

First Alert cannot comment on product testing done by third parties. Test results can be affected by many factors and how the test was conducted. Test results are affected by product placement, the nature of the fire, air currents, distance, air temperature, humidity, and many other factors. Unless our personnel are present at -- and participants in -- such tests, we cannot possibly judge their validity. In addition, all relevant scientific studies of smoke alarms recognize that ionization and photoelectric alarms may sound at different times depending on the type of fire. However, these same studies found that either photoelectric or ionization alarms provide adequate time to escape in most fires.

First Alert products are subject to rigorous internal testing on a frequent basis. We also meet or exceed standards set by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) / Underwriters Laboratories. The ANSI/UL's standards result from stringent, independent testing and input from various interest parties, including fire services and governmental agencies. That testing -- and the resulting standards -- is what consumers should look to in judging product quality.

First Alert, along with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and fire services around the country, strongly recommend the following

- Every home should have a smoke alarm on every level of the home and in every bedroom to provide the earliest possible warning.
- Batteries in smoke alarms should be checked every month and replaced at least every six months.
- Smoke alarms should be replaced entirely at least every ten years.
- Keep fire extinguishers in the kitchen and other locations throughout the home.
- Every family should have an escape plan and practice it once a year.

If your alarm sounds, leave the residence immediately. Do not re-enter until fire officials say it is safe