

What is an API?

API is an abbreviation for Application Programming Interface. An API is a file or document that gives programmers the information they need to build interfaces between software applications.

Development Support for The VLF

The VESDA VLF API allows developers to integrate support for the Open Detector Control Protocol (ODCP). This enables direct communication between the VESDA VLF and Building Management Systems (BMSs) and monitoring devices such as Environmental Control Panels (ECPs).

Why Use The Open Detector Control Protocol?

A number of existing and potential customers of Xtralis install fire protection systems to protect high value assets installed in multiple, geographically diverse, small sites. These customers have a large existing investment in monitoring systems such as BMSs and ECPs. Consequently they wish to utilize as much of their existing monitoring infrastructure as possible to remotely monitor and control these sites.

Monitoring of VESDA fire systems from non-VESDA equipment is traditionally achieved via the use of a High Level Interface (VESDA OpenHLI). In very small sites, where only a single VESDA detector is installed, the additional cost of purchasing an HLI may not be justified. To deliver a cost-effective solution in such sites, the ODCP for VESDA VLF detectors has been made available.

Integrating with VESDA VLF detectors using the ODCP offers a cost-effective solution for installations that require centralised monitoring and control of multiple, geographically diverse, independent smoke detectors, using your existing infrastructure.

Benefits

- Reduced requirement for interface hardware
- Reduced installation and maintenance costs
- Allows use of existing 3rd party monitoring network
- Allows use of existing 3rd party central monitoring site software and staff
- Realize the full value of your VESDA detector and existing infrastructure
- Enhanced monitoring and control support
- Maximum integration into existing business processes

Features

- Integrates existing BMSs and monitoring devices with VESDA detectors' superior early-warning smoke detection
- Comprehensive message set

What Can the ODCP Do?

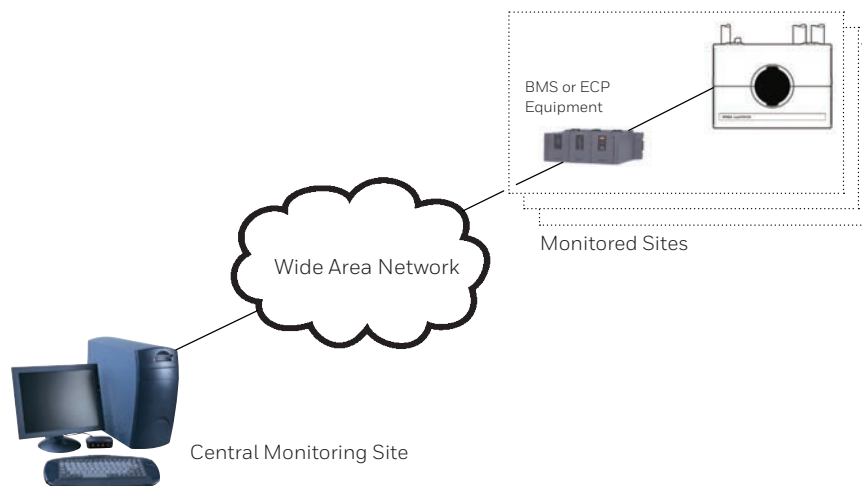
Access the following detector data:

- Alarm status for all VESDA VLF alarm levels
- Current smoke level
- Current flow level (% flow and litres/min)
- VESDA VLF detector state (running, disable & standby)
- Fault status
- Remaining days for filter life
- Smoke threshold levels
- Detector's product ID (serial number)

Control the detector:

- Reset
- Disable
- Standby
- Normalise
- Set smoke thresholds

Example Application in a Telecommunications Environment



Ordering Information

How can I get it?

To receive the VESDA VLF API, please contact your local Xtralis office and ask if you are eligible. You will be required to sign a license agreement to access this information. Your local Xtralis office can provide consultation and development assistance if required.

More advanced alternative

If you want to maximize the benefits of remote monitoring and control of the VESDA VLF, our Xtralis System Monitoring software product – Xtralis VSM4 – will meet your needs. Ask your local Xtralis representative for more information.

What information is provided?

The VESDA VLF API will assist a competent software engineer to integrate the VESDA VLF detector into your target application. It provides instructions regarding frame and packet format, timing, and protocol syntax. The complete message set is described to enable a programmer to develop the communications interface.

Detector compatibility*

Supports all VESDA VLF models.

* Requires version 3.06.00 detector firmware (or later)