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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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SUBJECT: Advisory –Information regarding the New Alarm Options in version 2.081 for the AK-SC255.

One of the major highlights for 2.081 is a completely revamped Alarm scheme which provides a wide range of flexibility in the way alarms can be configured to behave and routed throughout the '255.

Please pay close attention to the following key points when using new 2.081 along with other 255's that have previous versions installed:

1. Dial Out via Modem - A new 255 with 2.081 is added onto an existing RS485 Host communications network that is running older versions of '255's, or AKC55's, or a combination of both. Dial out of alarms via modem poses **no** problems.
2. Ethernet Host Communications – a new '255 with 2.081 **can** co-exist with any other 255's, **provided** that the other 255's have versions no older than 2.071. Major updates of Ethernet Host communications were implemented in 2.071 and all newer versions going forward. Alarm transmissions via modem, ethernet, including alarm email are 100 % compatible as well.
3. Ethernet Host communication is **only** compatible with combinations of 255's together which have 2.081 and prior versions of 2.071 thru 2.075. If deviating from this rule, only RS485 Host communications can be used. The other option is to revert back to the original 255version.
4. OAB configuration for alarm relays under Routing in all prior versions before 2.081 are **not** compatible when a mix of 255's are networked together and at least one of them has 2.081. In this instance, all 255's must be updated to 2.081. The other option would be to revert the new 255 equipped with 2.081 back to the previous installed version. **Care is suggested when planning to upgrade**, to first retain the older copy, if available, as backup. Keep in mind that the database program is not able to be reverted back to a prior version in the AKA65 and you can not go backwards in software versions in the 255 with a newer version database installed. OAB Relay board and point assignments, however, will be retained and converted in the new version under the new relay list in the Alarm Action area of the configuration. You will still need to verify that the desired alarm actions are selected for the relay output.
5. When updating existing '255's, it is recommended to also update any installed Site Alarm Loggers (SAL's) as well for conformity. (L2.081)

6. Along with the new 2.081 software, a new boot loader version 5.1 will also be factory installed in each '255. It is **critical**, when updating 255's to load the new boot loader. Load the Boot loader first, followed by the 2.081.

FAQ's

1. What will my alarm configuration look like when I update a prior version '255 to this new version 2.081 ?

Review the Alarm Routing area in "pre -2.081", as shown below (Fig # 1)

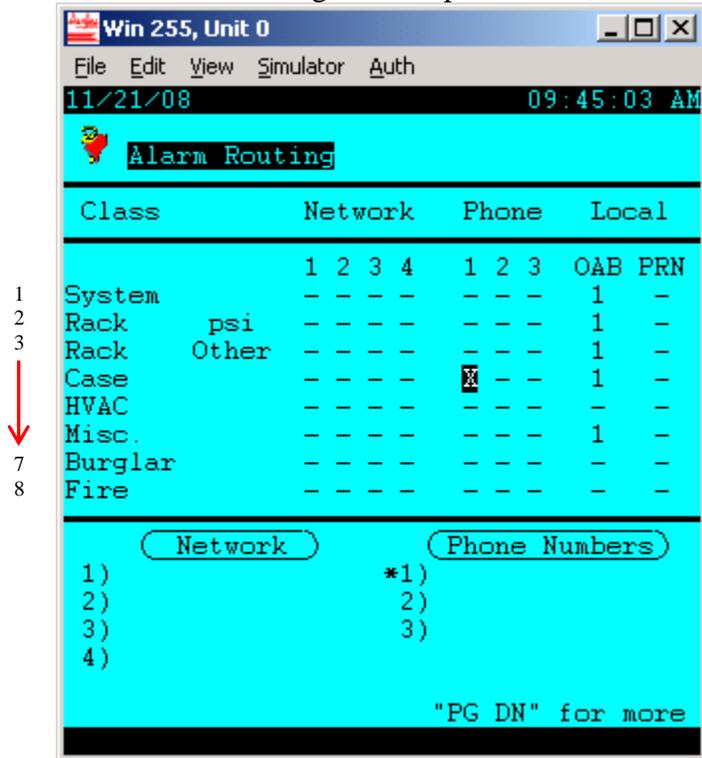


Fig # 1

Note the column on the left named "Class". Then, for each class, imagine that there is a number '1' to the left of "System", a number '2' to the left of "Rack psi", a number '3' to the left of "Rack Other", and so forth. (Fire will be number '8')

Each alarm in the 255's configuration will now have a new field which prompts as 'Action : ', and following, a space is present to enter the desired action number. (i.e. 1 thru 8). When you have updated pre-2.081 to 2.081, all alarms which have already been configured will reflect the action numbers as shown in "fig # 1 above.

(Example – Misc alarms will be set to Action 6.)

Note that you can change all of the actions if a different alarm scheme is desired.

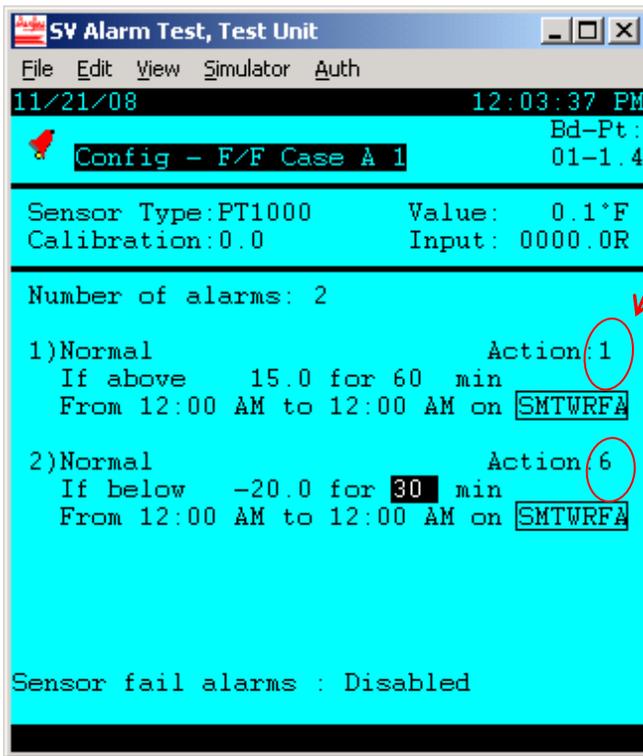


Fig # 2 Alarm action field

2. What is the factory default for alarm actions when configuring a new program ?

Version R will default all alarm actions to ‘Action 0’ with the exception of Generic controller alarms, which will be a default of action ‘1’.

3. How do these “Actions” work ?

In Fig # 3 below, note column to the far right. The header which is not currently shown is named as “Stop”. Shown in the drop down list are the selectable ‘Stop Conditions’. The Stop Condition dictates the behavior of the alarm relays. Additionally, although not shown here, a page down from this screen presents other items which are programmable such as the front LED on the ‘255, the Internal Relay, Beeper, and all of the phone and network dial out items.



Fig # 3

4. What other new features with alarms can I expect ?

In 2.081, a new alarm level has been added, called “Severe”. Severe works in the same manner as “Critical”. Once an alarm trips, you have a selectable ‘repeat time’ if the alarm is still active. Now, Critical and Severe alarms can be separated into their own ‘repeat’ interval. Upon the repeat time being met, alarm call out will occur.

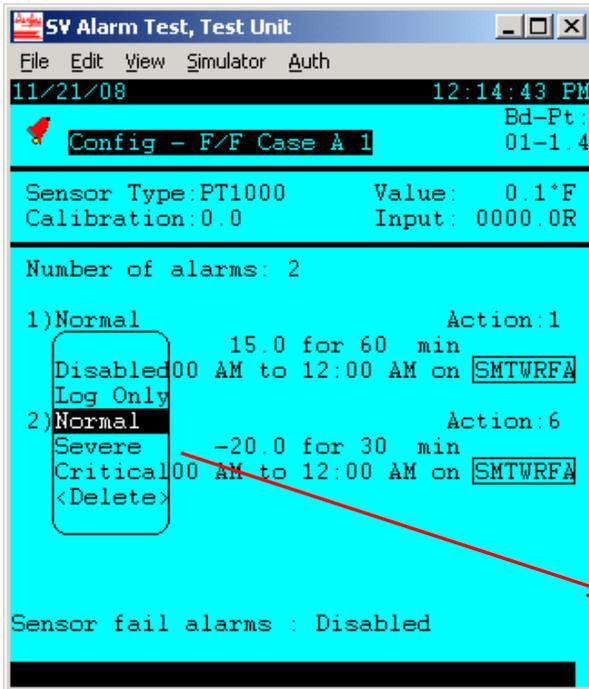


Fig # 4

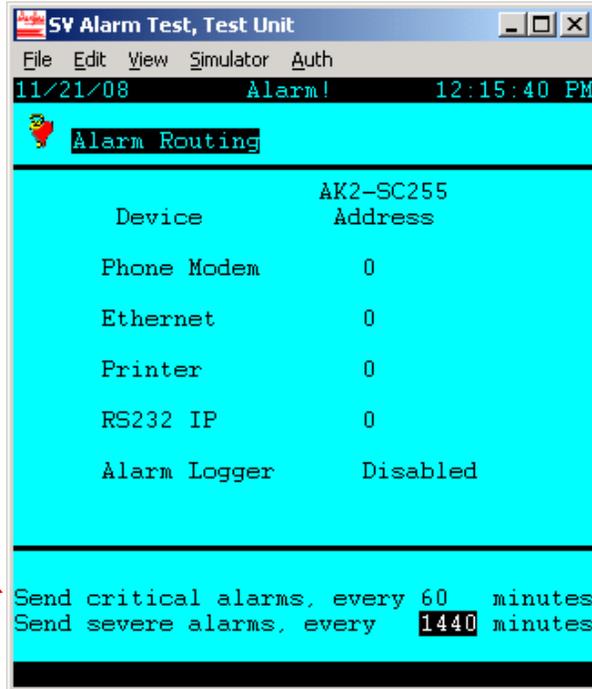


fig # 5

Technical Support

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