



February 16, 2022

To: Companies Installing Fire Alarms, DAS/BDA, and Smoke Control Systems in Seattle

**Re: Required Pre-Test Report for Fire Alarm Installation and Information about the PSERN BDA/DAS Transition**

This letter provides information regarding a new mandatory pre-test report that will be required prior to fire alarm final acceptance starting April 1, 2022. This requirement is going into effect in over a dozen jurisdictions in the area, including Seattle Fire (please see attached list of jurisdictions). Pre-tests will be reported through the website [www.thecomplianceengine.com](http://www.thecomplianceengine.com) and will utilize a standard regional form. The letter also includes information for Fire Alarm and BDA/DAS installers regarding the regional go live of the Puget Sound Emergency Responder Network (PSERN).

**New Fire Alarm Acceptance Test Form**

*Mandatory use starting April 1*

During 2021, a group of vendors and AHJs known as the Systems Testing Regional Advisory Group partnered with the Fire Alarm Working Group facilitated by Redmond Fire. Together those groups produced a new Fire Alarm Acceptance Test form that will be used by vendors to provide final pre-test results and inventory information in The Compliance Engine (TCE) prior to their fire department final inspection.

Submittal of pre-test results using the Fire Alarm Acceptance Test in TCE will be a precondition for your fire alarm final inspection beginning April 1. Please have a printed copy of the report at the job site for your Fire Department inspector. A pdf will be available to print from the TCE website after you complete the report submittal.

If your company does not provide annual testing and maintenance services, you may not be using The Compliance Engine. If you do not yet have an account, please register your company at <https://www1.thecomplianceengine.com/company/register> so that your employees can submit reports to the local AHJ in our region (see list of participating jurisdictions at the end of this letter).

We expect the new form to become available in TCE in late March 2022. If you would like to review the form sooner, a pdf version of the fire alarm pre-test form is available on our website: <http://www.seattle.gov/fire/business-services/systems-testing#systemstestingforms> This is very similar to the standard regional form that companies use now to report annual confidence testing of fire alarm systems in TCE.

## **PSERN Transition Information for Vendors Working on BDA/DAS and Alarm Monitoring Companies**

*BDA/DAS transition likely to begin in May 2022 for Seattle and later for other jurisdictions*

The aging public safety radio system in King County will be replaced by a new digital system called the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN). The new system was funded by a voter-approved levy. However, the levy did not fund upgrades to privately owned Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) installed in buildings to meet fire code requirements. Properties with public safety DAS will be required to re-tune and recommission their equipment for the new system. The project is being managed by King County. The Seattle Fire Department is preparing information to aid property owners and contractors in planning, contracting, and budgeting and to explain the fire code implications of non-compliance. Please see <http://www.seattle.gov/fire/business-services/systems-testing#bdadasemergencyradiocommunications>.

Fire Marshals throughout the region are working with PSERN to help ensure that the existing TCE Acceptance Test and Annual Test procedures and forms remain very similar before and after the transition.

During the transition, BDA/DAS will need to be taken offline for a period of several days or weeks while technicians work to retune the antennas and test them. Alarm monitoring companies should be aware and take steps to avoid transmitting false alarms regarding BDA/DAS that are offline as required by PSERN for the transition.

### **Invitation to Participate: Systems Testing Regional Advisory Group**

After the work on the Fire Alarm forms in 2021, the Regional Advisory Group is planning to work either on sprinkler acceptance test forms or updated new smoke control test forms (annual and acceptance) in the second half of 2022 and continuing in 2023. If you have not been part of the working group and would like to learn more about the work plan and participate, please contact Karen Grove to be added to the distribution list: [karen.grove@seattle.gov](mailto:karen.grove@seattle.gov).

We are grateful to our fire protection industry partners for your ongoing contributions to fire prevention and fire safety. If you have questions, you can reach us by email at [SFD\\_FMO\\_certifications@seattle.gov](mailto:SFD_FMO_certifications@seattle.gov) or [SFD\\_FMO\\_systemstesting@seattle.gov](mailto:SFD_FMO_systemstesting@seattle.gov).

Respectfully,



Assistant Chief Timothy J. Munnis, Fire Marshal  
Seattle Fire Department

Enclosures Table 1: Regional Systems Testing – Participating Jurisdictions as of 1/1/2022

**Table 1: Regional Systems Testing Advisory Group Members**

	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Reg'l Advisory Group</b>	<b>Standard Reports in TCE</b>	<b>Systems/Forms: Common Q/L/R Templates</b>
1	Bellevue	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
2	Bothell	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
3	Eastside Fire/Rescue	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
4	Kirkland	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
5	Mercer Island	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
6	Northshore Fire	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
7	Puget Sound Fire	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
8	Redmond	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
9	Renton	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
10	Seattle	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
11	Shoreline	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
12	South King Fire	Yes	No-Tegris	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
13	Tukwila	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
14	Valley Regional	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
15	Woodinville	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
16	Bremerton	Yes	Yes	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
17	KC Fire Marshal	Yes	Coming soon	Fire Alarm, Sprinkler, Standpipe, DAS/BDA
18	WA State FM	Yes	N/A	
19	PSERN	Observer	N/A	
20	KC Radio Shop	Observer	N/A	