

08<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## Cooper Fulleon EU Beacon (VAD) Range

### Introduction

As you may be aware, the new **EN 54-23** standard for fire alarm beacons (or **VAD's** - Visual Alarm Devices), comes into force from **March 1<sup>st</sup> 2013**. This standard specifies a **minimum light coverage** requirement for a given volume for all VAD's sold within the European Union. This **minimum light coverage** is based on the VAD providing an adequate visual signal throughout the intended space, to help ensure that the device attracts the attention of the intended recipient during a fire alarm emergency condition.

This bulletin summarises the changes and possible knock on effects that the EN 54-23 introduction will bring and outlines the action you need to take to ensure continuity of supply.

For a VAD to be CE marked for the European Fire Market under the CPD (Construction Products Directive), it must be tested and certified to EN 54-23. Given the **'minimum required illumination'** now demanded throughout the intended coverage volume, many existing beacons will not offer a practical solution without extensive device or system layout modification. In summary, most currently available Visual Alarm Devices will not adequately cover the intended area.

To provide our customers with an effective solution to this problem, Cooper Fulleon has launched an innovative range of **power efficient, high coverage-volume** beacons, designed to adequately cover the practical volumes encountered in typical installations, with the minimum number of devices and minimal current consumption. The new **LX range** will be rolled out from May 2013 and will be fully compliant with the new EN 54-23 standard and will thus be CE marked accordingly under the CPD.

A new product brochure as well as a very useful 'pocket guide to EN 54-23', is available on request or by visiting our website at [www.cooperfulleon.com](http://www.cooperfulleon.com). The information provided will guide you through the new requirements and assist you with your LX range product selection.

### **Non-certified beacons cannot be initially placed on the EU fire market after March 1<sup>st</sup> 2013**

From March 1st 2013, we will be unable to supply VAD's (beacon type devices) for fire use in the EU, unless they are CE marked under the CPD to EN 54-23. However, if you are located within the EU and have purchased existing products for your stocks before March 1<sup>st</sup> 2013, this stock should not be directly affected. This is

**Cooper Fulleon Ltd**  
Llantarnam Park, Cwmbran,  
Gwent, NP44 3AW  
Tel: +44 (0) 1633 628526  
Fax: +44 (0) 1633 866346  
Email: [info@fulleon.co.uk](mailto:info@fulleon.co.uk)  
Web: [www.cooperfulleon.com](http://www.cooperfulleon.com)

because your stock will have already been initially placed on the EU market before the cut-off date. Typically, there may be situations where you need to supply like for like replacements for existing systems, or for projects currently in progress. This should enable you to exhaust your stock of existing products first.

We will continue to produce most of our current range of beacons for '**non-fire use**' within the EU and for unspecified uses (fire or non-fire) outside of the EU, where local legislative requirements allow. However, from March 1<sup>st</sup> 2013, all non CPD certified beacons will carry a note on the invoice advising this fact. The product leaflets will also be updated. For further information on this, please see our website or contact our customer service department.

### **End of CPD Opt Out from July 2013**

Some markets already contain an 'opt-out' from CE marking under the CPD. These include the UK, Eire, Sweden and Portugal. In these countries, the 'opt-out' will end with the introduction of the CPR (Constructive Product Regulation) from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. At this point, all relevant fire alarm products entering these countries will now need to be CE marked under the CPR.

### **What action do you need to take if you sell visual fire alarm products outside the EU?**

EN 54-23 and CE marking only applies within the EU, so no further action is required.

### **Availability**

For Countries in Europe without the CPD opt out, we are able to provide product for despatch up to **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013**. However we anticipate a high demand and due to the supply chain we may not be able to fulfil all requirements where a forecast has not been given and your order has not been placed in good time.

Your account manager will contact you to discuss and understand your requirements. For further information, please consult our website at [www.cooperfulleon.com](http://www.cooperfulleon.com). Here you will find links from the existing products to our new LX product range, along with additional information to help you choose a suitable product.

Kind Regards

Steve Martin  
(Product Manager)