



SANS 10400-T:2020

In February 2020, the SABS Standards Division released **SANS 10400-T:2020 (Edition 4, Part T Fire protection)** issued in terms of the National Building Regulations and Building Standard Act no. 103 of 1977, outlining the new **requirements** for **compliance** with regards to **Voice Alarm / Evacuation & Fire Detection requirements**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW STANDARD I.R.O. VOICE EVACUATION

According to the Standard, the following types of buildings / spaces of occupancy, which are (1) **over 4 storeys high** and/or are (2) in excess of any floor area of **more than 5000m²** shall be equipped with a Voice Alarm System:

GOOD TO KNOW:

Class	Type of Occupancy	Voice Alarm
A1	Entertainment / Public Assembly	✓
A2	Theatrical / Indoor Sports	✓
A3	Place of Instruction	✓
B1	High Risk Commercial Service	✓
B2	Moderate Risk Commercial Service	✓
B3	Low Risk Commercial Service	✓
C1	Exhibition Hall	✓
C2	Museum	✓
D1	High Risk Industrial	✓
D2	Moderate Risk Industrial	✓
E1	Place of Detention	✓
E2	Hospital *	✓
E3	Other Institutional (Residential)	✓
E4	Health Care	✓
F1	Large Shop	✓
F3	Wholesaler's Store	✓
G1	Office	✓
H1	Hotel	✓
H2	Dormitory	✓

NOTE The local authority can request for fire detection systems or voice evacuation systems to be installed outside of the limits listed in the table or be required as the result of a risk assessment or rational design.

- TOA Voice Alarm / Evacuations Systems can be **integrated** with most **Fire Detection Systems** (provided that sufficient relays are provided).
- The **Primary** purpose of a Voice Alarm / Evacuation System is to provide **voice prompted** (pre-recorded and/or live) guidance to evacuate a building in the event of an **emergency (fire, bomb scare, viral outbreak, industrial accidents, chemical spills)**. Live guidance messages take priority over pre-recorded messages as opposed to those used by Voice Sounders. The **same system** can also be used for the **secondary benefits** of both **Public Address / Paging** and **Background Music**