

**HOWLER PROLINK® SITE FIRE ALARM**

# **USER INSTRUCTIONS**

Models: HOIS/PL and all Howlers alarms with a /PL suffix



**DO NOT DISCARD – ESSENTIAL  
INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN  
THIS BOOKLET**

## **SAFETY NOTES**

The Howler alarms emit a very loud sound when in the alarm state (>100dBA). The user should avoid prolonged exposure to the sound within a 1m range without hearing protection.

When replacing batteries, use only batteries supplied by the manufacturer.

Protection provided by this equipment may be impaired if used in a manner not specified by the manufacturer.

The Indicator Station and all automatic detection units should be installed indoors. The Howler alarm models HO6/PL, HO6/PL/VID, HO7/PL, HO7/PL/VID, HO3/PL, HOCP/PL, and HOCP/PL/VID can be used outdoors mounted vertically. IP ratings are shown on the reverse of individual models. Safe operating temperature range: -10°C - +40°C.

## **CLEANING**

If the equipment becomes dirty, it can be wiped down with a damp cloth. Do not immerse the product in water or subject it to water streams.

## **BATTERY INFORMATION**

6V (Sealed Battery Pack) available from Howler UK re-order code: (150-0001)

Do not use Lithium batteries. The equipment does not have a battery re-charging facility.

**CAUTION: RISK OF EXPLOSION IF BATTERY IS REPLACED BY AN INCORRECT TYPE.**

Dispose of used batteries in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

## **MANUFACTURER**

Howler Global Ltd t/a Howler UK, 1-4 Mitchell Road, Wimborne, Dorset, UK. BH21 7SG

## **LOG BOOK**

A Log Book is provided with the system in which all checks, and events should be recorded, including false alarms, faults etc. It is a condition of the warranty that this book is used.

**Howler Technical Helpline: 0330 7000 777**

**Email: [tech.support@howleruk.com](mailto:tech.support@howleruk.com)**

## **Indicator Station Default Codes**

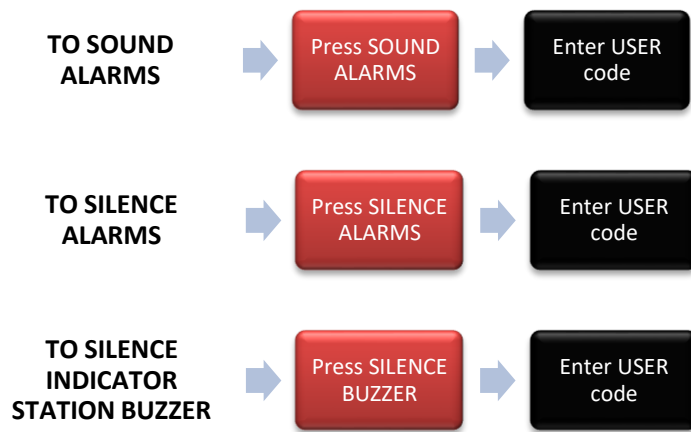
The factory default access codes for the Indicator Station are as follows:

**User Code: 1234**

**Set-up Code: 2468**

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# 1 INDICATOR STATION OPERATION QUICK GUIDE



If alarms have been activated from a Howler alarm, locate and reset the Howler alarm which has been activated, before returning to reset the Indicator Station.



## WARNINGS

If any station misses the routine heart beats, the Indicator Station display a 'Heart Beat Missed' on the main screen. If the station repeatedly misses routine heart beats, the Indicator Station will display the warning: "Signal lost". The station should be located, checked and repositioned if necessary. Return to the Indicator Station and reset as above.

## 2 BASIC OPERATION

### 2.1 Fire Alarms

In the event of fire, the alarm is raised by operating the switch on any Howler alarm. All alarms will sound, and the premises should be evacuated. The Indicator Station will display the number of which Howler alarm or detector has been operated. The responsible person should check whether the alarm is genuine.

To **silence** the alarms.



The Indicator Station will continue to emit a warning beep until it is reset.

In order to **reset** the system, the Howler alarm which has been activated needs to be reset prior to resetting the Indicator Station. The method of resetting the Howler alarm will depend on the model. 'Push button' models (HO6 and HO7), are reset by pressing the button a second time.

For Howler alarms incorporating a traditional key-resettable 'call point', reset by inserting the black plastic 'key' into the circular hole in the base of the call point and turning clockwise until the call point resets and the yellow strip is hidden.

Once the Howler has been reset, return to the Indicator Station and reset:



**NB:** If the Indicator Station is reset without first resetting the Howler alarm, the system will resound.

If a detector has triggered the alarm, the system should not be reset until the cause of alarm has been removed (smoke, dust or heat).

### 2.2 Alarm Modes

#### Two-stage alarm option

The two-stage alarm, or double-knock system, is designed to give you time to investigate the cause of the alarm before the building evacuates. This saves time and prevents unnecessary loss of productivity in the case of false or nuisance alarms. When this mode is selected, only the first station triggered will sound, and a 'Fire' message will appear on the Indicator Station. All other alarms will sound intermittently. Following investigation, the alarm can be silenced and reset as normal.

If the alarm is not silenced within a preset time (adjustable up to 10 minutes), all alarms will sound. If a second alarm is triggered, all alarms will also sound. In the case of a confirmed fire, a second alarm should be activated immediately to sound all alarms.

Two-stage alarm is set-up as follows:



You can revert to Single Stage alarm using the same menu.

### Other alarm modes

The other alarm modes available in this section of the menu are:

#### Theatre Mode

In this mode the system operates in the same way as the two-stage alarm mode, except that no alarms sound on the first trigger, but a message appears on the Indicator Station. If the stations have halo switches, the halo LEDs will flash. All alarms will sound if a second station is triggered or if the preset time elapses.

#### Night Mode

This mode is designed for use when the site is unoccupied and there is a risk of nuisance alarms. In this mode the system will not sound when triggered, but a message will appear on the Indicator Station. When the time-out period elapses the relays on the Indicator Station will trigger. This means that an auto-dialler can be triggered if required.

## 2.3 First Aid Alarms

If First Aid assistance is required, the operator simply presses the green button on the Howler, which will illuminate. A message is displayed on the Indicator Station stating "ASSISTANCE REQUIRED" and the station number. The first aid responder at the Indicator Station should acknowledge receipt of the message by pressing ENTER. The LED Halo on the operated station will flash to indicate that assistance is on its way. To reset the alarm, the operator must attend the station and reset the green button. This will reset the system.

## 2.4 Warning Indications

If any fault or other abnormal condition occurs on the system, the 'WARNING' LED on the Indicator Station will illuminate. The LCD display will indicate the nature of the warning.

An audible warning on the Indicator Station can be switched on as follows:



Be aware that if the nature of the warning is not urgent, the user may choose to silence the signal using the 'Silence Buzzer' hot key. Silencing the warning signal does not switch the system off, and if any Howler is operated, the alarms will still sound.

**NB: Warnings should not be ignored – the user should make every effort to resolve the problem as soon as possible. The level of urgency will depend on the nature of the warning.**

Each station is also equipped with a status LED which indicates fault conditions. Different fault conditions are indicated by a pattern of pulses as follows:

Station Healthy	Green LED pulses every 2 secs
Signal lost	Amber LED pulses 4 times every 2 seconds
Tamper warning	Amber LED pulses 3 times every 2 seconds
Heart Beat missed	Amber LED pulses 2 times every 2 seconds
Low battery	Amber LED pulses once every 2 seconds

## 3 TESTING & MAINTENANCE

### 3.1 Regular checks

The following checks should be carried out by the user to ensure that the system remains in good working order:

- 3.1.1 Daily:** check the Indicator Station. The screen should display the message: 'Alarms Normal', and the green LED will pulse regularly.
- 3.1.2 Weekly:** At least one Howler alarm point should be tested each week, on a rotating cycle, so that all alarm points are tested from time to time. Test the selected Howler alarm by operating the switch, silencing and resetting the system.
- 3.1.3 Six monthly:** All the Howler alarms should be tested as per 2). Automatic detection should be visually inspected and cleaned if necessary.
- 3.1.4 Annually:** In addition to the six-monthly test, all detectors should be tested using specialist aerosols or heat-guns designed for testing smoke and heat detectors. This test equipment is available from Howler UK.

All checks as well as faults and disconnects should be noted in the log book provided to show evidence of regular checks. **This is a condition of the warranty.**

### 3.2 Battery replacement

The Howler ProLink® alarms have a specialist dual-power source battery pack. The station will automatically switch from primary to secondary power source at least 30 days before the battery is exhausted and a warning will be issued on the Indicator Station. The warning LED on the station will also flash once every 2 seconds

Replacement battery packs are available from your Howler supplier.

To replace the batteries, simply locate the station indicated by the Indicator; remove the station from the slider backplate; unscrew the Battery Door (Pozi #2 screws); remove the old batteries carefully unfastening the connector. Install the new battery pack and connect to the terminals in the backplate; re-fasten the cover.

Return to the Indicator Station and reset the system: **RESET > User Code.**

Whilst the Indicator Station is displaying a 'Low Battery' warning, the fault signal can be silenced by entering: **SILENCE INDICATOR STATION > User Code.**

Waste batteries should be recycled.

### 3.3 Find a missing station

Sometimes a station goes missing on site. It can be seen on the Indicator Station connection list, but it has become hidden somewhere on site. To help you locate such stations, there is a 'find a station' function on the Indicator Station. When you use this function the siren on the missing station will sound so that you can hear where it is located on site.



(NB, this function does not work on stations without a siren or sounder base).

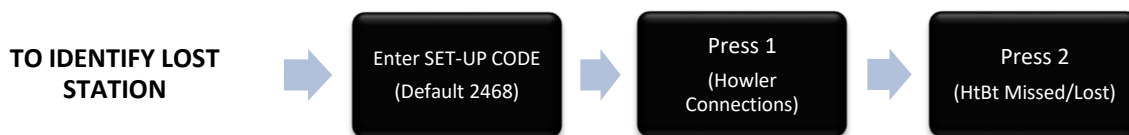
## 4 WARNINGS

### 4.1 'Heart Beat Missed' and 'Signal Lost'

The Indicator Station constantly checks that all Howler alarms are connected. If it does not receive a response from any particular station within 400 seconds, the Indicator Station will display a 'Heart Beat Missed' message.

The system will continue its round of roll-calls and when it next gets a message back from the station, the message will disappear. If the station repeatedly misses the roll-call, the Indicator Station will display the message: "Signal lost".

To identify the number of any station which is either 'Heart Beat Missed' or 'Signal Lost' consult the connections list as follows:



A list of stations will appear with the length of time since each station was last seen, along with the last known data about signal strength and battery level.

You will need to conduct a physical check of the station to see if it has lost signal for some obvious reason (e.g. physical damage).

**You may have to reposition the Howler to regain signal**, particularly if the building layout has changed and the signal is unlikely to be recovered.

Once the station has re-appeared on the Connections list, the warning message will cancel on the Indicator Station.



If you notice that a particular station frequently displays a 'Heart Beat missed' message, without progressing to a Signal Lost state, this can be an indication of a poor signal area, and the station may benefit from being moved to a better location.

## **4.2 Tamper Warnings**

If any station is removed from its slider backplate, a tamper warning message will appear on the Indicator Station and the address of the station will also be displayed. The device should be checked as soon as possible to ascertain why it has been moved.

The tamper warning message will cancel as soon as the station is replaced into the slider backplate. A similar tamper warning message will be displayed if a detector is removed, or the front access Indicator Station is removed from the Indicator Station or Relay Station.

## **4.3 Low Battery Warnings**

Each Howler alarm has a specialist 6V battery pack available from your Howler supplier.

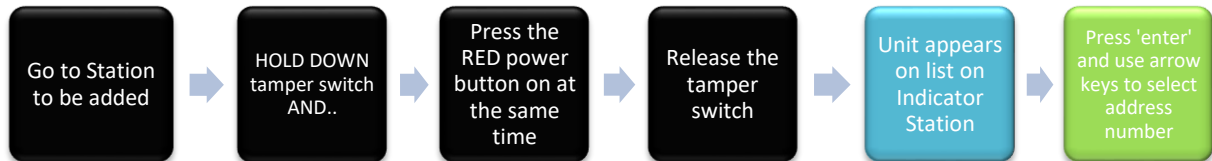
The Indicator Station will give warning when any battery requires replacement. A fault signal will sound and the Indicator Station will display a message indicating which Howler alarm requires a battery replacement. The battery should be replaced within 30 days.

## 5 ADDING A STATION

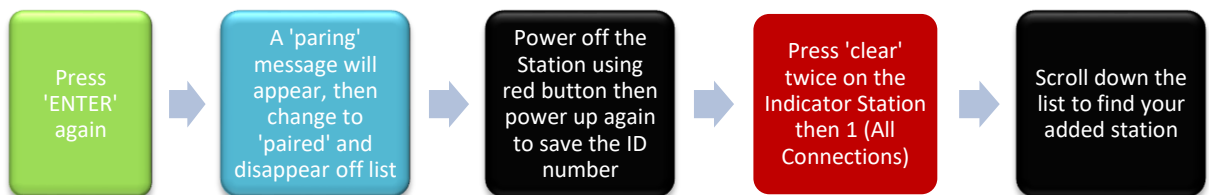
Additional stations can be added to the system as required. In order to add a station, the Indicator station should first be put into 'Discover Mode' as follows:



Now prepare the Howler station for adding to the system as follows:



Once you have selected the address number and pressed 'ENTER', a 'Pairing' message will be displayed followed by a 'Paired' message. The Station will then disappear off the 'Stations Found' list. Immediately power off the Howler Station using the red power button, and then power it back on to reboot the Station and save its new identity.

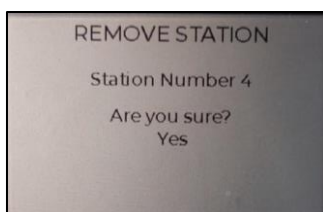


## 6 REMOVING A STATION

If you need to remove a station from the system, go to the Indicator Station and follow these steps:



The Indicator will ask you to confirm:



Confirm by using the arrows to select 'Yes' followed by 'ENTER'



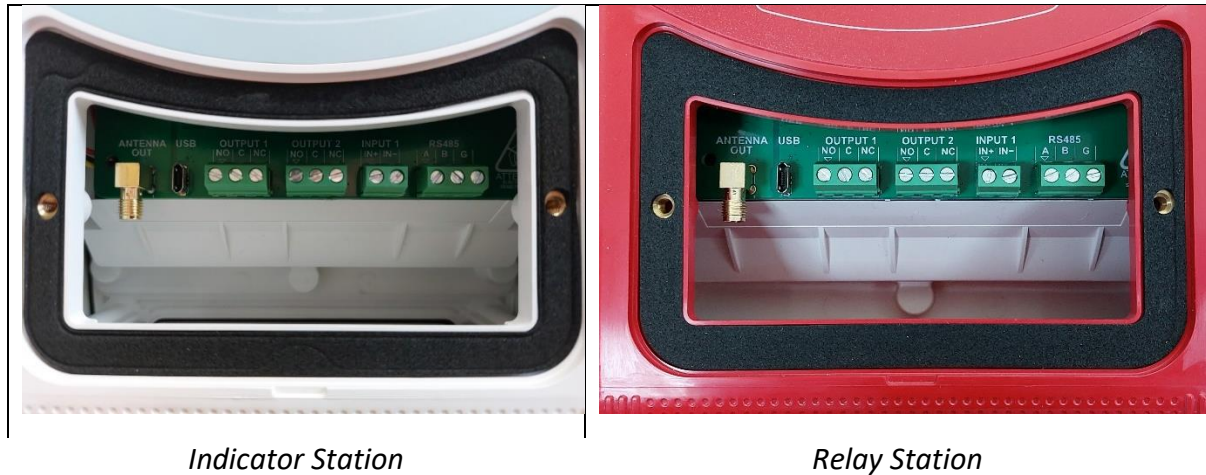
Now remove the station from its slider backplate and switch it off using the red power switch. The station is now removed from the system. It can be re-added at any time following the steps in the 'Adding a Station' section.

## 7 INPUTS & OUTPUTS

The Indicator Station (HOIS/PL) and Relay Station (RL/PL) offer input and output facilities for interfacing the Howler ProLink system with other auxiliary systems such as, auto-diallers, CCTV systems and access control systems. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure compatibility of any system being interfaced with the Howler ProLink system.

### Output connections

There are two separate normally open/normally closed relay contacts located behind the access panel on the front of the Indicator Station or Relay Station. Access these by removing the two pozi screws holding the access panel in place. The contacts are labelled “OUTPUT 1” and “OUTPUT 2”.



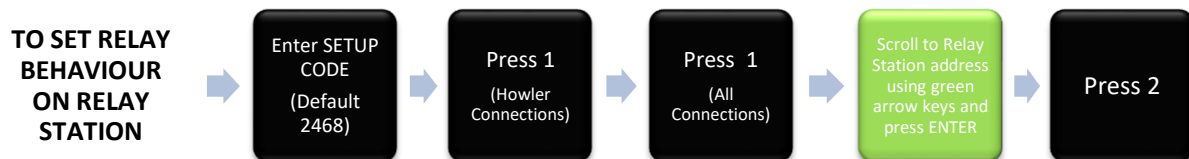
*Indicator Station*

*Relay Station*

Cables from the ancillary equipment should be installed through the cable restraining glands and connected into the Normally Open or Normally Closed contacts as required.

For each Output there are options for the conditions in which the relay will be triggered. These options are selected and set via the Indicator Station as follows:

### RELAY STATION



Choose what you want each Relay to do as follows:

#### Relay 1

- Press 1 repeatedly and it will toggle between ‘Fire’ and ‘Disabled’
- Press 2 repeatedly and it will toggle between ‘Latched’, ‘Pulse’ and ‘Follow Alarm’

#### Relay 2

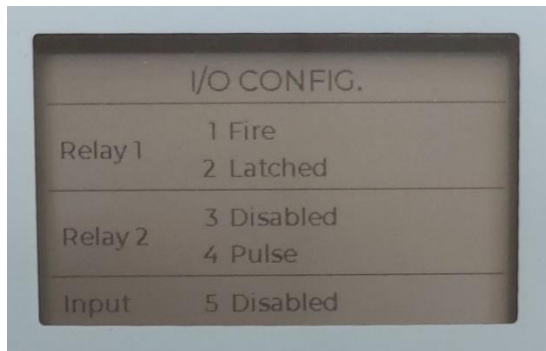
- Press 3 repeatedly and it will toggle between ‘Fire’ and ‘Disabled’
- Press 4 repeatedly and it will toggle between ‘Latched’, ‘Pulse’ and ‘Follow Alarm’

Press **ENTER to save settings** and return to Connections list.

'Latched' = The relay will be latched until the system is RESET. This is ideal for triggering access control equipment or turnstiles

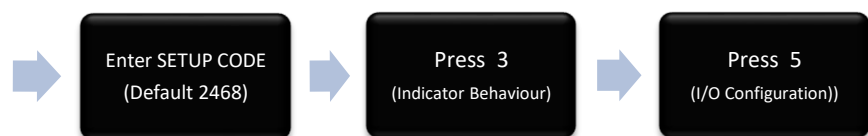
'Pulse' = The relay will trigger and then reset automatically. This is ideal for triggering auto-diallers.

'Follow Alarm' = The relay will reset as soon as the sounders are silenced. This may be required if triggering another fire alarm system.



## INDICATOR STATION

**TO SET RELAY  
BEHAVIOUR ON  
INDICATOR STATION**



Choose what you want each Relay to do as follows:

### Relay 1

- Press 1 repeatedly and it will toggle between 'Fire', 'Fire + Assist', 'Assist', 'Fault' and 'Disabled'.
- Press 2 repeatedly and it will toggle between 'Latched', 'Pulse' and 'Follow Alarm'

### Relay 2

- Press 3 repeatedly and it will toggle between 'Fire', 'Fire + Assist', 'Assist', 'Fault' and 'Disabled'.
- Press 4 repeatedly and it will toggle between 'Latched', 'Pulse' and 'Follow Alarm'
- Press **ENTER to save settings** and return to Connections list.

'Fire' = The relay will trigger when the fire alarm sounds

'Fire + Assist' = The relay will trigger when the fire alarm sounds or an 'assistance required' button is pushed

'Assist' = The relay will trigger when an 'assistance required' button is a pushed.

'Fault' = the relay will trigger if a fault is displayed in the Indicator Station

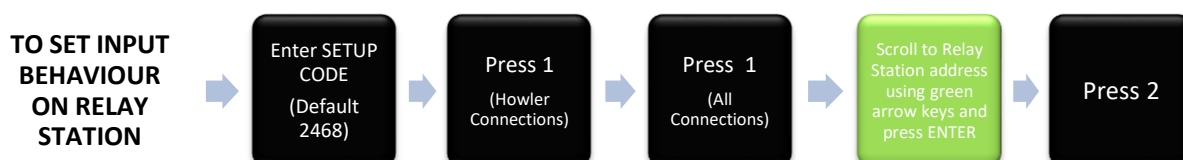
'Disabled' = The relay will not trigger

## Input Connections

Cables from the ancillary input equipment should be installed through the cable restraining glands and connected into the positive and negative Input contacts.

For the Input there are options for the conditions in which the ProLink alarm will be triggered. These options are selected and set via the Indicator Station as follows:

## RELAY STATION



Choose what you want the Input to do as follows:

- Press 5 repeatedly and it will scroll between 'Fault – Active Closed', 'Fault – Active Open', 'Fire Active Closed', 'Fire – Active Open' and 'Disabled'.
- Press **Enter to save settings** and return to main menu.

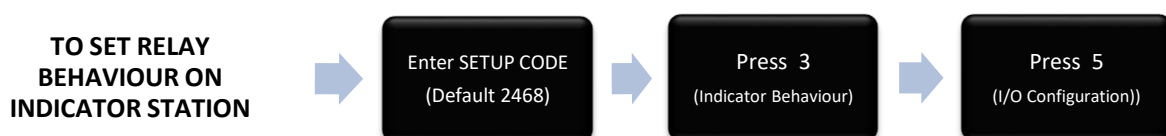
'Fault' = A fault warning will be displayed on the Indicator station if the input is triggered

'Fire' = The fire alarm will sound if input is triggered

'Active Closed' = requires the input pins to be shorted to trigger

'Active Open' = requires the input pins to be open to trigger

## INDICATOR STATION



Choose what you want the Input to do as follows:

- Press 5 repeatedly and it will scroll between 'Fault – Active Closed', 'Fault – Active Open', 'Fire Active Closed' and 'Fire – Active Open'.
- Press **Enter to save settings** and return to the main menu

