Technology Re-invented. | CWSI Future-Ready

Island Hospitality Management Chooses CWSI Wireless Fire Alarm System

The Marriott Residence Inn in Washington, DC, owned and operated by Island Hospitality Management, faced several challenges installing a new code compliant fire alarm system. As an existing structure that needed to remain occupied during the renovation, several factors were considered. New fire alarm wiring would add significant cost and complexity due to the impact of cutting, patching, and painting required. Loss of revenue would be significant due to taking rooms out of service during the renovation. Nuisance core drilling would disrupt

Marriott Residence Inn, Washington, DC

prescheduled convention meetings. When these considerations were addressed and the option of surface mounted raceways was dismissed, wireless became the perfect solution.

Given their previous successful experience with the wireless fire alarm system manufactured by Commercial Wireless Systems International, LLC (CWSI), Island Hospitality Management (IHM) contacted CWSI and was referred to the primary distributor for that market, Alarm Tech Solutions, LLC (ATS). The three companies quickly put together a game plan, and teamed up to do a full site survey of the building in order to determine the optimal number of repeaters and devices necessary to create a fully code-compliant system.

With the site survey completed, the engineering team at Alarm Tech Solutions prepared detailed permit design drawings and delivered them to the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

Being that the CWSI System was the first commercial wireless system presented to this jurisdiction for approval, Marty Smith, President and CEO of Alarm Tech Solutions, Scott Barrett, President of CWSI and IHM's fire protection code consultant, Scott Vandame of Core Engineers Consulting Group, Inc., met with 47 representatives of the jurisdiction including code enforcement, and fire department representatives. The team demonstrated the CWSI Wireless System, which was followed by a Q&A session. Additionally, they provided multiple references in the lodging industry who utilize the CWSI system, along with technical specifications for CWSI's wireless technology to explain redundancies and UL's requirements for wireless based systems. With everyone's questions satisfied, the building permit was issued the following day.

Fire alarm permit in hand, Alarm Tech Solutions began the installation the next day. The system was completely installed in a matter of 3-4 weeks . much faster than would have been possible with a traditional hardwired system. Smoke detectors with integral sounders were installed in every guest room, as well as in the corridors, common areas, offices, meeting rooms, and all "back of house" spaces throughout the hotel. As required by Marriott's Module 14, the guestroom smoke detectors report a supervisory condition at the front desk, allowing for faster response to an issue within a guestroom. System supervised carbon monoxide detectors, also with sounders, were installed in any location housing a fuel burning appliance. Wireless monitor modules were installed to monitor the automatic sprinkler system for water flow and control valve closure and kitchen hood fire suppression system. Modules were installed for required control functions. Manual stations were installed at all exits. Strobes were installed reusing the old fire alarm device locations in most areas in order to comply with ADA requirements. Finally, a graphic annunciator was installed and interfaced to the wireless system to comply with the AHJ's local requirements.

CWSI CP-3000D shown above with Graphic Annunciator

The wireless option made for a seamless transition from their existing hardwired system to their new, fully code compliant, wireless addressable system. This was imperative, as the hotel elected to remain occupied throughout the cosmetic renovation and fire alarm replacement/upgrade. The fire alarm installation inside each guest room was minimal, and the rooms continued to be occupied daily eliminating any revenue loss to the hotel. During the rigorous 100% acceptance testing of every device in the system by the third party inspection agency, the system performed flawlessly without a single punch list item, and has proven reliable since.

The project clearly demonstrates that CWSI fire alarm systems are a viable solution, one that is both cost effective and reliable. These two factors are critically important for hotels that rely on their fire alarm systems to protect both their guests and employees from the threat of fire, smoke and carbon monoxide.

Marty Smith
President & CEO,
Alarm Tech
Solutions

For more information, contact PJ Delcontivo, Director of Marketing, at CWSI or Marty Smith, President and CEO at Alarm Tech Solutions, LLC. Alarm Tech Solutions is an engineered systems distributor and contractor in the fire alarm, emergency communications, fire protection, fire suppression and nurse call systems industry in the MD/DC/VA/DE region.