About Your Security System

Your DSC security equipment has been designed to give the greatest possible flexibility and convenience. Read this manual carefully and have your installer instruct you on system operation and on which features have been implemented in your system. All users of this system should be equally instructed in its use. Fill out the System Information page and store this manual in a safe place for future reference.

Fire Detection

This equipment is capable of monitoring fire detection devices such as smoke detectors and providing a warning if a fire condition is detected. Good fire detection depends on having adequate number of detectors placed in appropriate locations. This equipment should be installed in accordance with applicable standards and codes. Carefully review the Family Escape Planning guidelines in this manual.

NOTE: Your installer must enable the fire detection portion of this equipment before it becomes functional.

Testing

To insure that your system continues to functions as intended, it is important that you test your system weekly. See the testing procedure elsewhere in this manual. If your system does not function properly, call your installing company for service.

General System Operation

Your security system is made up of a DSC PC1500 or PC1550 control panel, one or more PC1500RK keypads and various sensors and detectors. The control panel will be mounted out of the way in a utility closet or in a basement. The metal cabinet contains the system electronics, fuses and stand-by battery. There is normally no reason for anyone but the installer or serviceman to have access to the control panel. The PC1500RK keypads have an audible indicator (buzzer), a group of zone and system status lights and command entry keys. The keypad is used to send commands to the system and to display the current system status. The security station(s) will be mounted in a convenient location inside the protected premises close to the entry/exit door(s).

The security system has several zones of area protection and each of these zones will have one or more sensors connected to it (motion detectors, glassbreak detectors, door contacts, etc.). When a sensor is in alarm, the zone of alarm will be indicated on the PC1500RK (zone lights 1 through 6).

Important Notice

A security system cannot prevent emergencies. It is only intended to alert you and, if included, a monitoring station, of an emergency situation. Security systems are generally very reliable but they may not work under all conditions and they are not a substitute for prudent security practices or life and property insurance. Your security system should be installed and serviced by qualified security professionals who should instruct you on the level of protection that has been provided and on system operations.

Master Code

The 4 digit Master Code is used to arm and disarm the security system, to program additional security codes and to change other system features. The Master Code will be supplied to you by your installer. All keypad entries are made by pressing one key at a time. (See Additional Codes section)

Arming the System

Check the following items before arming the system:

Bypass Light

If the "Bypass" light is ON, insure that zones are intentionally bypassed before arming the system (See Zone Bypassing section).

Trouble Light

If the " Trouble" light is ON, check to see what the trouble condition is and call for service. (See Viewing Trouble Conditions section).

Ready Light

If the "Ready" light is NOT ON, check to see that all doors and windows are closed and that motion is stopped in areas covered by motion detectors. The system cannot be armed unless the "Ready" light is ON indicating that all zones are closed.

NOTE: The system may be armed with a zone bypassed or a trouble present but your security protection will be reduced.

To Arm

Enter your 4 digit access code. As each digit is entered, the keypad sounder will beep. If the correct access code is entered, the keypad sounder will beep quickly and the "Armed" light will come ON.

If the access code was entered incorrectly or the "Ready" light comes ON, the keypad buzzer will sound steadily for 2 seconds. If this occurs, press the [#] key and re-enter your access code.

When the correct access code is entered and the "Armed" light comes ON, exit the premises through the door indicated by your installer as the Exit-Entry door.

At the end of the exit delay period, all lights, except the "Armed" light, will go out and the system will be armed. The exit time delay can be changed by your installer.

Auto-Bypass Option - Home-Away Arming

This feature, if selected by your installer, will allow you to arm your system with any valid user code and the system will automatically bypass the interior zones. The "Bypass" light will come on. If you exit within the allowed exit time, the system will automatically activate the interior zones and the "Bypass" light will go out. This feature is designed to save the customer from having to manually bypass interior zones each time they wish to arm the system and remain at home.

In residential applications where the system has been armed and the interior zones are automatically bypassed, the interior zones can be reactivated from a keypad that is outside the interior zone's protection area. To reactivate the interior zones, press [*] then [1] and the "Bypass" light will go out.

Entry Delay Off Arming

If you wish to arm your system and eliminate the entry delay, enter [*][9] before your access code. The “Armed” light will flash as a reminder that the system is armed and has no entry delay. An entry through any zone programmed as a delay zone will create an instant alarm.
e.g. To arm without entry delay, press [*][9][access code]

Disarming the System

Enter the premises only through the door(s) designated by your installer as the entry door. Entering by any other door will sound an immediate alarm. As soon as the entry door is opened, the keypad sounder will come on to indicate that the system should be disarmed. Go to the keypad and enter your four digit access code. If an error is made entering the code, press the [#] key and enter your code again. As soon as the correct code is entered, the “Armed” light will go out and the keypad sounder will silence. The correct access code must be entered before the entry time expires. The entry time delay may be changed by your installer. If an alarm occurred during the period the system was armed, the “Memory” light and the zone light of the zone that caused the alarm will flash for two minutes. After the two minute period, the “Memory” light and zone light will stop flashing and the panel will return to the ready state. Pressing the [#] key during the two minute period will cancel the alarm memory display.
If a trouble is present when the panel is disarmed, the “Trouble” light will come ON (See Viewing Trouble Conditions section to determine the source of the trouble.) Note that troubles will not display while the system is in the Alarm Memory Display Mode.
If you return home and find that an alarm has occurred while you were away, it is possible that an intruder may still be on the premises. Go to a neighbour's house and call the local police to investigate.

Quick Arm Feature

When the Quick-Arm feature is enabled, the system may be armed simply by pressing [*][0] instead of the 4 digit access code. This feature allows a person to arm but not disarm the system.
Enter [*][6][Master Code][4] to turn the Quick-Arm feature ON and OFF. When the command is entered, the keypad buzzer will beep 3 times if Quick-Arm is being enabled and will sound one long beep if it is being disabled.
Press [#] to return to ready.

Door Chime Feature

The door chime feature is used, while the panel is disarmed, to provide a tone from the keypad each time a door or window is opened or closed. The doors and windows which will provide this indication are programmed by your installer.
Enter [*][6][Master Code][6] to turn the door chime feature ON and OFF. When the command is entered, the keypad buzzer will beep 3 times if the door chime feature is being enabled, and will sound one long beep if it is being disabled.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*

Alarm Test

Enter [*][6][Master Code][8] for a 2-second test of the keypad lights, keypad buzzer, battery and the bell/siren.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*

Programming Security Codes

The Master Code

Enter [*][5][current Master Code][1][new Master Code]
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*
Record your new Master Code on the System Information page in this booklet.

Additional Codes

Up to 5 additional access codes (2 through 6) may be programmed. The 6th access code may be established by your installer as a One-Time use code.

To program a new code:
Enter [*][5][Master Code][code number][new 4 digit code]
The [code number] is a single digit either 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*
If an access code already exists, it will be replaced by the new code.
Record your new code(s) on the System Information page in this book.

To remove a code:
Enter [*][5][Master Code][code number][****]
The [code number] is a single digit either 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.
Press [#] to return to ready.
Do not erase the Master Code (code number 1).
NOTE: It is recommended that the factory default Master Code [1234] not be used.

One-Time Use Code

The One-Time Use code is designed for entry and exit of the premises for one occasion only. The panel must be programmed by the installer for this option to be enabled. The 6th access code is the one-time code.
To use this code, enter your one-time code as the 6th access code using the previously described commands. When you leave the premises, arm your system with any access code except the newly entered one-time use code. This one-time code is given to a person (e.g. a maid) who will enter the premises while the system is armed and you are away.
The one-time code user enters the premises and disarms the system using the one-time access code. Upon leaving, the same code is used to arm the system. As soon as the system is armed, the one-time code is erased and can not be used to re-enter the premises. A different code can be provided each time for the one-time user.

Alarm Memory Display

If the “Memory” light is ON, an alarm has occurred during the last armed period. The alarm memory will automatically be displayed when the system is disarmed (See Disarming the System).
Press [*] then [3] to display the zone which caused the alarm.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*

NOTE: The alarm memory is cleared each time the panel is armed so that any alarms showing are alarms that occurred only during the last armed period.

If An Alarm Sounds

Fire Alarm

If your system has been installed with fire detectors and the alarm sounds in a pulsing mode, follow your Emergency Evacuation Plan immediately. See the guide for family escape planning elsewhere in this manual.

Intrusion Alarm

If an intrusion alarm sounds (continuous Bell/Siren), the alarm may be silenced by entering your access code. If the alarm was unintentional, call local authorities immediately to avoid an unnecessary response.
You can determine the source of the alarm by following the instructions in the Alarm Viewing section of this manual. Once the source of the alarm has been corrected, the panel can be restored to its original armed state.

Zone Bypassing

Use zone bypassing when access is needed to part of the protected area while the system is armed. Bypassed zones will not cause an alarm. Zones that are temporarily out of service due to damaged wiring or contacts may be bypassed to allow system arming (partial protection) until repairs can be made. Zones cannot be bypassed after the system is armed.

To bypass zones:

Enter [*][1][Zone number(s) to be bypassed]
Enter zone number(s) as single digits (1-6).
As each zone is bypassed, the zone light will come ON. If a zone is bypassed in error, press that zone number again and the zone light will go OFF indicating that the zone is not bypassed.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*

To recall last group of zones bypassed:

Enter [*][1][9]
Zone lights for the last group of zones bypassed will come ON to show which zones are bypassed. If you wish to add or delete a zone from the group, press [#] to exit then go to zone bypass as described above.
Press [#] *to return to Ready.*

Zone Bypassing (Continued)

For security reasons, your installer may prevent the bypass command from working on certain zones. The “Bypass” light is ON as long as ONE or more zones are bypassed. Do not unintentionally arm the system with zones bypassed.
Zone bypasses are automatically cancelled each time the system is disarmed and must be re-applied before the next arming.

Viewing Trouble Conditions

The PC1500/1550 continuously monitors a number of possible trouble conditions. If one of these trouble conditions occur, the keypad will beep twice every 10 seconds and the keypad “Trouble” indicator will light.

Pressing any key on the keypad will silence the sounder but the "Trouble" light will remain ON until the trouble condition is cleared. If you cannot determine the cause of the trouble condition, contact your installer for assistance.
Press [*][2] to display the type of trouble. A zone light will come on to indicate which type of trouble exists. *Press* [#] *to return to Ready.*

LIGHT	TYPE OF TROUBLE
1	Low battery.
2	Loss of AC power ("Trouble" light will come ON, but keypad buzzer will not sound).
3	Fuse open (BELL or AUX fuse).
4	Fail to communicate with monitoring station.
5	Fire loop(s) trouble.
6	Loss of time on system clock.

Keypad Zones

There are three keys on the keypad labelled [F] Fire, [A] Auxiliary and [P] Panic. These keys are only functional if they have been programmed by your installer. The installer should indicate which of these keys are functional by placing a coloured label next to the key symbol on the keypad door label.

[F] Fire

Holding this key down for two seconds will sound a Fire Alarm. The alarm will sound pulsing. The keypad will sound three beeps once the panel has accepted the alarm. An auxiliary warning device is also activated if your installer has connected it to your system. To silence the alarm, enter a valid access code.

[A] Auxiliary

Holding this key down for two seconds activates this function if your installer has programmed it. There is no audible alarm and no lights on the keypad will come on. When the panel has accepted the alarm, the keypad will sound a series of beeps. An auxiliary warning device is activated ONLY IF connected to your system by your installer.

[P] Panic

Holding this key down for two seconds causes a steady tone on your siren or bell if your installer has programmed this key for audible operation. An auxiliary warning device is also activated if your installer has connected it to your system. Enter a valid access code to silence the alarm.

Fire Alarm Operations

Alarm

On a fire alarm, the bell/siren will sound pulsing. The digital communicator transmission is delayed for 30 seconds. If the alarm is not acknowledged within the 30 second delay, the communicator will transmit to the monitoring station.

Silence

To silence the bell/siren, press the [#] key. If the alarm is silenced and the smoke detector is not reset, the alarm will resound after 90 seconds.

Reset

To restore the smoke detector(s) to normal, press [*][7]. If the detector still has smoke in it, the alarm will resound and the sequence described above will repeat. If the detector is clear of smoke, the system will return to normal.

NOTE: If you suspect that the communicator has transmitted and there is no fire condition, call the monitoring station to avoid an unnecessary response.

If a fire condition is apparent, follow your evacuation plan immediately. If the alarm sounds at night, evacuate immediately.

Testing Your System

It is recommended that you test your system weekly.

NOTE: Perform system tests in the off-peak hours, such as early morning or late evening.

1. Inform the monitoring station that you are testing your system.
2. Disarm the system ("Ready" light ON).
3. Perform a bell/battery test by pressing [*][6][Master Code][8]. The signal will sound for about 2 seconds. If a trouble occurs after the test, press [*][2] to view the trouble condition.
4. Activate each sensor in turn (e.g. open a door/window or walk in motion detector areas). Observe the zone light come ON when the zone is activated. The zone light will go OFF when the system restores to normal (i.e. door or window closed).
5. If they are programmed for operation, press the [F], [A], and [P] keys in turn. The [F] key will sound the bell/siren in a pulsed mode. Enter the access code to silence the alarm. The [A] key is silent. The [P] key may be programmed as silent or audible. If the alarm sounds, enter the access code to silence.
6. If the panel has a zone programmed for fire, activation will cause the alarm signal to sound in a pulsed mode.
   CAUTION: Do not use an open flame or burn materials to test a smoke detector. Contact your alarm installer for information on safe methods to activate a smoke detector.
7. Should the system fail to operate properly, call your alarm dealer for service.
8. When testing is complete, call and advise the monitoring station.

Maintenance

With normal use, the system requires minimum maintenance. The following points should be observed.

1. Do not wash the keypad with a wet cloth. Light dusting with a barely damp cloth should remove normal accumulations of dust.
2. The battery/bell test is designed to determine battery condition, however it is recommended that the standby battery be replaced every three years.
3. For other system devices such as passive infrared, ultrasonic or microwave motion detectors, glassbreak detectors or smoke detectors, consult the respective manufacturer's literature for testing and maintenance.

WARNING Please Read Carefully

Note to Installers

This warning contains vital information. As the only individual in contact with system users, it is your responsibility to bring each item in this warning to the attention of the users of this system.

System Failures

This system has been carefully designed to be as effective as possible. There are circumstances, however, involving fire, burglary, or other types of emergencies where it may not provide protection. Any alarm system of any type may be compromised deliberately or may fail to operate as expected for a variety of reasons. Some but not all of these reasons may be:

■ Inadequate Installation

A security system must be installed properly in order to provide adequate protection. Every installation should be evaluated by a security professional to ensure that all access points and areas are covered. Locks and latches on windows and doors must be secure and operate as intended. Windows, doors, walls, ceilings and other building materials must be of sufficient strength and construction to provide the level of protection expected. A reevaluation must be done during and after any construction activity. An evaluation by the fire and/or police department is highly recommended if this service is available.

■ Criminal Knowledge

This system contains security features which were known to be effective at the time of manufacture. It is possible for persons with criminal intent to develop techniques which reduce the effectiveness of these features. It is important that a security system be reviewed periodically to ensure that its features remain effective and that it be updated or replaced if it is found that it does not provide the protection expected.

■ Access by Intruders

Intruders may enter through an unprotected access point, circumvent a sensing device, evade detection by moving through an area of insufficient coverage, disconnect a warning device, or interfere with or prevent the proper operation of the system.

■ Power Failure

Control units, intrusion detectors, smoke detectors and many other security devices require an adequate power supply for proper operation. If a device operates from batteries, it is possible for the batteries to fail. Even if the batteries have not failed, they must be charged, in good condition and installed correctly. If a device operates only by AC power, any interruption, however brief, will render that device inoperative while it does not have power. Power interruptions of any length are often accompanied by voltage fluctuations which may damage electronic equipment such as a security system. After a power interruption has occurred, immediately conduct a complete system test to ensure that the system operates as intended.

■ Failure of Replaceable Batteries

This system's wireless transmitters have been designed to provide several years of battery life under normal conditions. The expected battery life is a function of the device environment, usage and type. Ambient conditions such as high humidity, high or low temperatures, or large temperature fluctuations may reduce the expected battery life. While each transmitting device has a low battery monitor which identifies when the batteries need to be replaced, this monitor may fail to operate as expected. Regular testing and maintenance will keep the system in good operating condition.

■ Compromise of Radio Frequency (Wireless) Devices

Signals may not reach the receiver under all circumstances which could include metal objects placed on or near the radio path or deliberate jamming or other inadvertent radio signal interference.

■ System Users

A user may not be able to operate a panic or emergency switch possibly due to permanent or temporary physical disability, inability to reach the device in time, or unfamiliarity with the correct operation. It is important that all system users be trained in the correct operation of the alarm system and that they know how to respond when the system indicates an alarm.

■ Smoke Detectors

Smoke detectors that are a part of this system may not properly alert occupants of a fire for a number of reasons, some of which follow. The smoke detectors may have been improperly installed or positioned. Smoke may not be able to reach the smoke detectors, such as when the fire is in a chimney, walls or roofs, or on the other side of closed doors. Smoke detectors may not detect smoke from fires on another level of the residence or building.

Every fire is different in the amount of smoke produced and the rate of burning. Smoke detectors cannot sense all types of fires equally well. Smoke detectors may not provide timely warning of fires caused by carelessness or safety hazards such as smoking in bed, violent explosions, escaping gas, improper storage of flammable materials, overloaded electrical circuits, children playing with matches or arson.

Even if the smoke detector operates as intended, there may be circumstances when there is insufficient warning to allow all occupants to escape in time to avoid injury or death.

■ Motion Detectors

Motion detectors can only detect motion within the designated areas as shown in their respective installation instructions. They cannot discriminate between intruders and intended occupants. Motion detectors do not provide volumetric area protection. They have multiple beams of detection and motion can only be detected in unobstructed areas covered by these beams. They cannot detect motion which occurs behind walls, ceilings, floor, closed doors, glass partitions, glass doors or windows. Any type of tampering whether intentional or unintentional such as masking, painting, or spraying of any material on the lenses, mirrors, windows or any other part of the detection system will impair its proper operation.

Passive infrared motion detectors operate by sensing changes in temperature. However their effectiveness can be reduced when the ambient temperature rises near or above body temperature or if there are intentional or unintentional sources of heat in or near the detection area. Some of these heat sources could be heaters, radiators, stoves, barbeques, fireplaces, sunlight, steam vents, lighting and so on.

■ Warning Devices

Warning devices such as sirens, bells, horns, or strobes may not warn people or waken someone sleeping if there is an intervening wall or door. If warning devices are located on a different level of the residence or premise, then it is less likely that the occupants will be alerted or awakened. Audible warning devices may be interfered with by other noise sources such as stereos, radios, televisions, air conditioners or other appliances, or passing traffic. Audible warning devices, however loud, may not be heard by a hearing-impaired person.

■ Telephone Lines

If telephone lines are used to transmit alarms, they may be out of service or busy for certain periods of time. Also an intruder may cut the telephone line or defeat its operation by more sophisticated means which may be difficult to detect.

■ Insufficient Time

There may be circumstances when the system will operate as intended, yet the occupants will not be protected from the emergency due to their inability to respond to the warnings in a timely manner. If the system is monitored, the response may not occur in time to protect the occupants or their belongings.

■ Component Failure

Although every effort has been made to make this system as reliable as possible, the system may fail to function as intended due to the failure of a component.

■ Inadequate Testing

Most problems that would prevent an alarm system from operating as intended can be found by regular testing and maintenance. The complete system should be tested weekly and immediately after a break-in, an attempted break-in, a fire, a storm, an earthquake, an accident, or any kind of construction activity inside or outside the premises. The testing should include all sensing devices, keypads, consoles, alarm indicating devices and any other operational devices that are part of the system.

■ Security and Insurance

Regardless of its capabilities, an alarm system is not a substitute for property or life insurance. An alarm system also is not a substitute for property owners, renters, or other occupants to act prudently to prevent or minimize the harmful effects of an emergency situation.

Instruction Manual

PC1500/PC1550

• W A R N I N G •

This manual contains information on limitations regarding product use and function and information on the limitations as to liability of the manufacturer. The entire manual should be carefully read.

DSC™
Security Products

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