

HOWLER FREELINK SITE ALARM

USER MANUAL

Models: FLCP and all Howlers alarms with a /FL suffix



**DO NOT DISCARD – ESSENTIAL
INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THIS
MANUAL**

Issue 8
9/10/2013

WELCOME

Firstly, a message of thanks from us all at Howler, for choosing the *Freelink*TM battery operated radio link site alarm. Over the years Howler has become synonymous with tough, reliable products designed for rigorous environments, and we hope that this product will fulfil your every expectation.

We would issue one word of warning, however, and that is to remind you that radio waves are not magic! Unlike cables, you cannot see them, and so it is more difficult to guarantee a connection at all times. You will find that the system disconnects at times, particularly if the building layout changes, and you may need to reposition the Howler alarms to regain a connection. Remember that radio waves will never pass through solid metal, so a Howler situated in a metal container, without any window will never work.

You can be assured that the *Freelink* system is equipped with comprehensive continuous fault monitoring, so if disconnections occur it will let you know.

We wish you every success with your installation. If you have problems, the Trouble Shooting section of this manual will help in most cases, but if problems persist, contact your supplier.

Installer contact details:

Howler technical helpline: 01202 536800

SAFETY NOTE

The Howler alarms emit a very loud sound when in the alarm state, and the user should avoid prolonged exposure to the sound within a 1m range, without hearing protection.

LOG BOOK

A Log Book is provided with the system in which all checks, and events should be recorded, including false alarms, faults etc. It is a condition of the warranty that this book is used. A clear record of all events is an immense help in diagnosing problems, and can be used to support any warranty claims.

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Terminology

To assist understanding of the terminology with this manual the following illustrations indicate the parts referred to.

Control Panel



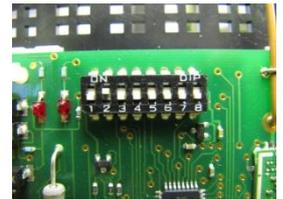
Howler alarm (or Howler)



LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)



DIL Switch



Default Codes

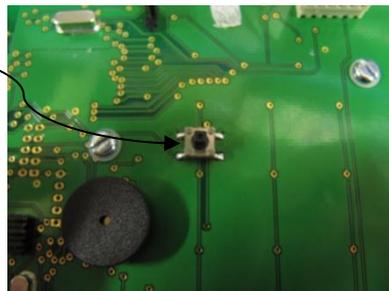
The factory default panel codes are as follows:

User Code: 1234

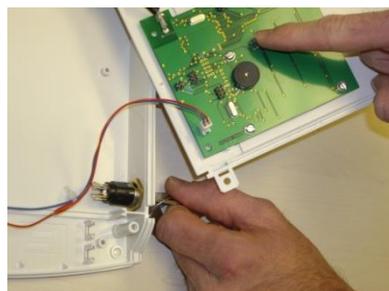
Set-up Code: 2468

To re set the default codes at any times, simply power down the panel, by disconnecting the batteries. Hold the switch on the back of the panel PCB down whilst re-connecting the batteries and the default codes will be restored (see below)

'Restore defaults' button



Hold button whilst powering up



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS IN BRIEF

This section outlines the operation of the system in brief, and can be used to train staff who need to be able to deal with the day-to-day occurrences.

To illuminate the LCD display, simply press any button.

When entering the USER CODE, press the buttons slowly and firmly, waiting for a * to appear on the top row of the LCD for each number pressed.

To **SOUND** all alarms, enter the USER CODE followed by '2' – 'Evacuate'. To silence alarms press 'CLEAR'.



To **SILENCE** alarms, enter the USER CODE followed by '4' – 'Mute Sirens'. Locate the Howler which has been activated, reset it, return to the panel and reset the panel (see below).



To **RESET** the panel after an event, enter the USER CODE followed by '1' – 'Reset alarms'. The panel will return to normal display.



Faults and disconnects

If any Howler becomes temporarily disconnected, the panel will emit an intermittent beep, and the number of the Howler which has become disconnected will be displayed on the LCD, with the legend 'short disconnect'. No immediate action needs to be taken at this stage, but the situation should be monitored. If the Howler does not reconnect within a preset time, the panel will emit a constant beep, and the number of the Howler which has become disconnected will be displayed on the LCD, with the legend 'long disconnect'. The disconnected Howler should be located and it should be repositioned. Return to the main panel, and, if necessary, reset the panel (see above).

The fault beep can be silenced by entering the USER CODE followed by '3' – 'Mute Panel'



Test Mode

To facilitate weekly tests of all Howlers, the system will automatically reset whilst in the TEST MODE, without the need to return to the panel after testing each Howler.

To set the **TEST MODE**, enter the USER CODE, and press '6' – 'Test Mode'. Once the test has been completed, enter the USER CODE again and press '1' – 'Reset'.



1. INSTALLATION

1.1 Planning

Prior to installation it is important to plan the locations of the Howler alarms and the Control Panel. The Control Panel should be housed in a secure, weatherproof location within a reasonable distance of the first Howler alarm. Radio waves travel a lot further in open air, where they can travel in straight lines, so the panel can often be sited in a cabin remote from the main building. However, it is sensible to avoid situating the panel in such a position where a lot of large vehicle movement occurs between the panel and the first Howler alarm. In such a situation, disconnects may occur quite frequently, unless the signal is particularly strong.

The Howler alarms themselves should be sited on exit routes in easily accessible places, which are unlikely to be obstructed. In most buildings, the Howlers will need to be no more than 30 – 50m apart, depending on the number of obstructions between them. The stairwells are ideal locations. This ensures that Howlers are in easy reach of personnel and that the sound levels are adequate to warn all persons present. **Wherever possible Howlers should be mounted on mobile fire points or backboards so that they can be repositioned easily and quickly.** The Howler alarms should be securely mounted to prevent damage by dropping or falling, and as high as is reasonably practicable.

If the system has 16 or more Howlers a little more thought is required in planning the locations of the Howlers. Only Howlers addressed 02 – 17 have the ability to act as repeaters, passing the messages on to other Howlers. Howlers addressed 18 and above will only send and receive messages from another Howler (or direct to the panel), they will not pass the messages on to others.

Whilst it is difficult to predict with any accuracy the route that radio waves will take, **as a general rule, the lower address numbers work best near the Control Panel**, with the higher numbers being located at the end of the line, further away from the Panel.

Do not install Howlers in close proximity to other radio devices.

1.2 Panel Set-up

- 1) Access to the Control Panel fixing points is gained by removing the two cover plates, one at the top of the panel and one at the bottom. These are removed by pushing the small lever on the left hand side of the plate, and pulling towards you (see below).



- 2) Remove the four Pozi screws and the panel front can then be lifted off carefully.
- 3) Install the 4 x D cell batteries in the battery holder. **Ensure that the key switch on the side of the panel is turned in the anti-clockwise direction otherwise the power will be switched off.** The LCD display on the panel will illuminate as soon as the batteries are installed. The screen will read:

Alarms normal
No alarms

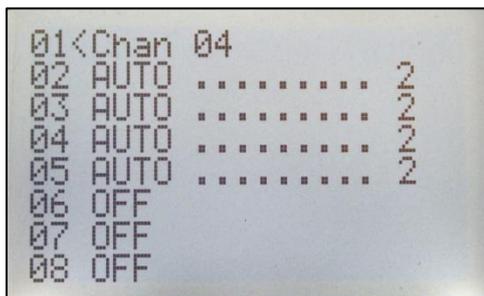
The LCD has a power saving facility which means that it will switch off after approximately 30 seconds if no other buttons are pushed. To illuminate the LCD, simply press any button.

- 4) Replace the panel front, taking care to ensure that it is correctly located, and replace the 4 Pozi screws.
- 5) Attach the panel securely to the wall in your desired location, using appropriate wall fixings. There are a number of places on the panel backplate available for screw fixings. Finally push the two cover plates back into position at the top and bottom of the panel. The panel is now ready for connecting to the Howlers.

1.2.1 Connecting Howlers to the panel

(NB If you have purchased a *Quick-Start* kit, the panel will already have the correct Howler addresses connected. This can be checked, by following the procedure described in this section)

- 1) Enter **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect Stations)**
- 2) A list of addresses is shown from 02 to 52. The status of each station is shown as AUTO, OFF or F <No>. Any Howler which you need to be connected should be AUTO. (See below)



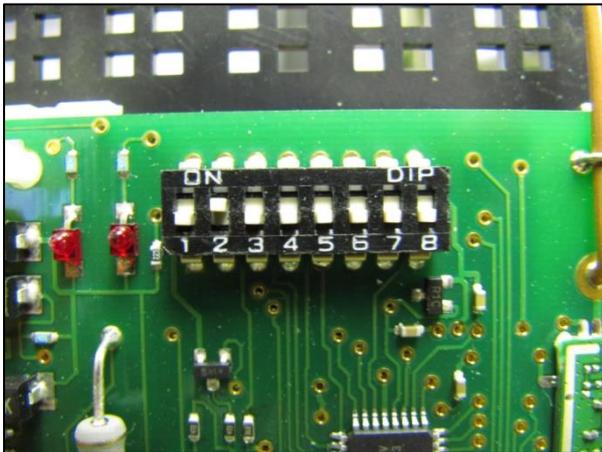
- 3) Use the arrow keys to scroll down and up the addresses. To change the status of any address, simply push **ENTER** when the arrow is displayed against that desired address number.
- 4) Once you have ensured that all the addresses required are switched to AUTO, and all the addresses not required are switched OFF, the Howler alarms can be set up.

NB As soon as this process is completed, the Control Panel will be trying to make connection with the Howler alarms. The Panel may well issue some disconnection warnings whilst the Howlers are being installed, so be prepared to silence the fault warning if necessary (see section 2.2).

1.3 Howler Alarm Set-up

If you have purchased a *Quick-Start* kit, the Howler alarms will come pre-addressed. The address number is displayed on the outside of the Howler. In this instance the section on addressing the Howler (points 2 and 3) is not relevant.

- 1) Open the Howler by removing the screw at the bottom of the Howler, using the security allen key provided.
- 2) Each Howler must have a unique address, or number. This is simply set by means of the DIL switch on the PCB within the Howler. The table following illustrates the positions for the DIL switch for each address.



This photograph shows the DIL switch set up for address 02, and this is how it is graphically represented on the table which follows:

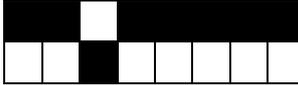
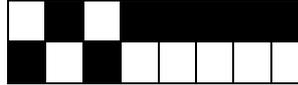
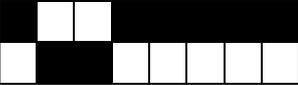
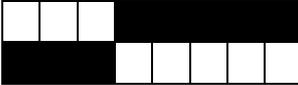
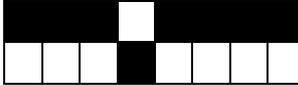
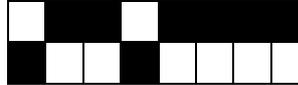
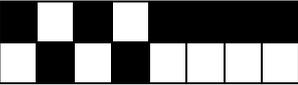
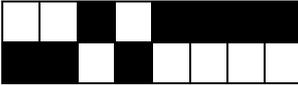
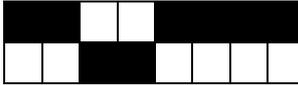
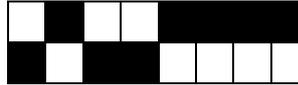
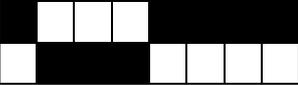
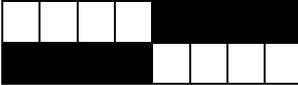
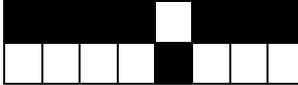
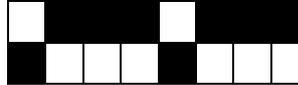
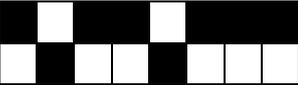
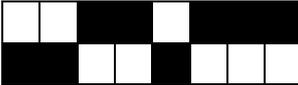
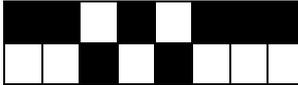
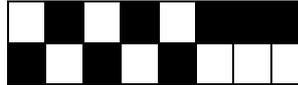
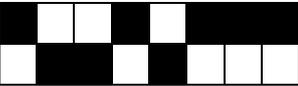
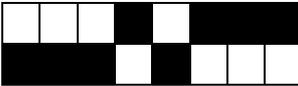
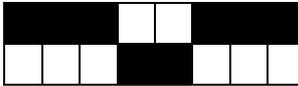
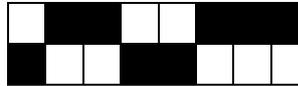
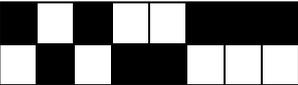
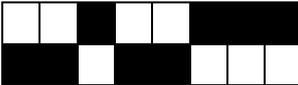
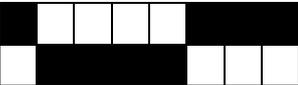
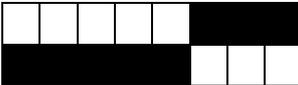
Address:
02



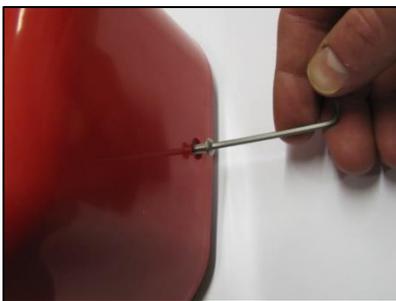
(NB The addresses shown are for Channel 1 Howlers – see section 1.5 for information regarding changing the Channel, if required)

Howler Address Table

The **white** squares indicate the switch positions. (please note that these configurations are for channel 1)

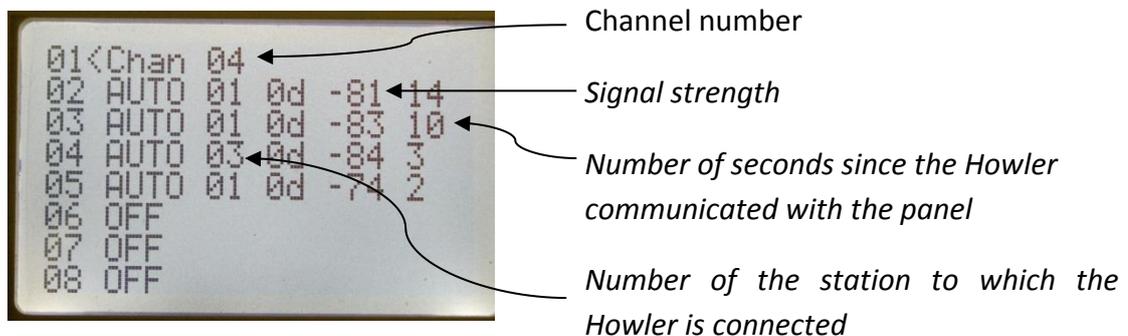
Address: 02 	Address: 03 	Address: 04 	Address: 05 
Address: 06 	Address: 07 	Address: 08 	Address: 09 
Address: 10 	Address: 11 	Address: 12 	Address: 13 
Address: 14 	Address: 15 	Address: 16 	Address: 17 
Address: 18 	Address: 19 	Address: 20 	Address: 21 
Address: 22 	Address: 23 	Address: 24 	Address: 25 
Address: 26 	Address: 27 	Address: 28 	Address: 29 
Address: 30 	Address: 31 		

- 3) Once the addresses have been set, the Howlers can be mounted in their final locations, using appropriate fixings.
- 4) The Howlers can now be powered up one by one, starting with the Howler nearest the Control Panel. Connect both sets of batteries by pushing the battery connectors into place. Secure the cable ties around the 'D' cell batteries.
- 5) The LED lights on the PCB will illuminate briefly as soon as the power is connected. Once the Howler has made connection with the panel or nearest Howler, both LEDs will flash continuously. The Howler cover can then be replaced, and the security screw refastened.



- 6) Work your way through the Howlers, ensuring that each Howler makes connection (i.e the LEDs are flashing)
- 7) Sometimes Howlers will not make connection, and they may need re-positioning to obtain a connection. A Howler can be encouraged to make connection with another Howler, by bringing them close together. Once connection is made, they can be moved apart again and the connection will usually be maintained.
- 8) The strength of each connection is shown on the Control Panel, so you can see any 'weak' connections. Enter the **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect stations)**. The signal strength is shown as a minus number, with 0 being the strongest connection. See Figure 4. You can see from this information, therefore, if there are any weak connections that may need improving by repositioning of a Howler.

Fig.4



NB The system will take time to settle down and find the strongest signal routes. During this time disconnects may well occur. It is advisable to allow at least 30 minutes before leaving the system. If disconnects do occur, resetting the panel will often help speed up the re-connection time (User Code > Press 1).

It is advisable to run a silent battery test as soon as the system is connected up, as follows: User Code > Press 5 (Battery test) (See section 3.3)

The user should expect some short disconnects during the first 24 hours whilst the system settles down and finds the best routes.

1.4 Forcing a connection between Howlers

Sometimes following set-up, certain Howlers will either fail to make connection with another Howler, or will make a weak connection and therefore 'Short disconnect' warnings will be issued frequently. The Howler may be attempting to connect using a route which does not offer the strongest signal.

If there is a Howler in the vicinity which logically ought to be able to offer a connection (and it is addressed 02 - 17), the Howler can be forced to attempt connection to that one Howler. The method to achieve this is as follows.

Enter the **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect stations)**. Scroll to the address number with the weak connection, using the up and down arrows. Having reached the required address press the ENTER key and the panel display will change from AUTO to F <No.> (See below). Now select the number of the Howler to which you want to make connection using the 1 and 2 buttons. Pressing '1' will increase the address number, and pressing '2' will decrease the address number. Once you have entered the correct address, press **CLEAR** to exit the Connect Stations section.

You may need to take the panel near to the Howler you are trying to force connection on, to ensure that the Howler receives the forcing instruction. Once the Howler is happily connecting up, the panel can be returned to its correct location.

```

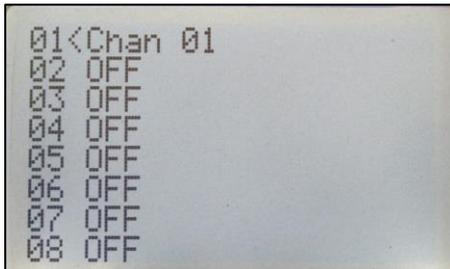
01<Chan 04
02 AUTO 01 0d -81 3
03 AUTO 01 0d -82 11
04 F 03 03 0d -83 9
05 AUTO 01 0d -35 7
06 OFF
07 OFF
08 OFF

```

In this example, station 04 has been set to connect with station 03

1.5 Channels

There are 4 different channels on which the Howler Freelink system can operate. This means that up to 4 systems can be run in close proximity without interfering with each other. The factory set Channel is 01, and this is displayed in the Connect Stations section on the panel by the address 01 (see below).

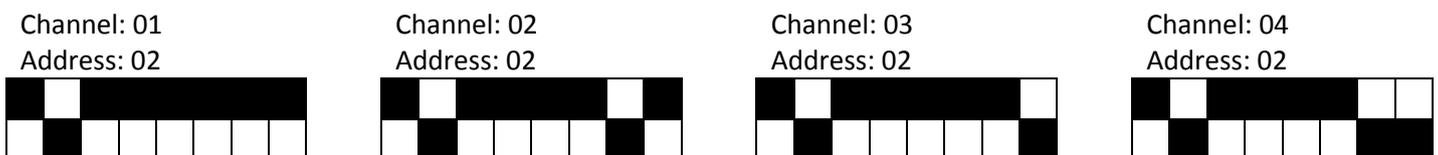


There should be no need to change the Channel, unless there is a neighbouring Howler Freelink system.

To change Channels on the panel, enter the **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect Stations)**. Ensure the cursor is against address 01 (using the arrow up and down keys), and **Press the required Channel number (e.g. 1, 2, 3 or 4)**. The panel will prompt you to confirm the change by pressing '5'.

The panel may bleep and display '01 Watchdog'. Simply reset the panel as follows: **User Code > Press 1 (Reset)**.

The Channel then has to be changed on each of the Howlers. This is achieved by changing the settings on the DIL switches on the PCB within each Howler. The last two switches on the DIL switch (numbers 7 and 8) set the Channel. The settings for each channel are shown below. In each case the setting shown is for Howler address 2, only the Channel has changed.



2. BASIC OPERATION

2.1 Alarms

In the event of fire, the alarm is raised by operating the switch on any Howler alarm. All alarms will the sound, and the premises should be evacuated. The panel will display an indication of which Howler alarm has been operated, and the responsible person should check whether the alarm is real.

To **silence** the alarms: **User code > Press 4 (Silence alarms)**. The panel will emit a fault signal. (The factory set User code is 1234)

To **reset** the system: Before resetting the system, the switch on the Howler alarm which has been operated needs to be reset. Method of operation and resetting of the Howler will depend on the model. For models: HO1/FL, HO2/FL, HO3/FL, HO4/FL: Push the switch to sound alarm. Reset using switch or key as appropriate to the model. For model: HOCP/FL: Push the callpoint plastic section firmly on the black circle. A small fluorescent strip will appear in the top left hand corner of the aperture and the alarm will sound. Reset by inserting the black plastic 'key' into the circular hole in the base of the callpoint. Push the 'key' firmly upwards until the callpoint resets and fluorescent strip is hidden.

Once the Howler has been reset, return to the panel and enter: **User Code > Press 1 (Reset alarms)**

The system offers a 'two stage alarm' facility – see section 5.9

2.2 Warning indications

If any fault or other abnormal condition occurs on the system, the panel will emit a fault signal, either intermittent or continuous. The LCD display will indicate the nature of the warning. If the nature of the warning is not urgent, the user may choose to silence the signal as follows: **User Code > Press 3 (Silence fault buzzer)**.

Silencing the warning signal does not switch the system off, and if any Howler is operated, the alarms will still sound.

NB Warnings should not be ignored – the user should make every effort to resolve the problem as soon as possible. The level of urgency will depend on the nature of the warning.

See section 4 on Faults & Disconnects for further information.

Occasionally the panel may issue a spurious low battery warning, **particularly in cold weather**. This can always be checked by running a silent battery test and then immediately resetting the panel (see section 3.3).

3. MAINTENANCE

3.1 Regular checks - IMPORTANT

The following checks should be carried out by the user to ensure that the system remains in good working order:

- 1) **Daily:** check the panel by simply pressing any button. The screen should illuminate and display the message 'No alarms'.
- 2) **Weekly:** At least one Howler alarm point should be tested each week, on a rotating cycle, so that all alarm points are tested from time to time. To carry out the test enter: **User Code > Press 6 (Test Mode)**.

Test the selected Howler alarm by operating the switch. Only the Howler tested will sound, and the panel will automatically silence the alarm after approximately 10 seconds and reset the panel. Any number of Howler alarms can be tested whilst in this mode, and the panel will automatically reset each time.

NB When the test is complete the panel must be reset: User Code > Press 1 (Reset alarms).

- 3) **Six monthly:** All the Howler alarms should be tested as per 2)

All checks as well as faults and disconnects should be noted in the log book provided to show evidence of regular checks. **This is a condition of the warranty.**

3.2 Battery replacement

The Howler alarms have two power sources, both being standard dry cell batteries which are readily available. The siren is powered by a **PP9** battery, and the radio link function is powered by **2 x D size** batteries.

The panel will give warning when any battery requires replacement. The fault signal will sound intermittently and the panel will display a message indicating which battery is low. When the battery is completely drained, the Howler will disconnect. The panel refers to the PP9 battery as '9V battery' and the D size batteries as '3V battery'.

It is always advisable to run a silent battery test prior to changing batteries, to check the result. A silent battery test is run by pressing: **User Code > Press 5 (Battery test)**. The list of Howlers will be displayed. Scroll to the Howler you wish to test using the arrow up and down keys, then **press ENTER**. The panel will display 'Batt test pending'. If there is a genuine problem with the battery, the warning will be given again.

To replace the batteries, simply locate the Howler alarm indicated by the panel; remove the cover; remove the old batteries and replace with new. It is advisable to secure the batteries with a cable tie. Wait until the red LEDs on the PCB are flashing consistently (indicating that the station is connected), before replacing the cover. Return to the panel and reset the system: **User Code > Press 1 (Reset alarms)**.

Whilst the panel is displaying a 'Battery Low' warning, the fault signal can be silenced by entering: **User Code > Press 3 (Silence Fault Signal)**.

It is recommended that batteries are replaced with good quality, long life batteries for the maximum reliability of the system. Standard rechargeable batteries can also be used, but typically they will not last as long as non-rechargeable batteries.

Waste batteries should be recycled.

3.3 Silent battery test

The batteries are automatically tested every time the alarms are sounded. If you wish to conduct a silent test of the batteries at any time press: **User Code > Press 5 (Battery test)**. Then select either 'All', 'Panel', or a particular station number by using the up and down arrows. Press **Enter** and the test will be carried out. The panel will display the legend 'Batt test pending' until the test is complete. Once the test is complete the panel will return to 'No alarms' unless a fault is found with the batteries.

3.4 Control Panel Power-Down

If you need to switch off the whole system (e.g. at night when the system is not required), simply insert the key into the switch on the side of the panel and turn in a clockwise direction. To switch back on, turn the key in the anti-clockwise direction. **NB Keys should never be left in the panel, in case unauthorised persons switch off the system.**



Turn Clockwise to switch 'off'



Turn Anti-Clockwise to switch 'on'

4. WARNINGS AND DISCONNECTS

4.1 Short and Long Disconnects

If any Howler becomes disconnected for more than 120 seconds (2 minutes), the Control Panel will display the address of the disconnected Howler followed by the words 'Short disconnect'. This gives you an early warning, and if there has been some change to the site layout, or position of the Howler, this indication will alert you that you may have to reposition the Howler to regain connection. E.g.:

```
Alarms normal  
02 Short disconnect
```

The system will attempt to regain connection with the disconnected Howler, and if it succeeds, the message will disappear. If, however, it fails to regain connection after 700 seconds (11.6 minutes), the Control Panel will emit an intermittent beep. Pressing any key on the Panel will illuminate the LCD, and the address of the disconnected Howler will be shown followed by the words 'Long disconnect'. E.g.:

```
Alarms normal  
02 Long disconnect
```

The warning signal can be silenced as follows: **User Code > Press 3 (Mute panel)**, but **be aware that the Howler will need reconnecting as soon as possible**. Try to re-establish connection by repositioning the Howler and resetting the system: **User Code > Press 1 (Reset alarms)**.

Check whether the Howler has re-connected at the Control Panel as follows: **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect stations)**. The signal strength is shown as a minus number, with 0 being the strongest connection.

4.2 Low Battery Warnings

Each Howler has two power sources, both being standard dry cell batteries which are readily available. The siren is powered by a **PP9** battery, and the radio link function is powered by **2 x D size** batteries.

The Control Panel will give warning when any battery requires replacement. An intermittent fault signal will sound and the panel will display a message indicating which battery, in which Howler requires replacement. E.g.:

```
Alarms normal
02 Low battery 3V
```

The Control Panel refers to the PP9 battery as the '9V battery' and the D cell batteries as the '3V battery'

4.3 'System 18'

If any Howler alarm is operated, and then reset within 10 seconds, the Panel will automatically silence all Howlers and the panel will display the warning 'System 18'. This can be cleared by resetting the panel - **User Code > Press 1 (Reset alarms)**. This function is designed to reduce the impact of any deliberate nuisance alarms and any other type of false alarm.

4.4 'Watchdog'

Sometimes the control panel will display the legend: '01 Watchdog'. Usually resetting the panel will clear this (i.e. **User Code > Press 1 (reset)**). If this doesn't work, simply power down the panel by turning the key switch on the side of the panel. Leave for 30 seconds than switch back on again. The panel should display 'No alarms' once again.



Turn Clockwise to switch 'off'



Turn Anti-Clockwise to switch 'on'

It will take the panel approximately 5 minutes before it has reconnected all stations and is ready to operate normally again.

4.5 Panel Power Down

If the panel appears to 'freeze', and you cannot enter the User menu, simply power down the panel by turning the key switch on the side of the panel. Leave for 30 seconds then switch back on again.

It will take the panel approximately 5 minutes before it has reconnected all stations and is ready to operate normally again.

5. SET-UP MODE

This mode is entered by pressing the Set-up code. (The default Set-up code is 2468). There are various functions within this mode which are designed to assist installation and maintenance.

5.1 Connect stations

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 1 (Connect Stations)**

This function lists the connected stations and the signal strengths. To connect or disconnect a station simply scroll up and down the list using the arrow keys, and when the desired station is reached toggle between AUTO, F <No.> and OFF using the ENTER key.

The two digits immediately after the AUTO/F <No.>/OFF column tells you which station that Howler is connected to (station 01 is the control panel).

The third column after the AUTO/F <No.>/OFF column shows the signal strength, with 0 being the strongest possible signal.

The final column of figures displays the number of seconds since the panel last made contact with that station. This number updates every time any key is pressed.

5.2 Battery test interval

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 2 (Batt test interval)**

This function displays the number of days at which the batteries will be tested, if, for any reason, the alarms are not tested as per the maintenance instructions. This can be changed if required by using the arrow up and down keys, and pressing Enter when the desired number is reached.

The factory setting is 0 days. Additionally, the batteries are automatically tested every time the alarms are sounded.

5.3 Setting the power level

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 3 (Set power level)**

This function displays the power level at which signals are transmitted. The power level ranges from 10 dBm to -30dBm. The factory set level is 5dBm. If it is proving difficult to connect stations, the power level can be increased, but be aware that the batteries will drain quicker the higher the power level.

To change the power level use the arrow up and down keys, then press enter when the desired power level is reached.

5.4 Setting the disconnect seconds

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 4 (Set disconnect seconds)**

This function displays the number of seconds after which the panel declares that a Short and Long Disconnection has taken place. The factory setting for a Short disconnect is 120 seconds, and for a Long disconnect is 700 seconds.

To change the disconnection time use the up and down arrows. To toggle between Short disconnect and Long disconnect press '1'. Press Enter when the desired times have been set.

5.5 Setting the Sync threshold

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 5 (Set Sync threshold)**

This function displays the signal strength which panel deems adequate. The factory setting is -86dBm. The panel will look for stronger routes if the signal strength is lower than this setting.

To change the threshold use the up and down arrow keys and press Enter when the desired threshold is reached.

5.6 Changing the User code

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 6 (Set USER password)**

This function can be used to change the User Code. To change the code, enter the new code (4 digits) and press Enter.

The factory default User code is 1234.

5.7 Changing the Set-up code

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 7 (Set SETUP password)**

This function can be used to change the Set-up Code. To change the code, enter the new code (4 digits) and press Enter.

The factory default User code is 2468.

5.8 Changing the Siren Time-out duration

If the Howlers sound for 30 minutes continuously, the system will automatically silence the sirens. This is designed to prevent nuisance alarms when the site is unattended. The length of time that the Howlers will sound before silencing can be adjusted as follows:

Enter **Set-up Code > Press 9 (Set siren time out)** Use the arrow up and down keys to select the new time-out duration and press Clear.

5.9 Two stage alarm

The Howler Freelink system offers a two stage alarm facility designed to reduce the impact of false alarms, by delaying complete evacuation of the site. When a single Howler is activated, this Howler sounds continuously warning persons in the immediate vicinity to evacuate at once. All other Howlers sound intermittently, whilst appointed persons check the panel and investigate the source of the alarm. If it is a false alarm, all alarms can be silenced and the panel reset without evacuating the whole site.

However, if after the first Howler has been activated the system is not been silenced within a preset time, or if a second Howler is activated, all Howlers will automatically change to continuous alarm, and staff should evacuate.

Important: If you choose to utilise the two stage alarm facility, it is vitally important that the workforce are given clear instructions as to the action to be taken. i.e.

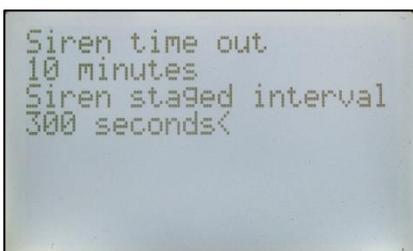
- 1) On hearing an intermittent siren – do not evacuate site, but prepare to do so. If working at height, return to ground level. Stop all operations.
- 2) On hearing a continuous alarm evacuate site immediately, after switching off equipment.

To select the two stage alarm option Enter **Set-up Code > Press 9 (Set siren time out). Press '1'** and the cursor will move to 'Siren staged interval OFF' – see below



```
Siren time out
10 minutes
Siren staged interval
OFF<
```

Change the interval between the intermittent alarm and the continuous alarm using the up and down cursors. Press 'Clear' to exit the menu.



```
Siren time out
10 minutes
Siren staged interval
300 seconds<
```

On this system it is 5 minutes (300 seconds) between first and second stage alarm.

6. DETECTION

Automatic detection is available as an option where it is required by the Fire Risk Assessment. This is particularly applicable to timber framed buildings under construction. The two detection options available are:

6.1 Hard wired option

With this option, 9V smoke or heat alarms are connected to a nearby Freelink Howler using 2 core cable. Fire resistant cable is recommended. The advantage of this option is that you can have 30 Freelink Howlers as well as the detection. It is also possible to connect a number of detectors to one Howler.

When a detector is activated, the Control panel will display the number of the Howler to which the detector is connected.

Full instructions for use come with the detectors.

6.2 Wireless option

With this option the 9V smoke or heat alarms are completely wireless detectors, and have their own unique address just like any Howler alarm. With this option the *total* number Howlers and detectors is 30 units.

When a detector is activated, the Control panel will display the number of the detector itself.

Full instructions for use come with the detectors.

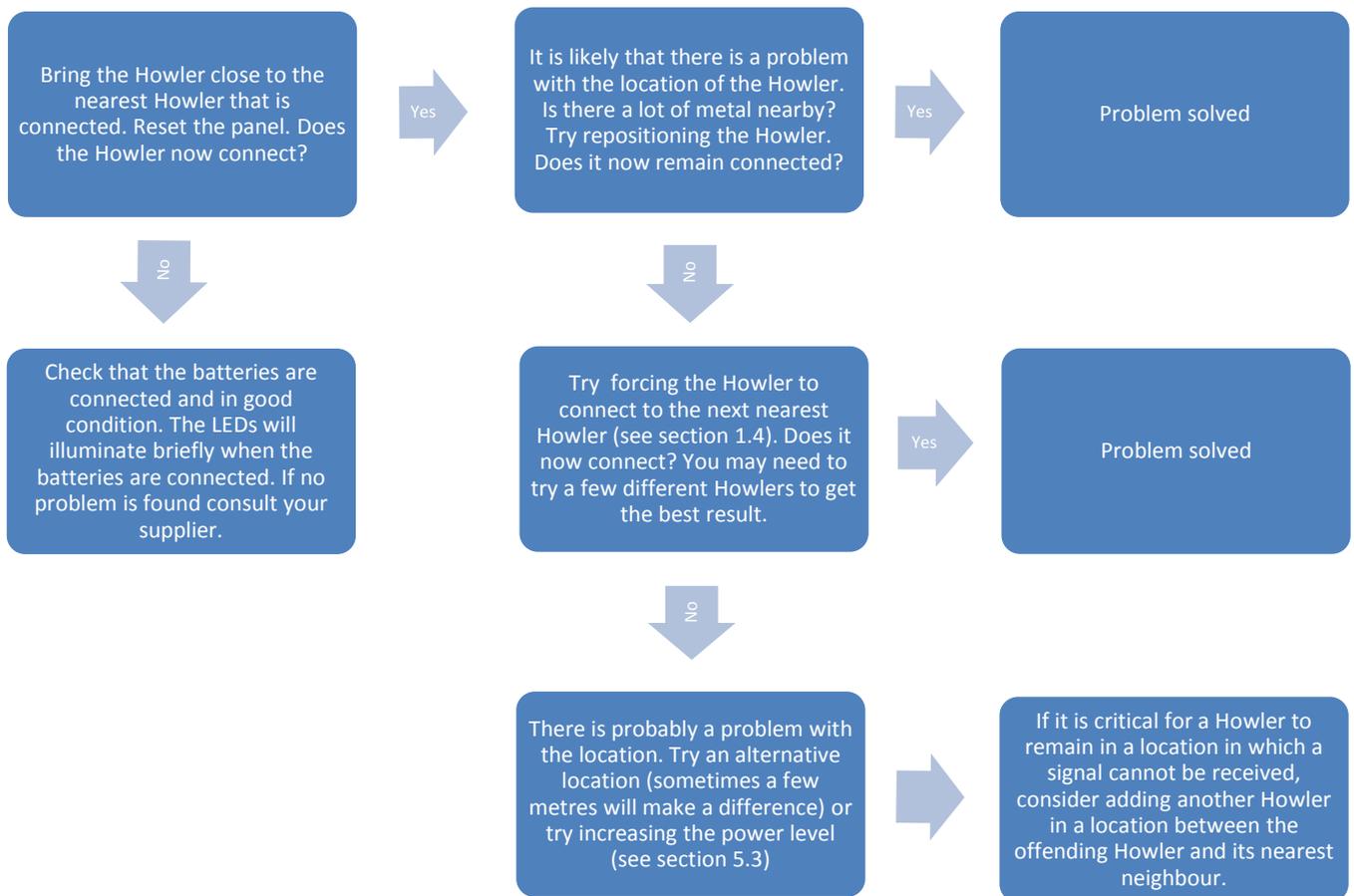
7. TROUBLE SHOOTING

Most problems require a patient and methodical approach to solving. By following the flow charts systematically you will find that most problems can be resolved simply.

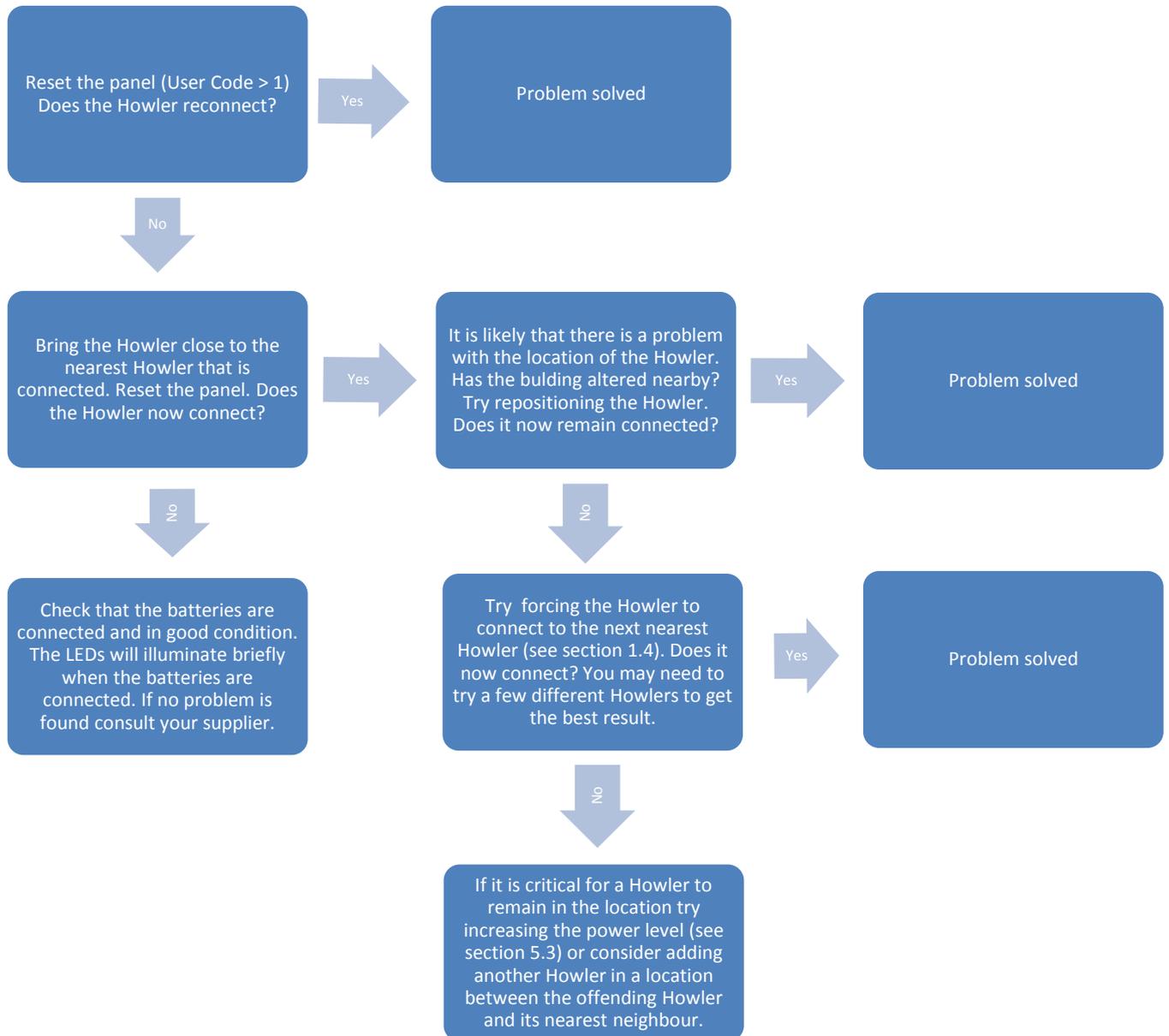
Never forget that the solution to most problems is the most obvious one. If you are having a problem with any Howler, always go and check that it has not been damaged in any way. It is, for example, possible for the batteries to become dislodged if the Howler is dropped on the ground!

Howler technical helpline: 01202 536800

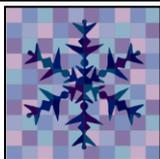
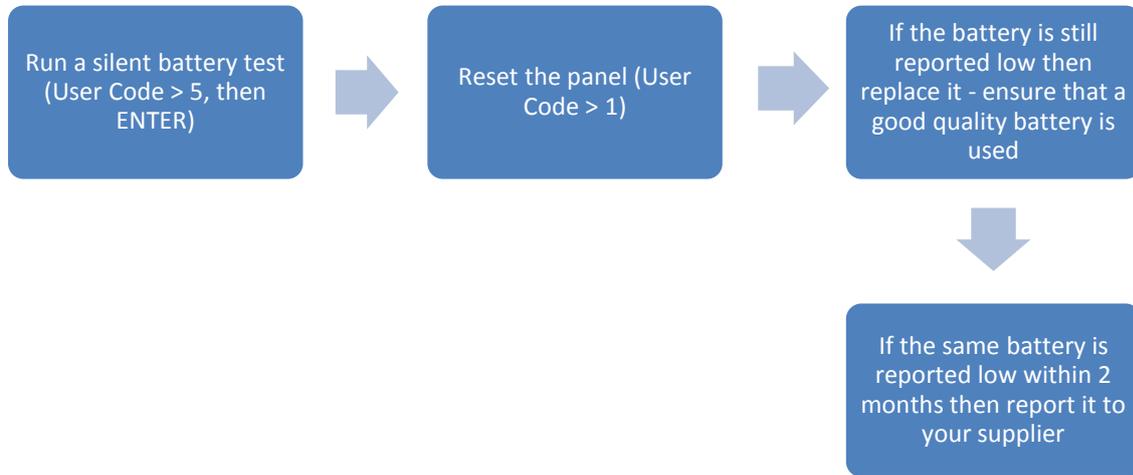
7.1 A Howler will not connect



7.2 A Howler which was connected, becomes disconnected

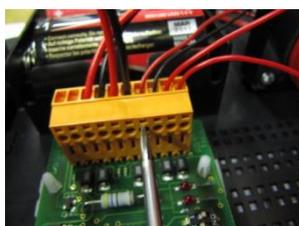
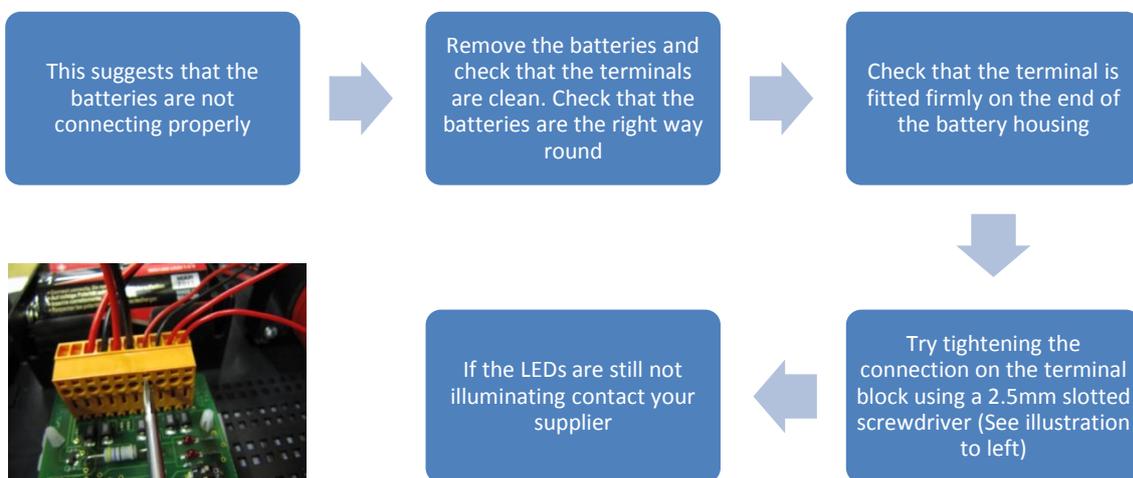


7.3 The panel is reporting a low battery but the battery is quite new

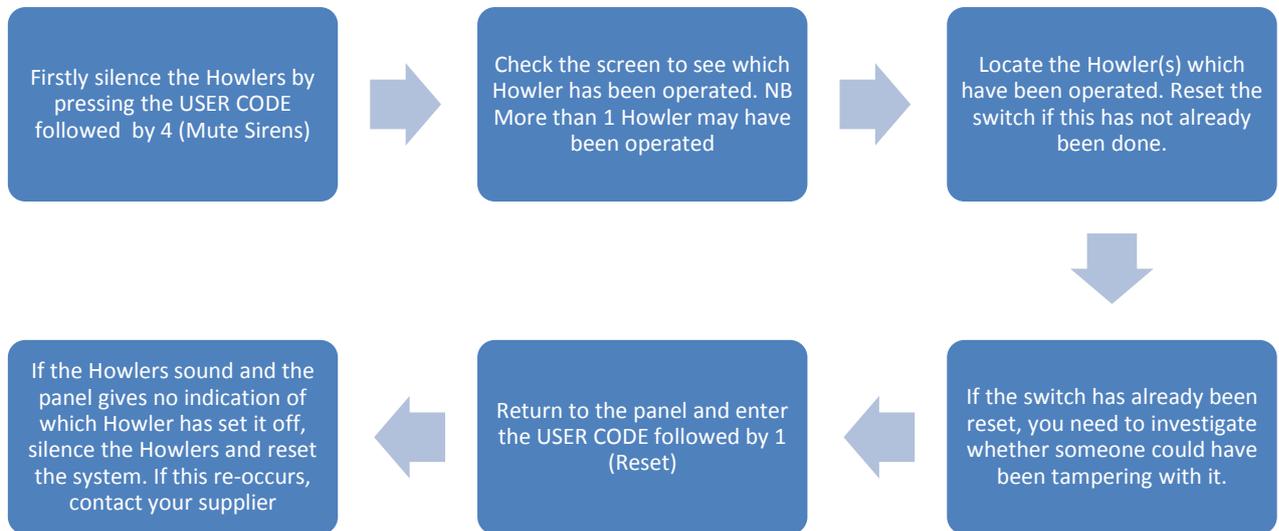


COLD WEATHER WARNING: Cold weather can affect the battery voltage as well as the ability of the Howler to accurately measure the battery voltage. This can lead, in extreme weather conditions, to the panel issuing low battery warnings although the batteries are still in an acceptable condition. Before replacing batteries, always run the silent battery test and ensure that the temperature is above 0°C if possible when carrying out the test.

7.4 The batteries are new but the LEDs are not illuminating when you connect the batteries on the Howler

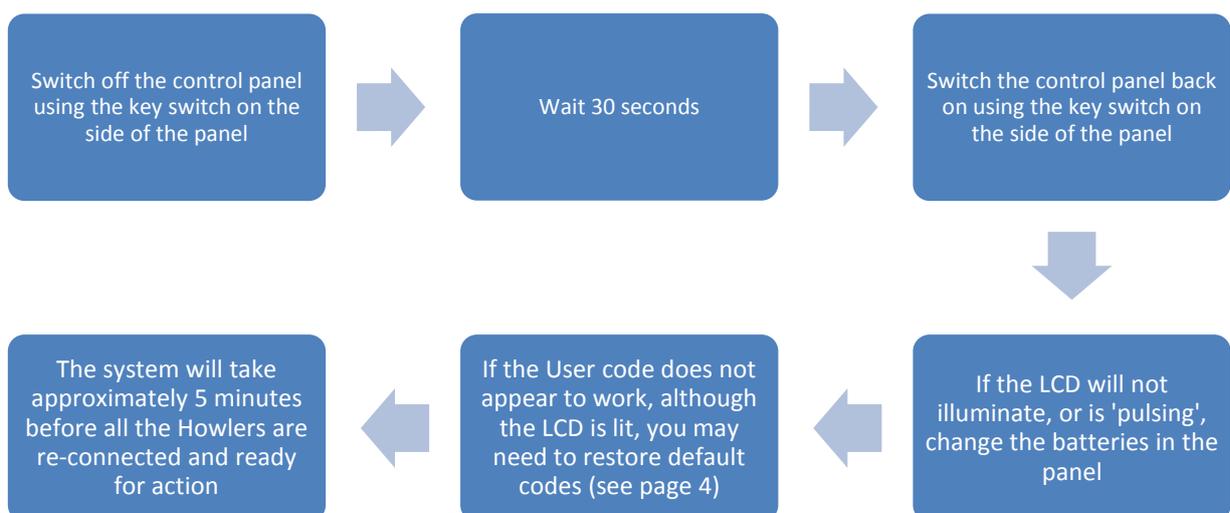


7.5 The Howlers are sounding and I don't know why

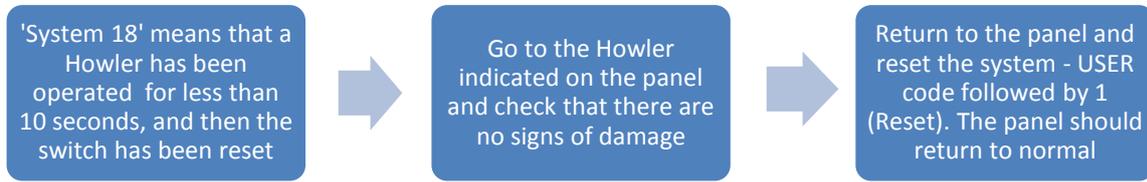


NB Howlers with a Push on/Push off switch, or with a Push on/Twist off switch can both be operated by anyone and reset quickly before you have had time to locate the Howler. The alarms will sound, and the panel will indicate which Howler has been operated, but there may be no evidence of the switch having been operated when you reach it. If Howlers are likely to be tampered with, it is advisable to install Howlers with a call point operation, or a Push on/Key off switch.

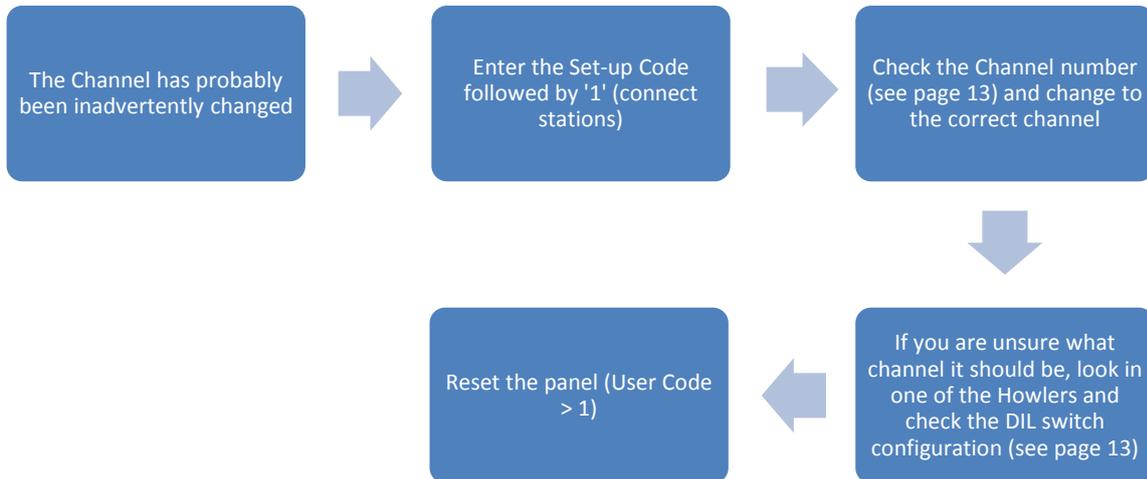
7.6 The Panel appears not to operate when you enter the User Code



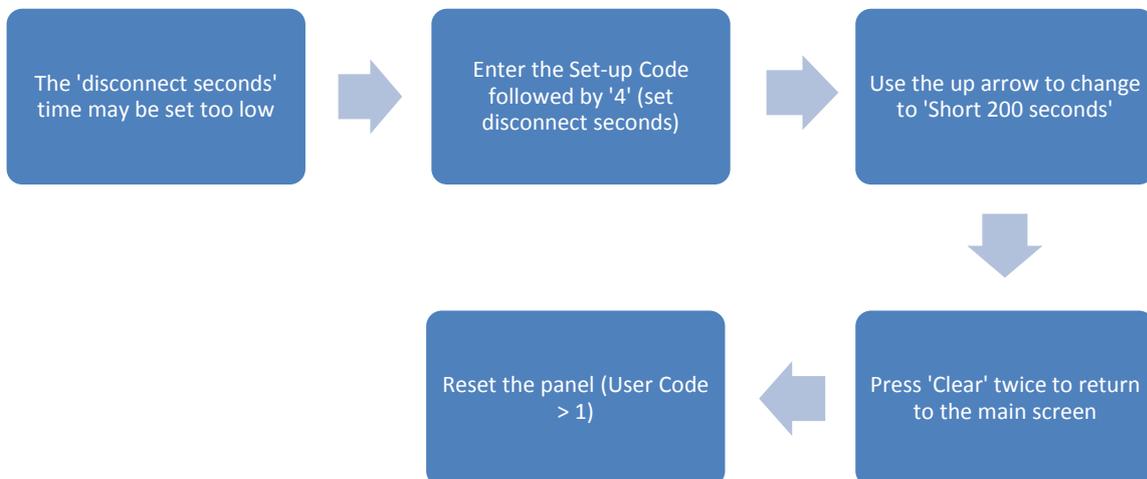
7.7 The Panel is displaying 'System 18'



7.8 Suddenly no Howlers are connecting to the Panel



7.9 The panel is displaying very frequent 'short disconnects' but not any 'long disconnects'



EC DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

We

HOWLER UK

Kynemer House
 Midland Road
 Bournemouth
 BH9 1PA

Declare under our sole responsibility that the product described below

Brand and Model Name	Howler Freelink
Equipment classification	Evacuation alarm

Is in conformity with the following standards

Subject	Standard
Electrical Safety	IEC 60950-1: 2005
Electrical Safety	EN 60950-1: 2006
Electromagnetic Compatibility	EN 301 489-3 V1.4.1 (2002-2008)
Electromagnetic Compatibility	EN61000-4-2: 1995
Electromagnetic Compatibility	EN61000-4-3: 2006

thereby meeting the essential requirements of the directive 99/05 EC (the RTTE directive)

We hereby declare that the equipment named above has been designed to comply with the relevant sections of the above referenced Standards and meets all essential requirements of the RTTE Directive.

Howler UK

September 2010

Reference: HOFLCE09.10

EMERGENCIES

2 quick points for persons who haven't read the manual, but need to silence the alarms in an emergency

- 1) To SILENCE the alarms press the following buttons SLOWLY – wait for the * to appear in the screen before entering the next number.



If you press the wrong numbers, press CLR and try again.

(NB this instruction assumes that the factory default codes have not been changed)

Do not Reset the system until you have consulted the manual see page 5.

- 2) If the above does not work for some reason (e.g. the code has been changed), simply 'power down' the system by turning the key on the side of the panel in a clockwise direction. The Howlers will silence after approximately 10 seconds.
- 3) As Fremlink Howlers also work as standalone units then any that have been activated but not reset locally will continue to sound and just need resetting using the switch on the front of the Howler.

