

Frequently Asked Questions

Q - Is one type of overhead counting system preferable over the other?

A - Alvarado makes the determination which system is best for each particular doorway/corridor based on information gathered during our on-site visit. For example, ZS systems are typically installed where people tend to move smoothly through the sensor area, while OPS systems are better suited for applications where people tend to congregate, or move in complex patterns.

Q - What are the basic parameters for ceiling height/passage width?

A - ZS systems are currently limited to an approximate 18 foot passage width. In many cases, multiple sensor arrays can be used to extend the width past the 18 foot limit. The maximum height for the sensor array is 10 feet. For higher ceilings, the sensor arrays can be suspended from the ceiling. OPS systems have a basic width of 5 feet. Multiple sensors are used for wider passages. The maximum height for the sensors is 10 feet.

Q - I am interested in implementing an overhead counting system at my facility. How do I obtain a preliminary budgetary proposal?

A - Contact Alvarado and provide us with the following:

- Number of doorways/corridors for which counting equipment is desired
- Basic description of these areas including ceiling height/passage width
- Overall goal of system (i.e. "need to know current occupancy level", "generate traffic pattern analysis", etc.)
- General description of the dynamics of the area. (i.e. "about 100 people come by each hour", "constant bi-directional flow", etc.)

Q - What is the next step?

A - An on-site visit by Alvarado personnel must be scheduled prior to receiving a final proposal, in order to precisely evaluate the following:

- Ambient lighting conditions
- Expected pedestrian traffic flow patterns and desired counting accuracy
- Reflective qualities of floor or carpet
- Any special considerations for facility décor and operating environment

Q - What does Alvarado provide?

A - In addition to project oversight, Alvarado will also provide basic specifications for power, communication cabling, and mounting requirements.

Q - What does my organization need to provide?

A - You are responsible for providing primary electrical power, including electrician/installation personnel. You must also arrange for installation of required Category 5 communication cabling.