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1 SCOPE & PURPOSE

1.1 Scope
This standard describes an interface format for communications between alarm signal receivers and automation computers. This standard is intended for use by equipment in security industry alarm monitoring centers, with possible uses in the areas of energy control and facilities monitoring and management.

This standard provides a common interface format for across-the-board compatibility of equipment, regardless of manufacturer, and provides for all the known communication needs between the computer and receiver.

This standard defines basic “codes” to identify commonly used dialer protocols used in alarm signal transmitters, as well as conditions in the central station equipment that require a technician or other manual attention.

Additions to these codes may be by application to SIA. Independent extensions to the codes will render a device non-compliant. Requests for additional codes, additional message fields, message interpretations or revisions to the standard, should be submitted to SIA. The request will be distributed to the Subcommittee members for review and approval.

The standard is voluntary and self-enforcing. In the case of incompatibility, the problem should be resolved to the extent possible by manufacturer-to-manufacturer discussions. SIA’s Digital Communications Standards Subcommittee will act as an arbitration body if the problem cannot be otherwise resolved.

1.2 Purpose
This standard provides for the following objectives:

- Accommodate forwarding of messages received through standard security industry digital communications dialer protocols (SIA Format, SIA 2000, Ademco Contact ID) as well as all other common transmitter protocols
- Minimize the amount of processing required by the receiver (and allow the receivers to handle data from many transmitters)
- Minimize the transmission error rate
- Allow for a data message to have variable length and content