

Mass Notification Systems (MNS)



*Did you know?
You can communicate emergency messages to all building occupants by using an in-building mass notification system.*



Mass Notification Systems (MNS) are installed in DoD facilities as an emergency management tool used to provide real-time instructions and information to building occupants or nearby personnel during emergencies. Occupants are alerted through the use of strobes, voice messaging, alarms, and instructions. MNS also serve as an antiterrorism tool and can be used as a messaging medium during active shooter or hostile events.

MNS are designated as LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS and are used in conjunction with the building's fire safety systems such as fire detection and fire suppression. However, tampering or unauthorized use of these systems could render them inoperable and put personnel at risk of not receiving emergency notifications. MNS consoles should be readily accessible at all times. First responders may also use these systems to transmit important announcements or instructions to building occupants.

When to use Mass Notification Systems:

- ◇ Active Shooter/Hostile Event is spotted or taking place in/around your facility
- ◇ Bomb threats
- ◇ Suspicious packages
- ◇ Announcements such as an earthquake, lightning, severe weather, etc.
- ◇ Shelter In Place (SIP) directions
- ◇ Instruct occupants to use alternate building evacuation routes
- ◇ Transmit All Clear messages to indicate an emergency is over
- ◇ A test message - intended only for verifying the functionality of the system

*Your facility may have other pre-recorded messages depending on the age of the system or your emergency management plan.

CALL 911 TO REPORT ALL EMERGENCIES ON JBER

*Look for us on Facebook
JBER Fire Prevention*



Fire Prevention Office
724 Quartermaster Rd
(NE Corner, 2nd Floor)

Phone: 907-384-5555
Fax: 907-384-3212

673ces.cef.fireprevention@us.af.mil

JBER FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Mass Notification Systems (MNS)

REFERENCES:

UFC 3-600-01

*Fire Protection Engineering for
Facilities*

UFC 4-021-01

*Design and Maintenance of
MNS*

NFPA 72

Fire Alarm and Signaling Code

NFPA 101

Life Safety Code

Visit our webpage

www.jber.jb.mil/Services-Resources/Fire-Prevention



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The purpose of mass notification is for the protection of life by indicating the existence of an emergency situation and communicating information necessary to facilitate an appropriate response and action.

FAQ's:

- ◇ How often are these systems tested? They are tested annually along with the building fire alarm system. This is a good time for facility managers and occupants to become familiar with their system.
- ◇ Will the MNS activate my fire alarm system? No. However, if there is a fire alarm at the same time you're trying to use the MNS, the MNS will override the fire alarm.
- ◇ Are there any distinctive lights or sounds associated with the MNS? Yes. There are alert sounds, pre-recorded audible instructions, clear or amber strobes labeled ALERT, and textual signs.
- ◇ Who maintains or manages these systems? They are maintained by the fire alarm shop and problems or issues can be reported to CE Customer Service at 552-3727.
- ◇ Are these standalone systems? Depending on the age of the MNS and installed location, some may be local only while others could be tied into a local area network.
- ◇ What are the facility manager's responsibilities as it pertains to MNS? The facility manager is responsible for ensuring the MNS is accessible, operable, and only used for its intended purpose. Facility managers shall also train personnel working in the facility on the operation of the MNS.
- ◇ Can I use the MNS to practice a fire drill? Yes! The MNS can be used to sound a local building fire alarm without transmitting an alarm to the fire department. However, you must be trained on its use prior to conducting such drills. You can contact the fire prevention office at 384-5555 for training.
- ◇ Will the MNS work in a power outage? Yes, they are designed to run off of a 24-hour back-up power system in case a facility has a loss of power.

If you have any questions about your building's MNS please contact the JBER Fire Prevention office.

