The CE Marking system of demonstrating product compliance for Europe was developed as a tool to help facilitate free trade of goods within the different countries of the European Union. It was intended to enable a product to be judged on a like for like basis wherever it is made or sold, so users could be sure that a product in one member state had the same essential characteristics - such as electrical safety and Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC), or even performance - as the same type of product from another.

For Fire Alarm Systems - Many of the leading manufacturers in this industry have recently decided to use the CertAlarm mark on their products as they push the market to move away from national marks towards this pan-European mark. This scheme goes beyond the legal requirements of the CPD and gives an added level of quality and integrity to the products approved.

For Security products - This industry sector has no legal EU framework to check the performance and integrity of security devices although there are a large number of harmonised standards, all of which are satisfied by CertAlarm Certification. The CertAlarm scheme which is an accredited system 5 scheme under EN 45011 has been welcomed by the Security industry to fill a gap in the market for a reliable trustworthy Security mark and again the large security manufacturers are switching from national marks to this Pan European mark.

The CertAlarm scheme:

- Created by leading manufacturers in the fire and security sector and is administered by an independent, accredited group of Certification Bodies.
Benefits of CertAlarm

• CertAlarm is used across the European Union by manufacturers as part of their market access strategy instead of multiple national certifications - as evidence of product compliance with appropriate Standards.
• CertAlarm saves manufacturers time and money in not having to duplicate their test work in each member state, or undergo multiple annual inspections from multiple Certification Bodies and ultimately it gets them to market faster.

What types of products does the scheme cover?

40 fire and security product Standards fall within the scope of CertAlarm, covering products including:

- Power supply equipment
- Control and indicating equipment
- Fire alarm devices – Sounders
- Heat detectors - point detectors
- Smoke detectors-point detectors using scattered light
- Flame detectors - point detectors
- PIR Detectors
- Intruder & hold up alarms
- Smoke detectors - line detectors using an optical beam
- Voice alarm control and indicating equipment

How can Intertek help?

Intertek is the only UK testing and Certification Body participating in the CertAlarm scheme. We provide local Safety, EMC, Performance, ATEX and Environmental testing at our UKAS accredited laboratories in Leatherhead, Surrey, UK.

As an EU Notified Body for a number of Directives, including the Low Voltage Directive, the R&TTE Directive, the EMC Directive and the Construction Products Directive our experts will provide the technical support you need to help you meet your compliance objectives.

As well as full testing and certification for the CertAlarm scheme, we can even conduct preliminary R&D testing on your prototype to identify non-conformities early in the design cycle, saving you potential delays later on.

Certification for outside the EU

If you are looking to export your products outside of the European Union, then we also offer ETL product Listing for North America as well as testing through the IECEE CB scheme - which enables you to test your products with us and use the final test reports and certificates in applications for national certification in over 50 countries worldwide.

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