

Four questions per alarm

ANSI/ISA-18.2

IEC 62682

1

Cause

What condition actually fires it?

2

Consequence

What happens if nobody acts?

3

Action

What is the operator supposed to do?

4

Priority

Do consequence and response time justify it?

Expect the list to reorder.

Rank by count to find candidates — number seven may cost more attention than number one.

An alarm that can't answer all four isn't an alarm. It's a **notification wearing an alarm's clothes** — and it trains operators to acknowledge without reading.