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# BNWAS Buyers Guide



## **1 When should you plan for installing BNWAS?**

Various industry commentators have highlighted that ship owners & operators should be planning now for installing BNWAS. BIMCO have advised their members to look to install at their vessels' next dry-docking instead of waiting for the latest mandatory installation date.

## **2 How important is BNWAS Type Approval?**

Very important - if your fleet has ships of different class, it is wise to select a BNWAS Type Approved by each classification society of your ships. This will avoid the risk of a classification society rejecting BNWAS that is only approved by another society, or incurring additional certification costs that can be more than the cost of the BNWAS equipment.

## **3 How important is it to consider total installed cost of your chosen BNWAS?**

It is critical for you to consider the total installed cost of your chosen BNWAS as the hidden costs of installation are generally much more than the cost of the BNWAS equipment itself. It is advised to choose a BNWAS system that offers you the easiest and quickest installation to save your precious budget.

## **4 What features will make the installation easier, quicker and cheaper?**

- 4.1 BNWAS that allows you to cable reset sensors and alarms directly to the control and alarm panel without the need for a separate and additional interface module
- 4.2 BNWAS with its own battery back-up to avoid you having to install a separate additional emergency power supply
- 4.3 BNWAS that uses a single cable type between all sensors, alarms and control panel
- 4.4 BNWAS with integral motion sensor on the controller with no need for cabling remote sensors on smaller bridges

## **5 What BNWAS motion sensor type should you chose?**

- 5.1 Sensors that use **both** infra-red & microwave technology to prevent you from the problems of false reset by air-conditioning systems or objects moving on the bridge which affect conventional infra-red motion sensors.
- 5.2 Sensors that incorporate temperature compensation to provide automatic sensitivity adjustment to prevent them being ineffective at high bridge temperatures,

**6 What important additional features might be of value you look for in BNWAS?**

6.1 Data-logging of alarms in real time – in the event of an incident you will need to understand what happened on your bridge and a data-logging option will provide you with essential evidence

6.2 RS485 serial communications for connection to your VDR providing the highest possible degree of alarm/event logging and data security. This could be used as crucial evidence in an accident investigation.

**Help decide on your preferred BNWAS by using the following comparison table of key features of manufacturer’s systems.**

KEY FEATURES – Answer YES/No Against each maker	MAKER				
BNWAS Type Approved by each classification society of your ships?					
Cable directly to controller without separate interface module?					
Battery back-up to avoid installing separate emergency power supply?					
Single cable type between all sensors, alarms and control panel?					
BNWAS controller with integral motion sensor?					
BNWAS sensors that use <b>both</b> infrared & microwave technology?					
Sensors with temp’ compensation & automatic sensitivity adjustment?					
Data-logging of BNWAS alarms in real time?					
RS485 serial communications for connection to your VDR?					
<b>Total “Yes” scores</b>					