New BC600 firmware version 1.15, release 2349
New PARSOFT version 1.34.1 – changes for BC600

General

The BC600 firmware comprises the operating software of the Fire Detection Control Panels Series BC600, including the function modules.

The firmware of the BC600 is available as zip compressed program file "bc600v_115_2349.mot" in the "Firmware for fire detection control panels" section and the zip compressed PARSOFT installation file "parsoft_setup_v1_34_1.exe" is available in the "Parameter setup software PARSOFT" section of the protected download area of the website www.laborstrauss.com.

Legal Note

Only qualified personnel trained by a company of the Labor Strauss Group (LST) is authorised to install the firmware on a BC600. Please read and follow the corresponding instructions in the PARSOFT help for the BC600. The Labor Strauss Group assumes no liability or warranty for damages resulting from work not carried out professionally.

The PARSOFT help corresponds to the User Manual Part C. In PARSOFT, the help can be called up through menu item **Help** as well as with function key **F1**.

Important tips

Parameterisation of a Fire Detection Control Panel Series BC600 with the current firmware V1.15 release 2349 is only possible since **PARSOFT version 1.34.1**. Before parameterising the control panel, make sure that the current PARSOFT version has been installed on your PC.

Converting the configuration

In order to support the new functions, it was necessary to expand the structure of the configuration. Older parameter setups can be upgraded to the current version V1.15 by means of the menu item **Convert**.

For a parameter setup according to the latest firmware, firmware version V1.15 or higher is absolutely necessary in the control panel!

The improvement described applies analogously to all Series BC600 devices, i.e., also to the compact fire detection control panels BC600-1L and BC600-1D, as well as to the Remote Display And Operation Panel ABF600-1.

The license of the current PARSOFT version 1.34.1 **will end on June 1, 2024**. We will provide our partner companies with a new PARSOFT version in good time, before the current version expires.

Since version 1.25, the Parameter Setup Software PARSOFT has been delivered with a **limited working life**. That is to ensure that you always use the current version of the parameter setup software for the configuration and that, as a result, the fire detection systems are kept up to date from a technological point of view.
The end of the license of a PARSOFT version is briefly shown when PARSOFT is started, and can be checked in the **About PARSOFT** window.

After a firmware update, the checks listed in DIN/VDE 0833-1, in Chapter "Inspektion", have to be carried out (if applicable)!
All firmware updates that have been carried out have to be entered in the log book of the fire detection system!

Central Processing Boards ZTB600-1 **with version V5** (PN5293B5) or higher must be provided with a **firmware version V1.03** or higher.

In order to avoid a possible malfunction when using earlier firmware versions, it is absolutely necessary to load the current firmware V1.15 release 2349 into the BC600!

If, during a firmware update to **V1.15 2349**, the control panel responds with an older version than V1.08 1950, first V1.08 1950 must be loaded into the control panel.

If, during a firmware update to V1.08 1950, the control panel responds with an older version than V1.05 1645, first V1.05 1645 must be loaded into the control panel. Otherwise a PARSOFT error message will occur during the firmware update.

If the firmware version of the control panel is older than V1.00 1336, the firmware V1.00 1336 must be loaded into the control panel before that. If the firmware is older than V1.00 1310, first of all the firmware V1.00 1310 must be loaded into the control panel.

1 New functions and improvements of the firmware

1.1 New contact type "NC-contact" of loop input modules

For the following input modules of the detector system "System Sensor", from now on the contact type **NC-contact** can also be selected:

- M501MEA
- M210E, M210EA (1xIn)
- M220E, M220EA (2xIn)
- M221E, M221EA (2xIn 1xRel.Out)
- M211E-RF (wireless)
- M210E (1xIn, Series 200)
- M220E (2xIn, Series 200)
- IM-10 (10xIn, Series 200)
- M50xM, HFM (1xIn, Series 200)
- M221E (2xIn 1xRel.Out, Series 200)

Some position switches only offer a normally closed contact. In this case the new function is advantageous because from now on, no coupling relays or the like for externally converting the contact type from **NC-contact** to **NO-contact** are needed.

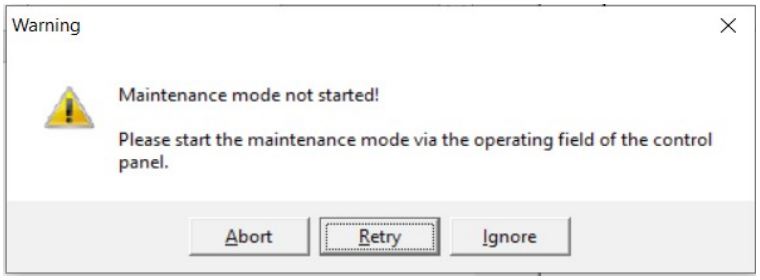
In the User Manual Part C (PARSOFT help that can be called up with F1) you can find out whether this function is available for a particular device. With the Apollo Core protocol (available on the LIF601-2), this function is also available on the Series SA4700 modules.

1.2 "Fail-safe" property and maintenance mode for loop modules

Module outputs with the property **Fail-safe** will be activated, if the loop voltage fails or if the loop communication fails. This ensures a safe position of fire protection devices in these cases. The fail-safe mode is deactivated for all module outputs with the property **Fail-safe** during the maintenance mode.

If on at least one loop module the **Fail-safe** property is active, a message box in PARSOFT will automatically point out to you, prior to a change of the parameter data or a firmware update, that the whole BCnet600 has to be switched to the maintenance mode:

The property **Fail-Safe** can be set individually for individual loop output modules. At the moment, the property is only available for Series SA4700 modules if they are used on the LIF601-2.



If the maintenance mode has not been started or has not been started completely, single or multiple outputs, and therefore the equipment that has been connected to them, can be activated through the update.

- You start the maintenance mode on the BC600 in the menu **[Settings – Start maintenance mode]**. During the start as well as while the maintenance mode is being terminated, a message box on the display of the control panel will indicate the ongoing process.

- The start as well as the end of the maintenance mode are recorded in the event memory. While the BC600 is in the maintenance mode, the System fault LED is blinking on all members to indicate this special condition.
- The successful start will be reported in the menu **[Settings – Terminate maintenance mode]**.

1.3 Event "Authorization level" in case of active PARSOFT connection

Now an active connection of the control panel to a PARSOFT PC results in the activation of outputs/LEDs, provided that **Auth. level 2/3** or **Auth. level 3** has been selected. That means that from now on, an active connection of the control panel to a PARSOFT PC (which triggers the event "Parsoft: connection established") will be evaluated like authorization level 3.

1.4 REACT interface with improved encryption

Since this version, the connection to the REACT server is established by means of an improved SSL encryption. Therefore all BC600 systems which are provided with the new firmware also get an update in terms of security of the data transfer to the REACT server.

1.5 New input type "Silence alarm. dev."

This new input type behaves like the input type **Silence / reactivate alarm. dev.** that was available up to now, but without the function **reactivate**.

The input type mentioned above is available on all inputs of the control panel, the keys on the operating field, as well as keys on the INFO/Signal bus, if the Usage **TM system input** has been set for them.

1.6 Incorrect behaviour in case of disablements

1.6.1 Wrong events indicated after disablement of system parts

After the following sequence, disablements of elements were shown by mistake in the case of actuations or alarming devices that extend beyond the boundaries of members:

- Actuation/alarming device is disabled through hardware input or key of an INFO/Signal bus device
- Restart of a member that includes elements of the actuation/alarming device => after the restart and network start-up, disablements of the elements of the restarted member were shown in addition to the disablement of the actuation/alarming device and could not be reset any more.

Remark: The incorrect behaviour did not occur if the disablement was carried out through system inputs on the UI bus or sectors.

After the following sequence, in the case of zones that extend beyond the boundaries of members, by mistake not all elements entered the zone disablement shown:

- Zone disabled through sector
- Restart of a member that includes elements of the zone => after the restart and network start-up, the disablement of the zone was again shown on all members, but the elements of the restarted member remained in the normal condition.

Remark: The incorrect behaviour does not occur if the disablement was carried out through system inputs on the UI bus or the GUI.

The fault has been corrected in this version and the zones, actuations and alarming devices that extend beyond the boundaries of members are indicated correctly even in these special cases.

1.6.2 Loop detector with analog value outside the idle range

An automatic loop detector which transmitted an analog value outside the idle range (but no alarm), could not be enabled any more after the following sequence:

- The detector was connected to a loop for the first time or the loop interface was restarted (for example, after a parameter update).
- After that, the detector only transmitted analog values that lay outside the idle range.
- The detector was disabled.

The attempt to re-enable the detector was rejected with the message "Cannot be operated" and the detector remained disabled.

In the alarm condition, elements on fire detector zones cannot be re-enabled.

The fault has been corrected in this version and the elements can be enabled as intended.

1.7 Faulty transmissions via IEC870 interface

If the interface type **IEC870 interface** was used, some events resulted in the telegram that had been transmitted last being transmitted again. As a result, it could happen that the distant end (for example, the operation control system) closed the interface and opened it again, which in turn led to an event "Fault - serial interface" with detailed information "Timeout" on the BC600.

The fault has been corrected in this version and the interface transmits all events without problems.

1.8 Event filter for printer, ESPA and ZLT interface

In the case of the interfaces mentioned above, the event filter was evaluated incorrectly if an event had been entered in an **area filter.** As a result, all events in the parameterised range were filtered out by mistake and therefore were not transmitted.

The fault has been corrected in this version, and now the area filters work in the way that they have been set.

1.9 Zone property "delayed fault evaluation / 2 contacts"

In the case of conventional lines and inputs, this zone property had no effect with the zone type **Fault detector zone**.

The fault has been corrected in this version, and therefore the function is also available in the case of **Fault detector zones**.

1.10 Detector 72051EI – evaluation of the thresholds for pre-warning and info alarm

In the case of the laser smoke detector 72051EI, the thresholds for pre-warning and info alarm were not evaluated by mistake.

The fault has been corrected in this version, and therefore the events pre-warning and info alarm will be evaluated correctly for all detector types.

1.11 Effect of the system input "Disable actuation" on Actuation – extinguishing system

Contrary to what was intended, in case of activations of the input type mentioned above, **Actuation – extinguishing system** was also disabled if the actuation number fell into the operated range.

The fault has been corrected in this version, and the function does not act on **Actuations – extinguishing system.**

1.12 Faulty event "Fault – loop interface (LIF)"

Under the following conditions, a "Fault – loop interface (LIF)" with detailed information "Componentry does not answer" occurred after the parameter upload:

- Detector system **System Sensor**
- more than six IM-10EA installed on a loop
- for all IM-10EA inputs, the zone property **Evaluate normal condition** has been set

Remark: the fault only occurred under the conditions described. The fault did not occur if other input loop elements were used or another detector system was used.

The fault has been corrected in this version.

1.13 Fire controls active due to parameter update

In the net600 it could happen that in the course of the restart of some members (for example, after a parameter update), fire controls which react to faults and for which the checkbox **no activation during alarm in emergency operation / during system fault** had not been checked, were activated by mistake.

The reason for this was that due to the ZTB600-1's componentry fault that was output during the restart, the delay time for function module faults (100 s) was started for the activation of the actuations, and perhaps with the subsequent network start-up this delay time is not sufficient. Now a componentry fault of the ZTB600-1 is treated as member fault and the corresponding delay time (10 min.) is started.

The fault has been corrected in this version and the set times are being adhered to.

1.14 Base sounder FI750/WBRIB/xxx remains active when detector is removed

Under the following circumstances it could happen that a base sounder FI750/WBRIB/xxx (actuation via the remote indicator output of the detector) remained active:

- the sounder was activated, for example by a fire alarm
- the actuating detector (on the base sounder) was removed from the base very quickly => the sounder remained active
- the alarm and the activation of the sounder were reset by means of "panel reset" => no effect on the sounder because the actuating detector was still missing
- the detector was inserted into the base again => the sounder should have been reset, but it remained active

This incorrect behaviour has been removed in the current version.

1.15 Activation of a faulty alarming device

If a faulty alarming device was activated and after that was disabled (through an input or an INFO bus key), the event "Activation - alarming device element" was not reset by mistake. The fault only occurred if the alarming device was activated while it was experiencing a fault.

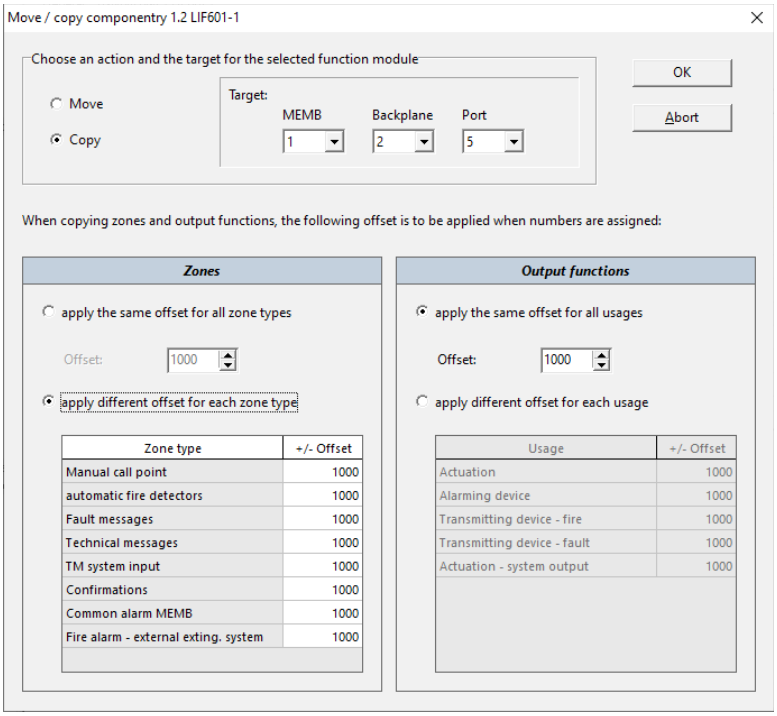
This incorrect behaviour has been removed in the current version. Now both the fault and the activation are reset.

2 Enhancements and improvements of PARSOFT

2.1 Copying whole loops (LIF(R)601)

If systems include identical or similar areas (for example, standard floors), each of which is covered by one loop, much time can be saved during the creation of the configuration by copying whole loops.

The process of copying a loop is started in the window **Control panel parameters – System bus** through the context menu **Move / Copy**. Prior to copying, an **offset** must be specified for the parameterised zones and output functions in order to avoid duplicate numbers.

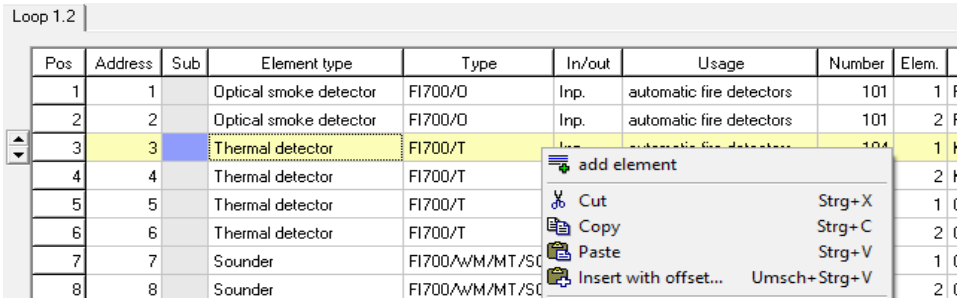


As can be seen in the window shown above, one offset can be jointly set for all zones and one offset can be jointly set for all output functions, or if required, a separate offset can be set for each zone type or output type. In this way, the logic numbers can be optimally managed even in large or very large projects.

If necessary, the required free slots for the loop interfaces that have been inserted through the copying process first have to be created by adding further backplanes or members.

2.2 Copying individual elements or ranges of loop elements

In addition to copying whole loop interfaces, it is also possible to select individual elements of a loop and to cut them by means of the context menu, to copy them or to insert them again. The elements can be deliberately inserted with or without offset. In the case of insertion without offset, the next free element number is assigned to the element that is to be inserted, analogously to the **Preset mode (Ctrl+T)**.



If inserting without offset is not possible, the window for setting an offset will be opened automatically (as in the case of copying whole loop interfaces, see the Chapter 2.1).

2.3 Moving function modules within the same member

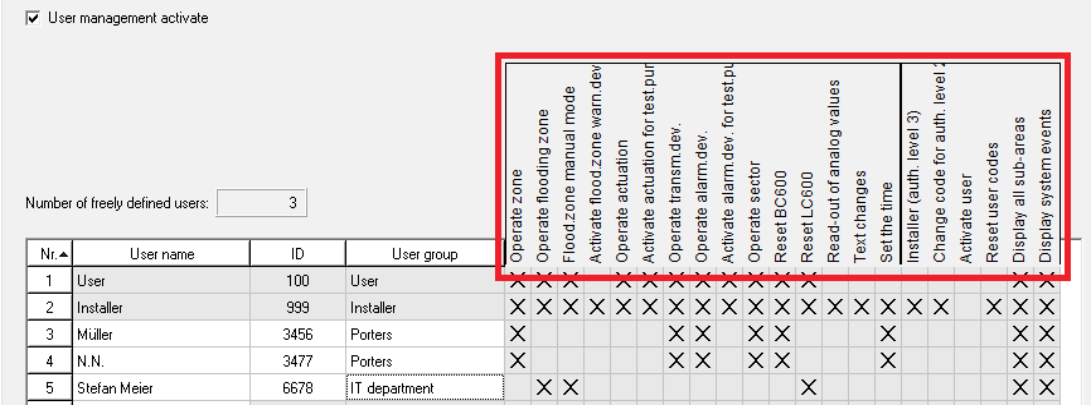
Within the same member, all function modules on the system bus (loop interfaces, conventional detector interfaces, etc.) can be moved to a free slot. The function is called up in the window **Control panel parameters – System bus** through the context menu.

This function is very helpful, particularly if the cabling is changed or for extensions, and helps in achieving an orderly and clear cabling and in maintaining it over the useful life of the fire detection system.

2.4 User management

With the new function "User management" you can easily and transparently analyse at any time the operations carried out by the different users – even in case of events that occurred long ago – and you can also set limitations for individual user groups.

The available limitations are shown in the following picture. For further explanations, see the User Manual Part C.



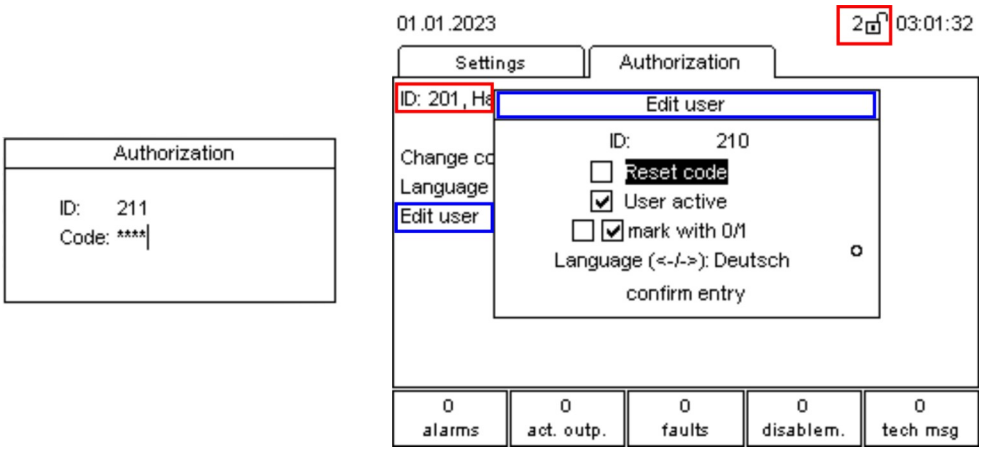
With the user management you get, in addition to the assignment of individual rights, also an even more flexible management of the users through other users on the operating field of the BC600. This function also allows, among other things, users to be activated or user codes to be changed in an easy and clear way – even through third parties.
This is a big help which always gives you an optimum overview of all users when employees join or leave a firm, or when there are vacation substitutes.

Furthermore, this additional function allows all users to set the preferred language (usually the native language) on their own on the display of the BC600. Every time the user logs in, the BC600 automatically changes the display language without interruption or restart.

In the case of international or constantly changing personnel (production plants, hotel business, tourism, security services, etc.) this function makes things much easier and also reduces the training costs significantly.

In the window **Global settings – User management**, now the advanced user management can be activated, and in this way it can be parameterised granularly for up to 32 user groups or for up to 250 users. The actual number of users that can be used depends on the licencing through an options circuit.

This function has brought with it some new or slightly changed windows and menus on the BC600:



Left image: *Login window: The first digit is evaluated as first digit of the user **ID**.*
*The Enter key allows you to change to the second line **Code:**, where the code is entered as usual.*

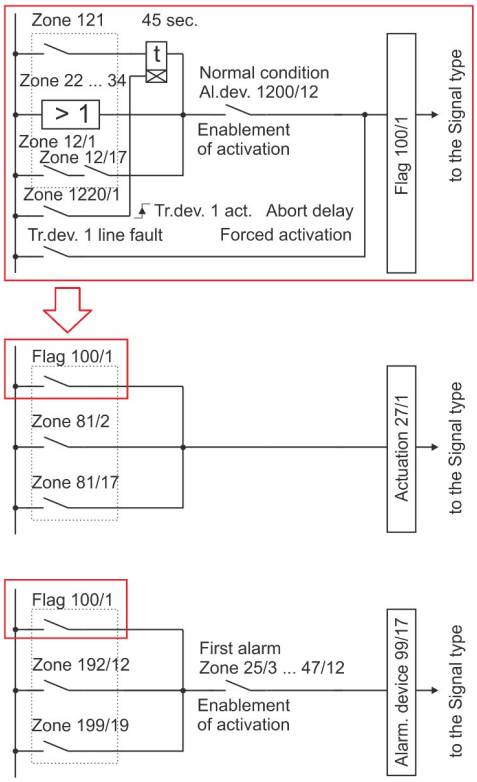
Right image: *If a user has logged in, the first line in the **Authorization** menu indicates the user ID and the name that has been entered in PARSOFT.*
*Depending on the rights that have been set in PARSOFT, the menu **Edit user** allows you to*
*- **reset the code** (for users with authorization level 2 to 1111 and for users of authorization level 3 to 99999)*
*- **activate the user** or deactivate the user*
*- set the **language** for the user.*

2.5 Flags

Since this version, the "Flag" function is available and can be parameterised in the system tree under **System parameters** by clicking the new tree node **Flags**.

Put simply, flags are actuations without output. In the industry, flags are used in virtually all sophisticated programmable control systems.

If complex functions are needed several times, parameterise this function only once as **Flag** and use this flag as often as you need it within the whole BCnet600. In this way you save time when you create and test the function, and if it becomes necessary to change or adapt it later. Then these processes only have to be carried out once (in the flag itself).



2.6 Copying combinations of the extinguishing control LC600

Now one, several or all combinations of a flooding zone or extinguishing system can be selected and copied into the clipboard. After that, the copied combinations can be jointly inserted into the combination tables of other flooding zones or extinguishing systems as often as you like.

Combinations could already be copied in the fire alarm technology (actuations, alarming devices, etc.).

However, copied combinations of extinguishing systems can only be inserted in combination tables of other extinguishing systems, and copied combinations of flooding zones can only be inserted in combination tables of other flooding zones.

Furthermore, copying combinations between the fire alarm technology and the extinguishing technology does not make sense and is not possible.

2.7 Loop Interface LIF601-2

Starting with this version, the Loop Interface LIF601-2 can be parameterised in the standard and in the redundant version (LIFR601-2). The resulting extensive possibilities and new functions are described in the Marketing Bulletin 2341.

In order to ensure the alarm detection of all detectors with Core protocol, it is absolutely necessary to load the current firmware V1.15, release 2349 into the BC600!

2.8 New parameter "Only one user in authorization"

In the window **Global settings – net600**, now an additional checkbox allows you to parameterise whether in the net600 only one user may be in authorization at any one time.

If the checkbox has been checked, only one user can be in authorization level 2 or 3 at any one time. The checkbox will only be enabled if the checkbox **All net600 members can be operated** has been checked.

As a result, authorization can be entered on every member, but more than one user cannot be in authorization at any one time.

2.9 Serial Interface SIF601

From now on, the Serial Interface SIF601-9 is supported. The interface provides an INFO bus or INFO bus EP interface.

For the Serial Interfaces SIF601-2 through SIF601-8, the interface usage **Printer** can no longer be selected. When parameter data are converted to the latest version, the interface usage **Printer** will be set to unused (**-------**) and a warning will be shown.

For further information, please refer to the Marketing Bulletin 2335 about the topic "Printer-Set for BC600".

2.10 New signalling devices for the detector system "System Sensor"

Starting with this version, the following signalling devices are supported in the case of the detector system **System Sensor**:

- Sounder-Strobe WRA-RC-I (red housing, red light)
- Sounder-Strobe WWA-RC-I (red housing, white light)
- Sounder-Strobe WRA-PC-I (white housing, red light)
- Sounder-Strobe WWA-PC-I (white housing, white light)
- Strobe WRL-RC-I (red housing, red light)
- Strobe WWL-RC-I (red housing, white light)
- Strobe WRL-PC-I (white housing, red light)
- Strobe WWL-PC-I (white housing, white light)

2.11 PARSOFT version only for fire alarm systems

From now on, the version "PARSOFT-5" is available which has a reduced range of functions. Only the following devices can be parameterised:

- Control Panels BC600-1D and BC600-1L (incl. support for all 3 detector systems)
- Accessories: FAT950 / FOT950, FAR950, SD950, SG70 and PTU288

2.12 Parameter transmission via the ESPA 4.4.4 interface

Since version V1.15 of the parameter data, the former parameter **Priority of the alarm messages** for ESPA pagers is called **Priority of the messages.**

If the **Priority of the messages** has been set to a value between 1 and 9, now it will be transmitted as Data Identifier 6 according to the ESPA protocol definition with all messages, and no longer like up to now only with alarm messages.

If the Priority is 0, the Data Identifier 6 is not transmitted – as before.

2.13 Zone property "delayed fault evaluation"

In order to evaluate special detectors on LST conventional lines, it is necessary to significantly extend the delay of the fault evaluation for some detectors, such as flame detectors by Spectrex.

For this purpose, the parameter **delayed fault evaluation / 2 contacts** is used, which up to now has already been used for **fault detector zones** and **technical detector zones**, and which now is additionally enabled for the zone types

- **Manual call point**
- **automatic fire detectors**
- **TM system input**
- **Common alarm MEMB**
- **Fire alarm - external exting. system**.

In order to be able to use this parameter generally now, the text is changed to **delayed fault evaluation**.

2.14 Language version "Lithuanian"

In addition to the control panel languages that could be selected so far, now the language **Lithuanian** can also be set in the global settings. As a result, a total of 22 languages are available on the BC600.

2.15 Change of the factory setting First-alarm memory (Alarm verification type A)

Due to the change in TRVB 123, the preset has been changed from 00:15:00 to 00:30:00. The parameter is set in the window **Global settings – Alarm evaluation**.

If existing parameter setups are opened, the value will not be changed.

2.16 Changes to the import of BC216 loops

2.16.1 Properties of actuations

When BC216 loops were imported, actuations with the property **Op./test poss./author. 3/self-res./ext.sys.** were imported as **Op./test poss.** in **authorization level 3** by mistake. However, as this property is not evaluated by the BC216 firmware since Vxx.24 1318, the import has been adapted, so that such imported actuations can be operated and tested in authorization level 2.

In the mask for parameterising BC216 actuations, the text of the corresponding property has also been adapted (new name: **Op./test poss./self-res./ext.sys.**).

2.16.2 Transmitting devices for fire alarm messages and fault messages imported incorrectly

When BC216 loops were imported, the transmitting devices for fire alarm messages and fault messages that had been parameterised on NTB-OC outputs of the BC216 were by mistake imported with element number 1 into the BC600 setup. As a result, the corresponding transmitting devices did not work correctly.

The fault has been corrected with this function.

2.17 Incomplete combinations after import of configuration

If an additional member was imported or if the parameters of a stand-alone control panel were read out into an existing net600 parameter setup, it could happen that combinations of alarming devices or actuations were incomplete if in the additional member and in the existing parameter setup identical numbers were used for alarming devices and actuations and the alarming devices / actuations used common combinations.

The fault has been corrected with this function, therefore all combinations can be imported again.

2.18 Error during XML export

If in a parameter setup, extinguishing systems without flooding zones existed, the XML export was terminated with the error message "XML export could not be created! Error 322069265 (0xC00CE011)".

If in a combination for an actuation, an event with the range specification **all** had been parameterised, the XML export was terminated with the error message "XML export could not be created! Error 3222069610 (0xC00CE16A)".

If a timer that had not been defined was assigned to a transmitting device with alarm delay, the XML export was terminated with the error message "XML export could not be created! Error 2147500037 (0x80004005)".

The three faults have been corrected in the current version.

2.19 Preset mode for System Sensor multi modules

For multi modules of the detector system **System Sensor**, the functionality **Preset mode** was faulty; therefore it was not possible to add loop elements.

This incorrect behaviour has been removed in the current version.

We will gladly provide further information.