



USING WALK TEST AS EFFICIENT TESTING AND FAULT-FINDING TOOL

Walk Test is a common function on most Fire Alarm Control Panels (FACPs) providing a method to test fire alarm devices that saves time and requires fewer technicians on site.

Using “Walk Test”, a technician can typically activate a device without initiating an alarm event. When the device activated, visual or audible feedback is provided by pulsing one or more Notification Devices.

Walk Test can be great for testing communication between FACP and devices, and verifying zone and device descriptor labels. Onyx AFP-3030 contains multiple options within Walk Test to operate to the technician’s requirements and providing a more comprehensive tool that can be used to verify cause & effect and as an efficient fault-finding tool

There are two modes of operation, Basic and Advanced, and 5 options Node, Panel, Loop, Zone and Device, In basic mode, you can test a Device, a Zone or a Loop, Panel or Node each test has different results and uses.

Walk Test - Basic

Walk Test Basic - Device testing: when the device is tested, the FACP will turn on the device LED and activate loop-powered sounders and strobes for 4 seconds.

Walk Test Basic - Zone testing: will cause all the devices in that zone to flash their address, it flashes the tens first then a short pause then the ones. This provides an easy indication of the device address and visual confirmation of the devices that are in walk test, which can help prevent unwanted alarms by and speed up zone identification during testing and commissioning. During zone test, when the device is activated by smoke or magnet the LEDs will indicate solid green for the duration of the test, a fault test may also be performed by removing the head for 30 seconds, the LED will go solid green once the detector is replaced, and all tests are recorded in History.

Walk Test Basic - Loop testing: will cause all the devices in that zone to flash their address, wit flashes the tens first then a short pause then the ones. During the Loop test an alarm with smoke or magnet, the LEDs on solid green for the duration of the test and sound any loop powered sounders for 4 seconds, a fault test may also be performed by removing the head for 30 seconds, the loop powered sounders will sound for 8 seconds, the LED will go solid green once the detector is replaced, and all test are recorded in History. Note if you do not want an output device to activate during walk test, un-tick the part of walk Test Box, in the example below only outputs 1 and 2 will sound during walk test.

Device ADDR	IN STL	Module Type	Type Code Label	Flash Scan Type	Device Label	Walk Test Part.
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Control	AAM Sounder	CONTROL	SOUNDER UNIT 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Control	AAM Sounder	CONTROL	SOUNDER UNIT 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Control	ALARM DEVICE	CONTROL	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 1: Walk test outputs in VeriFire Tools

Walk Test - Advanced

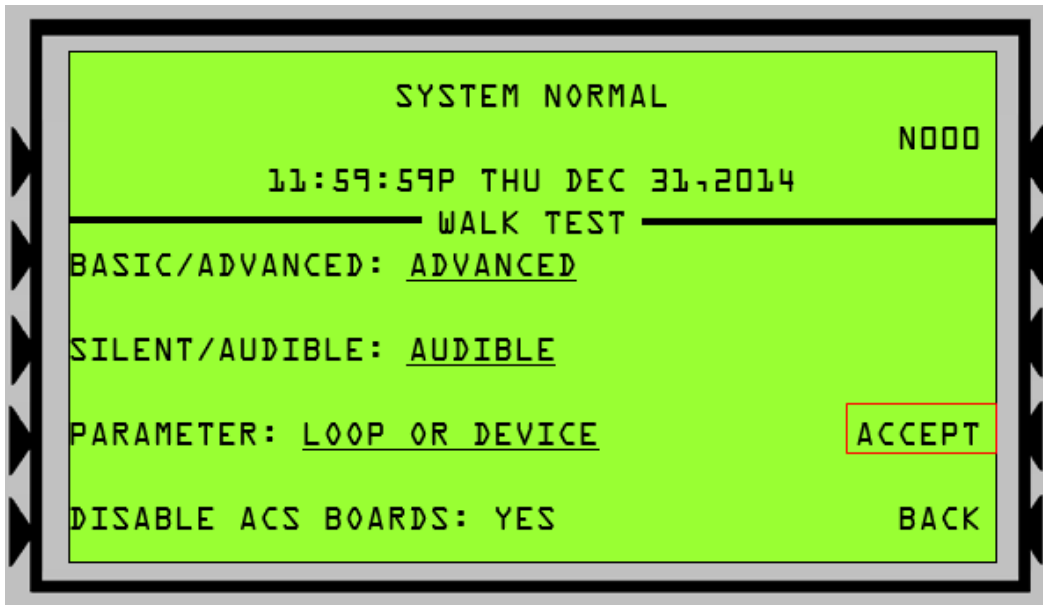


Figure 2: AFP-3030 screen for Walk Test menu

Walk Test Advanced - Device: when testing the detector at the panel it will also activate all programmed outputs except for smoke control, you will need to press abort to stop the test. As always, the results are recorded in history, if you enable output event logging in the general setting you also get a recorded history of the outputs that were activated by each device.



Figure 3: Walk Test event logging screen in AFP-3030

Event Logging	
Output Activations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non-Fire Activations	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 4: Walk Test event logging options in Verifire Tools

Walk Test Advanced - Loop: this requires the detector to be activated by smoke or magnet in the field. You will require someone to press the next test button between detector test as the outputs remain active until the next test is pressed or the test is aborted., once again the history reports shows the Detector in test alarm and the outputs activating (if enabled) in test mode. This is a great service tool and commissioning time saver. NOTE the ARE alarm output WILL activate during advanced walk testing. Disabling Alarm devices has no effect and all sounder that have the Part of walk test box ticked will sound.

Report example with output logging enabled during a walk Test using advanced testing by loop.

Event	Status	Message	Node/Point Addr	Software Type Code	Custom Point Label	Zone Number	Zone Label	Received Time Local
3991	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M2	AAM Sounder	SOUNDER UNIT 2			07/17/2020 02:02:07 PM
3990	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M1	AAM Sounder	SOUNDER UNIT 1			07/17/2020 02:02:07 PM
3989	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:02:07 PM
3988	TEST-CLEARED FIRE ALARM		N1L1M4	Pull Station	CORRIDOR	Zone 3	CORRIDOOR	07/17/2020 02:02:07 PM
3987	TEST-ON		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:56 PM
3986	TEST-ON		N1L1M2	AAM Sounder	SOUNDER UNIT 2			07/17/2020 02:01:56 PM
3985	TEST-ON		N1L1M1	AAM Sounder	SOUNDER UNIT 1			07/17/2020 02:01:56 PM
3984	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:55 PM
3983	TEST-FIRE ALARM		N1L1M4	Pull Station	CORRIDOR	Zone 3	CORRIDOOR	07/17/2020 02:01:55 PM
3982	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:51 PM
3981	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:51 PM
3980	TEST-CLEARED FIRE ALARM		N1L1M5	Smoke Conven	CHANGE ROOMS	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:51 PM
3979	TEST-ON		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:44 PM
3978	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:43 PM
3977	TEST-FIRE ALARM		N1L1M5	Smoke Conven	CHANGE ROOMS	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:43 PM
3976	ACTIVE		N1ZL2				DOOR RELEASE	07/17/2020 02:01:43 PM
3975	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:40 PM
3974	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:40 PM
3973	TEST-CLEARED FIRE ALARM		N1L1D6	Smoke Acclim	DANCE FLOOR	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:40 PM
3972	TEST-ON		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:40 PM
3971	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:39 PM
3970	TEST-FIRE ALARM		N1L1D6	Smoke Acclim	DANCE FLOOR	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:39 PM
3969	ACTIVE		N1ZL2				DOOR RELEASE	07/17/2020 02:01:39 PM
3968	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:16 PM
3967	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:16 PM
3966	TEST-CLEARED FIRE ALARM	MAGNET	N1L1D5	Heat(Fixed)	STAGE	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:16 PM
3965	TEST-ON		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:11 PM
3964	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:11 PM
3963	TEST-FIRE ALARM	MAGNET	N1L1D5	Heat(Fixed)	STAGE	Zone 5	NIGHT CLUB	07/17/2020 02:01:11 PM
3962	ACTIVE		N1ZL2				DOOR RELEASE	07/17/2020 02:01:10 PM
3961	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:01:01 PM
3960	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:01:01 PM
3959	TEST-CLEARED FIRE ALARM	MAGNET	N1L1D4	Heat(Rate of Rtse)	RESTUARAUNT	Zone 4	RESTUARANT	07/17/2020 02:01:01 PM
3958	TEST-ON		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:00:54 PM
3957	NAC 2 ACTIVATE			ACM PSI	NOTIFIER TRAINING PA		NEL	07/17/2020 02:00:54 PM
3956	TEST-FIRE ALARM	MAGNET	N1L1D4	Heat(Rate of Rtse)	RESTUARAUNT	Zone 4	RESTUARANT	07/17/2020 02:00:53 PM
3955	CLEARED ACTIVE		N1L1M3	Isolated Spk	STROBE NIGHT CLUB	Zone 0	General Alarm	07/17/2020 02:00:49 PM

Figure 5: Walk Test event logging report in VeriFire Tools

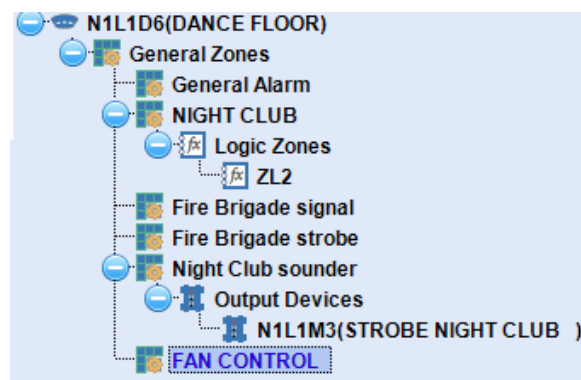


Figure 6: Cause & Effect simulation tree in VeriFire Tools

When used in conjunction with the Simulation tree it can be a useful fault-finding tool.

One of the common complaints about AS7240 standards is the old AS4428 standard had Isolate which allowed you Isolate the zone and monitor the zone for faults and Alarms, whereas the disable disables all detectors and no events are reported to the panel.

As a way around this, the Basic Zone walk test can be used in the same way, but will only last approximately 1 hour from the last event. At the end of this period, the panel will reset and return to normal, any alarm that occurs outside the walk test zone terminates the walk test and registers as full alarm. If the test times out then you can look in history to see if any events occurred during the monitoring period.

To find out more information about the Walk Test and other functionalities, please book your training at [Notifier Discovery Training Portal](#).

For more information

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