

Wyndham Arlington

Many of the guests at the Wyndham Arlington hotel in Arlington, TX, enjoy a little excitement in their lives. After all, the hotel, part of the esteemed Wyndham Hotels & Resorts chain, is located in the heart of Arlington's entertainment district known as "Fun Central." The Wyndham Arlington is located across the street from Six Flags over Texas® amusement park - and The Ballpark, home to the Texas Rangers, is just a wild pitch away. But just because the hotel's guests enjoy the thrill of a roller coaster doesn't mean they like living on the edge all the time. Certainly these guests rest best knowing that a world-class fire alarm system is on alert 24/7 back at the hotel.

Ever conscious of the safety of its visitors, the management at Wyndham Arlington elected to update their fire safety system to better protect their guests and staff. Management was particularly concerned about being able to find compatible components and skilled craftsman to maintain the system as it aged. The Wyndham Arlington's goal was to complete a total system change-out before the summer influx of summer travelers to fun central.

"We recognized right away that, although this job presented a number of challenges, it was doable," said Dwayne Lawson, technical manager and co-owner of Texas Fire Protection Systems (TFPS) along with James Crawford, Ed Cluck and Doug Berry. "We work with Silent Knight because they offer some of the most flexible and industry-compatible



Texas Fire Protection Systems overhauled The Wyndham Arlington's primary fire safety equipment in less than 2 weeks to ensure that all rooms would be ready for the spring influx of Texas Ranger fans.

systems on the market. We knew they had solutions for every phase of this project, plus I can always count on them to get me the products I need quickly. This means we can set tight completion dates for clients like Wyndham and know we'll be able to meet all our deadlines."

Part of Honeywell's Fire Group, Silent Knight offers industry-wide compatible fire alarm solutions for small and mid-size institutions and commercial sites. Compatibility was a key product attribute in addressing the specific fire safety needs of this hotel.

The Silent Knight devices, basically the heart and brains of the fire safety system,

had to be flexible enough to smoothly communicate with and monitor Wyndham Arlington's existing peripheral devices. Fortunately, flexibility is one of the main strengths of Silent Knight's products.

Said TFPS's James Crawford, construction and operations manager, "Other panels and power supplies can work with both conventional and addressable equipment. But, unlike Silent Knight's products, those systems require an abundance of extra equipment and additional circuitry. Silent Knight's IFP-1000 VIP control panel lets you hook up a vast array of modules without having to put a complex wiring system in place."

The IFP-1000 VIP combines all the features of a state-of-the-art addressable control panel with the convenience of a 400-watt voice evacuation system. The built-in voice feature can play three separate field programmable voice prompts, or to provide further instructions to safety, a manual override can take place with the use of its local microphone.

The all-in-one IFP-1000 supports 127 addressable devices and can be expanded to support a total of 1016 addressable devices that let the user determine exactly which device has been activated or needs attention. It also uses a distributed amplification scheme to enable power sources to be linked directly to appropriate evacuation areas.

Frank Solano, general manager of the Wyndham Arlington, is particularly pleased with the addressable feature of the system. "Rather than a vague flashing light indicating there is a problem 'somewhere,' the Silent Knight system provides a digital read-out that makes it very easy for staff to pinpoint exactly where a problem exists."

A system that "flex"es its muscles.

The Silent Knight system's RPS-1000 Power Supply also offers a high degree of flexibility, thanks to its Flexputs™ circuits feature. With these Flexputs, which consists of a system of 6 circuits, a design and installation group like TFPS has the option to set-up each circuit as either an input or an output device.



General Manager of the Wyndham Arlington likes the addressable feature of his new Silent Knight fire alarm system because it provides a digital read-out to "pinpoint exactly where a problem exists."

"Normally, the circuits are pre-defined - either input or output," explained Lawson. "We don't get a choice in the matter. But the Flexputs give us more installation flexibility, whether we need, for example, more conventional smoke detector input or more auxiliary power or notification output. This type of flexibility is essential when we're working with elements of a pre-existing system. And the RPS-1000 is about the same price as power supplies from other companies, and comes with a lot more functionality."

A big hit with no errors.

TFPS successfully installed the intelligent

control panels, power supply and voice evacuation system - in plenty of time for the first "Play Ball!" of the hotel's busy baseball season.

"There was no room for errors with such a short window of opportunity," said Crawford, "And Silent Knight worked with us to get the job done. With other major vendors I've worked with, I've often experienced product backlog, lost orders, or incorrect orders. I've never had a mistake with Silent Knight. Plus they deliver technical support if and when I need it. I never have to wait for customer support to get back to me."

The final phase of the Wyndham Arlington project is currently underway with the installation of a complete range of Silent Knight peripherals. These include the industry's most advanced smoke detectors, heat detectors, sounder bases, pull stations, duct detectors relay modules, beam detectors and more.

And, thanks to Texas Fire Protection Specialists, the Arlington Wyndham looks as good behind the walls - with a state-of-the-art Silent Knight fire alarm system - as it does in front of them.



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