Project Profile The Rumba Room



NFS2-640 Intelligent Fire Alarm Panel with IntelliQuad Multi-Criteria Detector

Problem:

The Rumba Room's theater smoke was triggering the facility's fire alarm on almost a nightly basis, resulting in one to two hours of down time and thousands of dollars in lost revenue.

Solution:

Callide Technical of California used a NOTIFIER NFS2-640 intelligent fire alarm system and the IntelliQuad multi-criteria detector to stop the nuisance alarms, downtime, and loss of revenue.

NOTIFIER®
by Honeywell

NOTIFIER WORLD HEADQUARTERS
12 Clintonville Road • Northford, CT 06472 USA
Tel: 203-484-7161 • Fax: 203-484-7118
www.notifier.com

The Rumba Room is a popular, upscale Hollywood nightclub. Part of a multi-building, multi-story entertainment complex, this 25,000 square foot Latin dance club boasts two levels, a thousand patron capacity, and two dance floors featuring state-of-the-art sound and lighting, including fog and smoke effects.

Unfortunately, the club's theater smoke was triggering the facility's smoke alarms on an almost nightly basis. To make matters worse, the smoke would trigger a full-blown alarm that would require the evacuation of nearly a quarter of the entire entertainment complex, including the restaurant below the club.

Each alarm resulted in one to two hours of downtime, including evacuation, fire department arrival and walkthrough, and clearing of smoke. Each instance cost the club tens of thousands of dollars in lost revenue.

After purchasing and experimenting with several different fog and smoke machines with similar results, the club was forced to receive special permission to set all of its smoke detectors to supervisory, ultimately slowing fire response and incurring additional liability.

In 2009, Callide Technical of West Covina, CA, was contracted to upgrade the fire safety system of the entire entertainment complex. The Rumba Room posed a particular challenge to the new fire system.

"With all the fog and smoke effects, the existing photoelectric detectors were constantly going into alarm," said Tom Johnson, a principal in Callide Technical. Callide Technical felt that maintaining the fire alarm system on supervisory was an unsatisfactory solution in terms of liability risks and costs and the resulting delay in actual fire response.

Because of their ability to quickly respond to actual fires while maintaining high immunity to nuisance conditions, Callide Technical proposed installing IntelliQuad Advanced Multi-Criteria Fire Detectors from NOTIFIER. The Rumba Room agreed that the decrease in lost revenues and liability and increase in fire response times would certainly justify the use of the more advanced technology, especially if it would allow them to operate the club with the smoke and light effects that contribute significantly to its unique ambience and appeal.

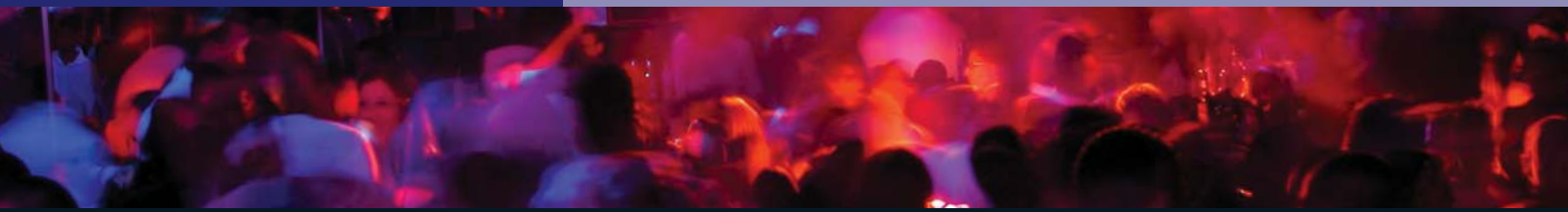
Callide Technical installed about twenty-five IntelliQuad detectors to cover the dance floor areas on both levels. Installers wired the detectors like any other smoke detector, while a small amount of additional programming was required to set the detector at the correct sensitivity level for the environment.

"While the installed cost for these detectors is more than a typical photoelectric detector, the Rumba Room was losing more than fifty times that cost difference for every hour of downtime."

Once installation was completed, the Rumba Room was able to return all of its detectors to alarm from supervisory. Thanks to NOTIFIER and Callide Technical, Johnson concluded, "These detectors have been operating for nearly a month now without a single nuisance alarm." IntelliQuad is generating a huge return on a relatively small investment.

For over 50 years, NOTIFIER has been in a leadership position in the fire alarm industry. Today, we are the largest manufacturer of engineered fire alarm systems with over 400 distributors worldwide, and regional support operations on every continent helping to ensure we provide the flexibility and options your business needs.

NOTIFIER - Leaders in Life. Safety. Technology.



NOTIFIER® by Honeywell

M-PP-RR 2K 10/09