



SERVICING AN ENTIRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Honeywell Gamewell-FCI E3 Series®

Following a groundbreaking school-board decision, Greece Central School District in New York ruled that the existing fire alarms in all schools were to be replaced with Honeywell Gamewell-FCI E3 Series® systems. This unique arrangement, affecting all 19 schools, enabled the district to standardize on the E3 Series to ensure a high-quality Honeywell solution provided by their preferred local contractor, West Fire Systems.

The Needs

- Provide a flexible architecture that grows to accommodate building expansion
- Meet the Board of Education's changing fire safety codes
- Minimize maintenance and installation costs for the district
- Deliver training to school teams to improve understanding of how the E3 Series works
- Implement a system that is fully addressable and networkable

The Solution

Like many school districts, Greece had a combination of disparate and ineffective fire alarm systems from various manufacturers. Generally this happens because public schools are required to go to public bid for their systems and they usually choose the lowest bidder, who may or may not be up to the job.

Smoke detection must be a lot more robust in schools compared to many other buildings. West Fire Systems is bringing Greece's schools into the 21st century to meet the fire safety standards governed by the State Education Department (SED). For instance, the SED recently introduced new laws around carbon monoxide detection. Fortunately, the E3 solution can very easily be upgraded to accommodate these additional requirements.

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Benefits

- Standardizing on one technology simplifies maintenance and management while reducing costs
- The system complies with the Board of Education, New York State and US national codes
- Open architecture means a school will never outgrow a system
- Select schools can easily be retrofitted to further reduce costs
- Factory training gives school teams the power of choice



Gamewell-FCI E3 Series®

Find your local distributor

www.gamewell-fci.com

Honeywell Gamewell-FCI

12 Clintonville Road
Northford, CT 06472

800-328-0103

www.gamewell-fci.com

“The district’s remarkable decision to implement the Honeywell Gamewell-FCI E3 Series solution across all 19 schools is a testament to the quality, efficiency, and capability of the Honeywell Gamewell-FCI E3 series. It’s something we take great pride in.”

Chuck Schramm, Systems Designer at West Fire Systems

Flexible Architecture

The E3 Series has a flexible architecture so that the alarm systems can be easily expanded to grow in line with the school buildings.

“The schools will never outgrow the system,” explains Chuck Schramm, Systems Designer at West Fire Systems. “Even the larger schools around here haven’t come close to reaching the full growth capacity of the Gamewell-FCI (E3 Series).”

Soon, the State Education Department (SED) will require mass notification alarm capabilities in schools. When this comes into force, the migration will be straightforward for the district due to the E3’s expandable architecture – one of the many reasons Honeywell Gamewell-FCI is their preferred solution.

Efficient Retrofits

To accommodate an expansion program at one of the schools, West Fire Systems is currently retrofitting an E3 system to replace a Gamewell-FCI 7200 Series. Installers can reuse all the existing field devices, the upgrade process is cost-effective, and the school still benefits from the latest and greatest Honeywell technology.

Cost Benefits

One of the main reasons Greece Central School District passed their board resolution for Honeywell Gamewell-FCI is cost. The system is competitively priced compared to other offerings on the market, and it’s easy to fit, reducing installer costs. Plus, the system’s reliability keeps maintenance costs to a minimum.

“The E3 is easier to install than any of our competitors’ systems, which saves time and money” says Schramm. “You don’t need a shielded wire, which is a huge plus for installers. What’s more, to make the system networkable you only need a couple of pairs of wires between network nodes, whereas other systems have many more pairs, making them much harder to fit,” he added.

Factory Training

Due to the open architecture of the Honeywell Gamewell-FCI E3 Series, staff at the schools can be trained to use the system – a huge selling point for the district. It enables them to not only understand the system’s capabilities, but also decide exactly how they want the system to be programmed.

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