

Case Study: Fire Alarm Panel Integration



Introduction:

Chipkin Automation Systems Inc. has developed drivers for a number of gateways including for major brand protocol gateway companies.

We have more experience with a wider variety of fire alarm panel protocols than any other single device.

Fire Protocol Drivers Developed by Chipkin Automation Systems:

- Simplex 4100 and similar
- Notifier AM6000 Italia
- Notifier 640 NFS, NFS2
- Notifier 320
- Notifier 3030 Onyx, NFS2
- Notifier AM2020
- Mircom FX2000
- Mircom Pro2000
- National Time and Signal
- Fike Cheetah
- FCI 7100
- FCI 7200

- FCI E3
- Gamwell
- Silent Knight
- Nohmi Integlex
- Nohmi Multicrest
- Edwards Quickstart

Background:

Note that the Chipkin made and Chipkin sold gateways are not UL864 approved so all communication from the Fire Alarm Control Panel (FACP) and the Building Automation System (BAS) would be tertiary information and NOT primary information. Primary information would initiate a fire alarm and fire suppression. Tertiary information is only used for informational or other purposes. However, many building owners want the FACP information available via the BAS so that the data is accessible from a variety of locations.

FACP panels are either directly connected to the gateway via a serial interface. The most common data transferred via the FieldServer are:

- Alarms
- Troubles
- Supervisories
- System Data (Battery fail, etc.)

Data available varies between alarm panel vendors. The gateways get data from the FACP in one of two ways, it either requests the FACP to send the sensor status to the FieldServer, or it receives an unsolicited update from the FACP when a sensor status changes.