

# British Standard 8418

## What is BS8418?

BS8418 is the code of practice for the installation and remote monitoring of detector activated CCTV systems.

Only systems that are installed to BS 8418 can qualify for a Unique Reference Number (URN) which is issued by the local police authority to guarantee police response (Known as Level 1). This not only affects the overall design of the system, but also the performance of motion detectors, CCTV cameras, alarm handling and how the system is maintained. These systems are known as Type A systems.

To obtain a Police URN and therefore qualify to receive Police response, CCTV systems will need to comply with all of the following: -

### ACPO Security Systems Policy

- BS 8418 Installation and remote monitoring of detector activated CCTV systems – Code of Practice
- BS EN 50132-7: CCTV Application guidelines
- The system must have the capability of audio challenge
- The protected premises must not have any public rights of way through it and be fenced off to prevent accidental trespass.

**NOTE:** The police Acpo policy states that Trespass is not a criminal act and does not guarantee a Police response unless criminal intent can be seen. Consequently the Police may class any trespass alone kind of activations as false alarms and so the Alarm Receiving Centre (ARC) have a very stringent policy of what can be actioned to the police and what cannot. Police activated systems only permit 2 false alarms per rolling 12 month period before Police response can be withdrawn.

Off-site monitored systems without a police URN number can be actioned to the police with visual verification via the standard 999 telephone method we all use to report criminal activity. This can be made from a keyholder from site but not the ARC. Again this is a very stringent policy at the ARC as the ability for the ARC to receive Police URN systems would be in jeopardy if they did not conform to this.