STAFF ALERTS
Secure Wireless Panic Buttons and Staff Alert for Enterprises
EMPLOYEE SAFETY

Employees are the greatest asset to any organization. But employee safety concerns are on the rise across all industries. Joining forces with industry leaders, Ruckus Networks is making it easy to implement staff alert solutions while building a flexible foundation for tomorrow’s IoT applications.

THE CHALLENGE

Employees must feel safe and protected from harassment at work or be notified of events as soon as they happen. The following verticals are especially challenged to enhance safety for staff.

• **Hospitality**
  In 2018, the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA) announced a new workplace safety initiative designed to provide emergency communications and location-based services for employees. Backed by major hotels—including Marriott International, InterContinental, Hilton and Hyatt—the 5-Star Promise has committed to providing staff alerts and panic buttons to hospitality workers across the United States. Several U.S. cities have backed similar initiatives with many, such as Seattle, New York and Las Vegas, enacting new regulations to provide employees with a panic button for emergencies.

• **Schools/Universities**
  Officials are grappling with how to respond to public safety incidents quickly, whether its harassment or gun safety. Panic button apps and wireless panic buttons are now being used to send out 911-style alerts to emergency personnel as well as school staff and/or students and friends in the vicinity.

• **Healthcare**
  Healthcare providers must offer timely responses to incidents that range from staff harassment to patient falls. Through the press of a button, staff can be alerted to a medical emergency. Panic buttons must be strategically placed or worn so that they automatically alert police or security to an emergency.

Small wearable personal transmitters on a necklace, wrist or belt attachment can provide a location, along with the wearer’s name, picture or other information through the enterprise wireless network whenever someone presses their panic button. Panic buttons can send an alert to a nursing station, to security or to a preset list of notification devices. For example, a panic button can push out an alert that displays “harassment alarm” or “intruder alarm” along with the wearer’s name and location.

Unfortunately, the deployment of staff alert systems is challenging. The type of panic button chosen may mandate the use of a dedicated network built around Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) or Zigbee or even Wi-Fi. Each of these networks requires dedicated networking hubs, pulling cable, adding extra switch ports and switches, and ongoing maintenance.

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Wireless dead zones must be eliminated to reliably support hotel staff panic buttons. This means full property coverage is required, which includes the back of the house, parking lots and everywhere staff is present as part of their functions in their daily roles.

**LEVERAGING THE RUCKUS WI-FI NETWORK**

Ruckus and industry leaders have joined forces to make staff alert solutions much simpler and more cost-effective. Ruckus Networks along with our global staff alert ecosystem partners are offering a fully integrated, easy-to-manage IoT panic button solution for all industries.

With a Ruckus IoT Suite staff alert solution, employees will have security and peace of mind knowing that help is just a click away. In addition, staff and security can quickly and easily identify the exact location of an employee when his or her alert button is activated.

**GET STARTED**

Improving business safety doesn't have to mean high costs and technical complexity. Ruckus Networks and our staff alert ecosystem partners make wireless panic buttons and other IoT services simple and cost-effective. Contact us today to learn more.

Panic buttons help organizations protect their employees. In the event of an alert triggered by their staff, businesses can locate the panic button through the use of their IoT-ready Ruckus network infrastructure.

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