

Dorm Remote

The Dorm Remote® awakens firefighters with low ramping tones, a soft human voice pre-announcement and Knight Vision Lighting, which provides a red glow of light distributed around the dressing area. From the front panel, each crew member programs his or her Dorm Remote according to the company to which the firefighter is assigned, allowing for zoning capability in that dorm. For example, a paramedic would program "paramedic" into his or her Dorm Remote before going to sleep. Any alarm that comes in for a paramedic activates all "paramedic" Dorm Remotes. Dorm Remotes programmed for truck, engine or other companies do not activate. This feature allows firefighters not needed on calls to continue sleeping. This helps reduce the common sleep deprivation experienced by firefighters needlessly awakened for calls to which they need not respond. The significance of zoning was recently noted in Fire Chief Magazine.

"Separate sleeping quarters for a paramedic or ambulance company are highly desirable. These have been made more practical with the advent of more sophisticated alarming systems, which ring down in zones and alarm only the company required to respond. Some alarming systems allow zones to be set bed by bed, further minimizing the disturbance of other station members."

Mary McGrath, Fire House Divided, Fire Chief Magazine, October 2000.

Each Dorm Remote automatically resets in the morning at a time designated by the fire department to an "All Zones" mode. This mode announces all calls until the firefighter sets the Dorm Remote to his or her company and disables all other zones. Automatically returning the Dorm Remote to an "All Zones" mode prevents missed calls in the event a firefighter forgets to program in his or her specific company before going to sleep.

Zoning is a substantial factor in reducing firefighter stress during nighttime calls.

The Dorm Remote can be flush-mounted or surface-mounted next to each bed. When the Dorm Remote is flush-mounted, a Dorm Light is installed within the ceiling in the center of the room.

Each First-In Dorm Remote® (DR) contains a speaker, providing each firefighter with adjustable bedside alerting audio. In addition to hearing the dispatch information, the crew member can also program the Dorm Remote to hear the fire radio channel, telephone paging, doorbell and station emergency announcements. The speaker audio level is adjustable from the front panel of the Dorm Remote, allowing each crew member to set his or her desired level. A minimum audio level designated by fire department administration is programmed into the Dorm Remote, ensuring that Dorm Remotes never go below a certain audio level.

Dorm Remote audio can never be turned completely off.