EvacGo Frequently Asked Questions

Considerations when ordering

1.   Can I buy the full evacuation alert system from Advanced?

EvacGo is available as a full system or panel only. There are flexible options to suit your building needs; you can choose from wired, wireless and hybrid options and the panel is compatible with leading device protocols – Apollo, Argus and Hochiki. Contact your regional sales manager to discuss your building needs and whether the full evacuation alert system or the EvacGo panel will work best for you.

2.   The standard was meant for new build, but I've got to look at a retrofit project. What should I be asking to get a price?

Talk to your local building control and fire and rescue service about the evacuation strategy for the building. Their responses will determine the number of evacuation zones you need; the design of individual flats will determine the number of sounders needed for each flat. For further assistance contact our technical support team on: **+44 (0)345 894 7000** or by email: **tech@advancedco.com**.

3.   Can Advanced issue me with a template which details the questions I need to ask in order to prepare a specification for the panel(s) I need?

Yes. Please contact your regional sales manager who will be happy to provide you with a template and answer any initial questions you may have.

4.   What is the typical delivery time?

As each panel is made to individual specifications, manufacture is estimated to take 10 to 12 weeks from order confirmation. Please speak to your regional sales manager for individual delivery estimates.

5.   Are there any limitations to the EvacGo panel that would mean I need more than one on a particular site?

There is no direct limitation. The EvacGo panel is a modular build and the loops can be expanded according to the size of the building. Additional enclosures can be mounted alongside but should also be in parallel (allowing sufficient access for the key which is side entry) in line with the recommendations (min/max mounting heights).

6.   If I have more than one panel on site, will each one require its own individual key or can one key fit all?

Each box has its own key specific to its locking mechanism. On order fulfilment Gerda will issue a key directly to the local fire brigade and premises management. This needs to be considered when placing an order, as premises management has to be identifiable so that the key can be issued directly.

7.   If the EvacGo key is lost or stolen during servicing how can it be replaced without compromising the evacuation panel?

When the security enclosure is ordered a key will be issued by Gerda to premises management. It is important not to lose the key as a potentially expensive replacement may be required to access to the enclosure for servicing and maintenance. To purchase a replacement key, please contact Gerda.

Meeting the standard

8.   The security of the outer enclosure needs to meet STS 205: Issue 7 class BR2 – how does Advanced achieve this?

Advanced has partnered with cabinet specialists Gerda and is using their patented lock and box to provide an outer housing for the control equipment that meets the standards set out in BS 8629.

9.   How many evacuation zones can I have?

The Advanced solution is available in 8/16/24 and 32 zonal configurations. If your building has more than 32 evacuation zones, you will need a second controller.

10. Is your BS 8629 solution certified?

The BS 8629 Code of Practice calls for equipment that meets EN54 Parts 2 and 4. While it is not possible to certify a product to a code of practice, the Advanced evacuation control panel is based on the MxPro 5, which not only meets EN54 Parts 2 and 4 but EN54 Part 13 (regarding compatibility of system components) too. The outer housing is tested by Gerda to ensure it meets LPS1175.

11. Can the panels be flush-mounted into the wall and still meet the standard's recommendations?

No. The keylock is side entry to maintain the integrity of the enclosure and locking mechanism provided, so must be surface mounted.

12. Can I combine an automatic fire detection system with an evacuation alert system?

Clause 13.2.3 (a) of the BS 8629 standard states: No fire detection and fire alarm equipment should be connected to the EACIE e.g. manual call points, fire detectors or fire alarm control and indicating equipment. However, we are often asked if a temporary fire detection and alarm system could be re-configured to be an evacuation alert system and that is permitted, providing it meets clause 13.2.3.

13. What size batteries can I fit into the enclosure?

17Ah batteries can be fitted as standard. However, please ensure loop and battery calculations are performed prior to placing an order as a separate battery enclosure may be required mounted locally to the EvacGo. If the site has an auto starting backup generator and the building is manned by a member of the premises management 24/7, then 24hr standby is required. If not, 72hr standby is required, but this would make a significant impact on your battery back-up. If a battery enclosure for standby batteries is sited in an area accessible to unauthorised persons, the enclosure should be secure and satisfy the same recommendations as on page 25 of the EvacGo brochure.

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Installation

14. Whose responsibility is it to consult with the fire and rescue service (FRS) for each installation?

Section 5 of the code of practice recommends that premises management or the purchaser of the system (or an appointed representative of these parties such as a consultant) consult the FRS prior to the system design stage.

15. If the main fire control panel is installed out of sight of the main entrance, with a repeater unit located in the main entrance, can the EvacGo panel be installed in the same place as the fire panel?

The EvacGo panel must be installed in a location identified in consultation with the fire brigade and premises management (Code of Practice Section 13.2.1 (b)). Typically, this would be in close proximity to the normal fire and rescue service entry point.

16. Should each installation have a system for the hard of hearing as well?

Potentially yes. In every flat, it should be possible to easily install additional evacuation alert devices for the hearing impaired. This is identified in section 11.2 of the Code of Practice. For example, this could consist of I/O devices or a junction box to which vibrating pillow pads etc. can be connected.

17. Who provides the radio site survey if using a wireless system?

You should contact the supplier of the wireless equipment for a suitable site survey. Any building requiring radio equipment should always be surveyed as best practice.

Training & Support

18. How do I get to access level three to commission/service the system?

This is accessed using the PC-NET-004 remote terminal tool. If you need support with this please contact our technical support team on: **+44 (0)345 894 7000** or by email: **tech@advancedco.com**.

19. How do I arrange engineer training on the evacuation control panel?

We offer a dedicated training course on the EvacGo panel, please scan this QR code to book training.

Scan for EvacGo Training