

# ObSys Alarms

## Introduction

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### **ObSys**

ObSys is a PC-based software package that connects to different control systems, communicates with each, and provides graphical views of information from the control systems for the user. ObSys can also be used to pass information onto the higher building-wide network, and add extra functionality to individual control systems.

### **Alarms**

Alarms are text messages generated by the systems to inform the user of certain conditions that have occurred. Sometimes alarms are for 'information only'; sometimes they require the user to correct some fault that has occurred. Different systems produce different alarms – North Building Technologies Ltd. drivers converts these alarms to a common 'Alarm Message' format, and can then deliver the alarm message in a variety of ways.

### **Alarm Messages**

All North products have a common format for alarms; this allows alarms to be passed between any of our products.

An alarm value consists of six parts:

**<SystemLabel>|<ObjectLabel>|<ObjectCondition>|<AlarmPriority>|<Date>|<Time>**

Each part of the alarm is divide by the | character.

**<SystemLabel>** refers to the label of the device or the system generating the alarm.

**<ObjectLabel>** refers to the item or object within the system that has changed condition.

**<ObjectCondition>** refers the new condition that the object has entered.

**<AlarmPriority>** is in the range of 1 to 9, and represents the importance of the condition. Top priority is 1, 2 is the next level down and so on down to priority 9 which is the lowest priority.

**<Date>** and **<Time>** indicate when the new condition occurred

Other North products, including Compass Points and ObSys modules, can process alarms. For more information on these see "[North Help Assistant](#)" and type 'Alarm' in the search box.

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## ***Alarm Delivery***

Once a ObSys Point has received an alarm from the system that it is connected to it is able to deliver it to several different destinations in variety of ways. The simplest method for alarm delivery is for the ObSys Point to be set to send the alarm to one destination. The ObSys Point will wait for a 'comms OK' message to return, this is an indication that the alarm has been received.

Having the ObSys Point send the alarm to different destinations during a time period expands on the simple style of delivery. For example, in a large building the alarm may be sent to a day office during the day and a security office during the night. It may even have a different destination for weekends.

It is also possible for an alarm to be sent to any alarm destinations that listed within a ObSys Point. This could be used to send alarms to any supervisor on the system that is powered on, for example.

Using other North Building Technologies Ltd product's alarms can be sent to personal pagers, and as SMS text messages to mobile phones. Alarms can be printed out to form a hard copy record of alarms generated by a one system or all the systems in a building.