

# Safety in Schools!



WERMA - signal devices for clear signalling and a rapid response in the event of an amok warning.

# Amok warnings in schools - the background



## What does the term "amok" mean?

The word "amok" is derived from the Malayan phrase "meng-âmok" and means "to attack and kill in a blind rage".

In many publications the term "school shooting" has come to be used to describe **amok incidents in schools**. This term refers to killings and attempted killings by young people carried out in a **direct relationship to a school institution**.

## Why is an amok warning system needed in schools?

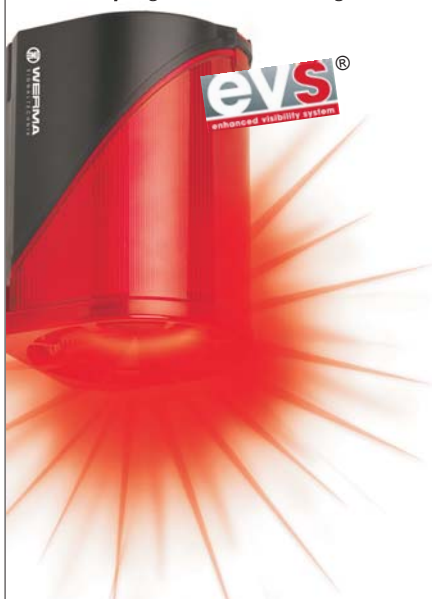
Weeks after the **school shooting in the Swabian town of Winnenden**, there was still a sense of outrage, fear and incomprehension at the tragic event. However such events are **no longer isolated incidents** - news of shootings at German schools has frequently made the headlines over recent months.

Parents, head teachers and teaching staff are asking themselves how pupils can be protected from such attacks and what measures can be taken to guarantee a **safe learning environment**. The calls for a **reliable amok warning system** are becoming louder. Pupils and teachers must be **informed and warned as clearly and rapidly as possible** in the event of an amok incident.

## Is there such a thing as guaranteed safety?

As a matter of principle, it is never possible to guarantee safety to one hundred percent. Schools should not be converted into **maximum security institutions**. Security gates, surveillance cameras and metal detectors should not dominate the daily life of pupils.

Instead, the goal should be the installation of a **warning system** which remains inconspicuous during the day to day running of the school and does not disturb the established routine. However, in the event of an emergency this system must **quickly and clearly signal the acute danger**.



In initial discussions with students, the loud and light intensive 444 Combination from WERMA emerged as the ideal solution for amok warnings.

## What laws and regulations are there?

At present there are **no guidelines or laws** prescribing the measures which individual schools must take to protect against amok incidents. In its 70 page report, the "**Expert Committee on Amok Incidents**", convened by the Federal State Government of Baden-Württemberg, has compiled a list of suggestions to protect against amok incidents. It is however still left to the discretion of each school institution to introduce appropriate measures.

As violent incidents can occur **at every school** advance preparation is crucial **to enable a rapid and targeted response**.

WERMA can provide appropriate solutions together with **competent, specialist support and advice** in order to guarantee the safety Of pupils and teachers.



Not to be overheard: The Multi-Tone Sounder 144 with a loud 114 dB audible signal

# The Solution: Signal Devices from WERMA

## Signal devices for clear signalling and a rapid response

WERMA offers a large range of **signal towers, optical, audible and optical-audible signal devices**. With their assistance, pupils and teachers can be quickly and clearly informed and warned in the event of an amok incident.

The signal devices **operate independently from existing public address and fire alarm systems** and can be installed in any school building, even as a retro-fit. The warning system can be **individually configured** to suit to the respective school and the existing conditions. It is also possible to activate a **spoken warning** or transmit the signal via calling if requirements need to be kept to a minimum.

WERMA's signal technology solutions stand out thanks to their attention-grabbing light effects, their **loud and light intensive signals** as well as their **long-life LED technology** which guarantees a life duration of more than 50,000 hours. Their high quality housings with IP 65 protection rating ensure that they can also be deployed in outdoor areas.



The LED EVS beacon 280 quickly and clearly signals the danger



## Options for amok warning signals

### ▪ Optical Signalling

With this form of signalling a **mute, optical warning** is generated. The beacons alert people in the immediate vicinity with their **attention-grabbing optical signals** and can be installed in outdoor areas. Pupils and teachers can thus be prevented from entering the school building.

With the **EVS light effect**, WERMA offers the most **attention-grabbing LED signal available**.

### ▪ Audible Signalling

Audible signals warn of imminent danger by means of **loud tones or a series of tones**. People out of visual range can thus also be reliably warned. The WERMA solutions stand out with their **loud signals of up to 120 dB**.

### ▪ Optical-Audible Signalling

These devices allow the audible signal to be reinforced by a coloured, optical stimulus. This **combination** generates a **very high signal effect** as the sensory stimuli address both hearing and vision. These products can be deployed, for example, in the **school corridors**. The optical signal warns people within visual range, while the audible signal additionally warns those pupils and teachers in the classrooms.



## What advantages do the WERMA solutions offer?

- **Quick and clear** signalling of the danger.
- Maximum protection and safety for pupils and teachers.
- Warning signals can be given both **inside** and **outside** the building.
- Pupils and teachers inside the building can respond quickly by locking themselves in their classrooms and barricading the door.
- **People outside** are warned in advance and can be prevented from entering the building.
- **Individual solutions** which can be configured to meet existing conditions.
- Signal devices operate **independently from** existing public address and fire alarm systems
- **Self-sufficient system**, i.e. complete functionality by means of battery operation even in the event of a power failure.
- Individual **advice** and professional **support** from WERMA.



WERMA also offers radio and voice supported signalling solutions.

# Signal devices from WERMA - versatile and individual

## Individual solutions and competent advice

In each school institution there is a different set of given conditions. It is therefore especially important that the amok warning system can be individually tailored and configured to meet the needs and requirements of each school.

WERMA provides the appropriate products as well as **competent, specialist support and advice**. Our solutions are versatile and can be changed quickly and simply to meet the respective conditions.

## Comprehensive and versatile product program

We ensure that we have the optimal, most reliable signalling solution for your needs. You can choose from a large range of signal towers, optical, audible and optical-audible signal devices. We would be happy to provide you with a specific selection from our broad product spectrum.

You can find our complete product range at [www.werma.com](http://www.werma.com) or in our latest Signalling Handbook. Give us a call - we are look forward to hearing from you!



### Signal Towers

#### ▪ KombiSIGN 71

In addition to an optical signal, the KombiSIGN 71 signal towers can also generate a spoken text or transmit wireless signals, e.g. to a mobile phone.



#### ▪ VarloSIGN

A modern signal tower with a diverse range of functions and an attention-grabbing light effect. Available with an optional integrated loud buzzer and additional lighting effects (blinking or EVS LED).



#### ▪ FlatSIGN

The aesthetically-pleasing signal tower in a half-round design can be mounted flat on the wall and excels thanks its bright light effect which is also clearly visible from the side.



### Optical Signal Devices

#### ▪ LED EVS Beacon 280

This new beacon employs the stochastic, random flickering EVS light (Enhanced Visibility System). This technology generates an optimal level of awareness never reached by previous signal devices.



#### ▪ LED Revolving Signal Beacon 280

This LED revolving signal beacon achieves a strikingly high signal effect thanks to the LEDs triggered in sequence.



#### ▪ LED Flash Beacon 829

The long-life flash beacon 829 stands out thanks to its bright LED flash and a high life duration. In addition, it can also be employed in battery-operated applications.



### Optical-Audible Signal Devices

#### ▪ LED EVS/Multi-tone Sounder 444

This combination generates a warning signal consisting of an extremely high volume audible signal of up to 114 dB combined with the attention-grabbing LED EVS light. Also available with an optional light intensive and long-life LED double flash.



#### ▪ LED Beacon/Siren

A very bright LED traffic light with integrated siren (up to 90 dB) in a modern design. Thanks to the innovative mounting bracket the light signal's beam direction can be individually adjusted.



#### ▪ Flash/Horn Combination

The electronic horn in combination with a bright xenon flash stands out thanks to its aesthetically pleasing housing and a life duration of up to 5,000 hours (horn).



### Audible Signal Devices

#### ▪ Horn 584

The loud electronic horn 584 has a life duration of up to 5,000 hours (horn) and generates an audible signal of up to 98 dB.



#### ▪ Buzzer 127

With 92 dB, this aesthetically pleasing buzzer ensures a maximum level of awareness. It can be set to either a permanent or a pulse tone.



#### ▪ Multi-Tone Sounder 142

42 tones for a diverse range of applications, a loud 120 dB signal and an adjustable signal duration are the main features of this multi-tone sounder.

