesting presentations about the use of software packages which are externally developed by foreign software houses and embedded in the software of an alarm system. Categories of software were defined in order to identify such software which will remain the domain of the manufacturer, i.e. the detection and analysing software, and the software which can be developed externally.

The discussions showed that the subject was very well chosen. In the future the manufacturers of alarm systems more and more will enter contractual agreements with companies specialised in the development of certain software modules e.g. the control of the man-machine-interface and the transmission of data to remote stations. The main problem in this context is to guarantee the overall quality of the system. Therefore, representatives of test houses, although agreeing in principle, explained why they have to check carefully that the functionality of the whole system is not affected. This has to be checked during the certification process of the quality management system and in regular audits.

Another problem is the compliance with existing standards and regulations. In particular EN54-2, “Control and indicating equipment” should be revised in this aspect.

Furthermore, the influence of internet and office technologies were discussed. Here a pressure is expected from the customer who expects compatibility with existing techniques and practice.

A detailed report together with copies of the papers will be published in the next issue of the EUSAS NEWS LETTERS. Non EUSAS-members can get a copy for a price of SFr. 50.00 plus postal charges. Orders have to be addressed to:

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