Terms and Conditions for the Supply of Goods and Services of Minimax Fire Solutions International GmbH

A. General Terms

1. Scope of Application / Exclusion of Customers' General Terms and Conditions

Regardless of whether or not the following terms and conditions have been explicitly agreed upon, they shall apply for all – including future – deliveries, services and offers of the Minimax Fire Solutions International GmbH (“MFSI”). Unless deviating terms have been explicitly agreed upon, MFSI does not accept general terms and conditions of the customer and explicitly objects to their application. The following terms and conditions shall apply even if MFSI knows, neglects or deviating terms of the customer and fulfills the contractual obligations without reservation.

2. Conclusion of Contract

2.1. Any agreements regarding the contract and its carrying out between MFSI and the customer shall be in writing.

2.2. The offers of MFSI, and the drawings, illustrations, measurements, weights and other performance data included in them, are non-binding and without obligation unless they are explicitly specified as being valid for a specific period or for acceptance is indicated. MFSI is bound to binding offers for a period of six weeks from the date of the offer, unless a different deadline for acceptance is specified in the offer.

2.3. If the order of the customer constitutes an order according to sec. 145 of the German Civil Code (Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch („BGB“)) MFSI may accept this offer within two weeks after its receipt unless the customer has specified a different deadline for acceptance.

2.4. If the offer from MFSI was not specified as being binding or the deadline for acceptance has passed, a contract is concluded only upon written order confirmation by MFSI. If there is no order confirmation or the contract is concluded without an order confirmation in particular cases, the offer from MFSI is decisive for the contents of the contract. If the customer and MFSI have jointly signed a written document regarding the supply which contains all terms of the contract, then this document has the same effect which a written order confirmation would have.

2.5. In case the carrying out of the contract requires an export licence, the conclusion of the contract is subject to the condition precedent that the export licence is granted. The same applies with regard to the awarding of an advance payment ruling from the competent export control authority (“Nullbescheid”), if MFSI has pointed this out in the case of the contract.

2.6. Integral Parts of the Contract and Order of Precedence

Unless agreed differently, the contract consists of:

- the order confirmation from MFSI
- if it exists, the contract signed by MFSI and the customer
- the offer from MFSI
- if it exists, the declaration of acceptance from the customer.

These general terms and conditions


According possible contradictions between these parts of the contract, the order of precedence corresponds to this list; the regulations resulting from an admissible supplementary interpretation (ergänzende Auslegung) of the preceding part have precedence over the subordinated part, too.

3. Export Control

The conclusion and implementation of the contract ("transaction") is subject to permissibility with regard to export control regulations according to applicable German and EU law; the same applies with regard to export control regulations according to applicable US and other national law to the extent that this does not result in a violation of or a conflict with German or EU regulations. The parties shall mutually assist each other in any possible claim to information from third parties.

4. Rights Regarding Documents

All proprietary rights and copyrights regarding offers, illustrations, drawings, calculations and other documents – including electronic documents – belong to MFSI. These documents may not be disclosed to or made accessible to third parties, or duplicated by any person without the explicit consent of MFSI. The information and documents made known to MFSI by the customer are considered to be non-confidential, unless they are explicitly marked as confidential.

5. Definition of the Scope of Supply/Exclusions from the Scope of Supply

a) Provision of scaffolds, energy and other installation material

MFSI shall supply only the goods and services that are explicitly designated as being the scope of work to be performed by MFSI. The customer shall carry out all further work support duties and supply activities required for carrying out the performance at its own cost and in due time. This applies in particular to the articles required for construction such as scaffolds, lifting equipment and other equipment, energy and water at the construction site including the respective connections, heating and lighting, protective clothing and the safety devices that are required due to special conditions at the construction site.

b) Information Regarding Statics and Pipes

Prior to the beginning of the work, the customer has to make available any required information regarding the location of concealed gas, water and water lines or similar installations as well as the required information regarding statics.

c) Preparation of the Construction Site

Prior to the beginning of the work, the site and the access ways must be cleared and all required preliminary work must be completed so that the work can be started as agreed in the contract and can be carried out without any interruptions.

d) Additional Costs in Case of Delays

If the performance of the work is delayed due to circumstances for which MFSI is not responsible, then the customer shall bear the costs for the waiting time and for additional trips required by the employees of MFSI or by the staff deployed for the assembly.

e) Acknowledgement of Work

The customer shall provide a written acknowledgement of the work carried out to MFSI.

f) Work Involving Fire Hazards

When cutting, welding, defrosting, soldering or similar work announced by MFSI is carried out, the customer itself shall carry out all safety measures required for protecting the property and health of the customer and third parties.

g) Frost Protection Facilities

Areas in which there is a risk of frost shall be protected by the customer so that water-carrying pipes and appliances installed, or to be installed, by MFSI are not endangered.

h) Decommissioning of higher-level fire detection control panels

MFSI's limit of performance is the system-specific fire detection control panel (FACP). The checking of higher-level FAPCs and the processing of signals sent from the FACP to higher-level FAPCs is not included within MFSI's scope of services. The operator is responsible for the decommissioning and checking of signal processing of higher-level FAPCs. He shall coordinate on time the necessary work of those involved.

i) Note on the use of water-polluting substances

Use of water-polluting substances such as flame concentrates, corrosion protection, algicide, anti-freeze and/or material may be necessary for the operation of extinguishing systems. Depending on the system, this may lead to an escape of the extinguishing medium from the building. It must be ensured on the part of the operator that escaping extinguishing agent and also substances are caught and removed in a proper manner. In the event of release MFSI shall not be liable for environmental damage and/or environmental consequential damage and/or other damage of any type. We urgently recommend consulting with the competent authority/sewage agency.

j) Provision of storage areas/intermediate storage of water-polluting substances

The operator shall as needed make available to MFSI an area for the intermediate storage of water-polluting substances:

- The store must be set up so that direct access by strangers, children playing, theft, arson and vandalism is not possible.
- Effects of vehicle impact or other hazardous influences on the package must be prevented.
- The storage area must not be located in a protected water area.
- It must be ensured on the part of the operator that no water-polluting substances can enter the drains or, via sealed surfaces at the storage facility, into the soil.

6. VdS Construction Site Visits

The customer shall permit required construction site visits of the VdS (including within the framework of the approval of MFSI as installer).

7. Prohibition of Assignment

The customer shall not assign any rights under the contractual relationship to third parties without prior written approval from MFSI.

B. Prices and Terms of Payment

1. General Terms Regarding Prices and Payment Conditions

1) Period for Maintaining the Fixed Price

The calculation of the prices is based on the execution of all tasks within the period agreed for execution. If the time period for execution is exceeded substantially, MFSI is entitled to an adequate price increase for the increases in wage costs and non-wage labour costs, as well as for price increases in material costs, increased transport costs and for the increase in third-party costs that occurred in the meantime.
2. Effects of Changes in the Laws/Regulations
Additional costs that are incurred after placement of the order due to changes in statutes, acts and decisions and regulations by the government and/or associations will be entirely borne by the customer.

3. The Prices Submitted by MFSI include:
- Transport and delivery of the listed material and tools to the construction site and return transport of the tools and the rest of the material; if the construction site is located outside of Germany, only the transport, delivery and return transport to/from a German seaport nearest to/from the German border (in case of land transport) is included in the price;
- A set of documents in digital form, unless otherwise agreed in the contract and/or legally prescribed otherwise.

4. The Following Items Are Not Included in the Prices submitted:
- Foundations and extra structural work such as, for example, earthworks, masonry works, mortise, carpentry, plumbing and painting work;
- Paneling/sheathing and insulation;
- Provision of any required fire spotters;
- Delivery and installation of water supply lines up to the water connection or up to the feed connection of the system;
- Costs for provision of site huts, site containers, site cleaning and construction signs, constructors’ all risks insurance and glass breakage insurance;
- Costs for power and water – including filling of containers at the construction site;
- Delivery and installation of cables and electrical connections;
- Connections to drain pipes and to electrical light and power networks;
- Potential equalisation measures;
- Any required soil analysis or corrosion protection devices for the pipe lines laid underground;
- Certificates, taxes and approval fees for the system by the technical testing centre of “VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH”, the “Technischer Überwachungsverein (TÜV)” or other institutions;
- Costs that arise from exceeding the normal working hours (e.g. overtime and night shifts), travel costs etc. These costs will be charged for according to the current terms and conditions of Minimax Fire Solutions International GmbH for carrying out wage-based and maintenance work.

5. Provision of Rooms
For any maintenance agreed, the customer shall provide a lockable room for storing materials and tools and as a common room for use by the workers. The room must be heated in winter. The customer shall also make toilets and washing facilities available to the workers. If the customer does not fulfill these obligations despite MFSI having set an adequate deadline for doing so, MFSI is entitled to provide these facilities at the customer’s expense.

6. Restriction for Set-off
The customer may only set off claims that are undisputed or have legally binding been found to exist or derive from the same legal relationship.

7. Value Added Taxes and Other Charges
The remuneration is a net amount exclusive of any applicable value added tax, sales tax, GST or other similar tax (hereinafter referred to as “VAT” or “Similar Taxes”). The applicable VAT or similar taxes will be charged by MFSI to the customer in addition to the remuneration unless customer is itself liable for VAT or similar taxes by law and the reverse charge mechanism has to be applied.

The remuneration for the services to be performed by MFSI as set out in this agreement are exclusive of any other taxes, customs and import duties, stamp duties, levies and charges of any other kind (hereinafter “other Taxes” or “charges”) whatsoever applicable outside of Germany. Any such other taxes or charges that may be imposed on or paid by MFSI other than by the customer in addition to the remuneration. Any sums to be paid to MFSI under this Agreement shall be paid without deduction of any taxes, stamp duties, other duties, or levies imposed outside of Germany that might be levied or withheld on payments made by customer to MFSI.

Should any such taxes be levied or withheld by customer on payments due to MFSI, then customer shall gross up the net payments to MFSI by such an amount necessary to ensure that MFSI receives a net amount equal to the full amount it would have received had such taxes not been withheld. In any case, customer is obligated to provide MFSI promptly with the official tax receipt confirming the tax payment on behalf of MFSI.

8. Cost of Materials / Disposal
If the prices submitted by MFSI do not include materials, the materials used and the test mediums used (leakage detection spray, test gasses a.s.o.) shall be charged separately at the prices indicated in the price list of MFSI then valid. Parts that have been exchanged remain property of the customer and have to be disposed of by the customer unless MFSI is obligated to do so under mandatory law. In case MFSI undertakes the disposal of exchanged parts without being statutorily obligated, MFSI is entitled to charge a disposal fee of € 10.00 in addition to the actual disposal costs per invoice, unless the disposal is to be done free of charge under mandatory law. In addition, MFSI is entitled to charge a lump sum of 10% of the material costs, and at least € 9.90 per invoice, for packing materials and their disposal.

9. Payment Terms
All claims are due for payment immediately and have to be settled no later than 14 days after invoicing.

II. Special Terms of Payment for Certain Supplies and Services

1. Wages

1.1. Invoicing Based on Time Spent / Proof of Work Done
Wages will be charged based on the time spent. An acknowledgment form regarding the time spent is prepared and submitted for signature to the authorized person indicated by the customer. If the customer does not indicate an authorized person or if this person is not present for the verification and signature of the acknowledgment, the customer, in case of doubts, shall have to prove that the recording of the time spent is incorrect.

1.2. Reference to the Current Price List
Billing shall be made on the basis of the Minimax Fire Solutions International GmbH price lists applicable at the time of commissioning the contract work:
- Static fire protection: “Price list for contract work on static fire protection systems including fire detection systems (PSBS)”,
- Structural fire protection: “Price list for contract work on structural fire protection (PBBS)”.

2. Travel Times
Travel Times (both ways) and waiting times for which MFSI is not responsible shall be charged at the wage rates indicated above.

4. Regular Working Hours
The regular working hours at MFSI are:
- Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

5. Additional Fees
Percentage surcharges shall be charged in case of overtime work, night work, work on Sundays and public holidays and holidays. The basis for invoicing shall be the hourly rates indicated in the current price list.
- Overtime (from the 9th working hour), and / or work outside the normal MFSI working hours
- Night work (between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.): 25 %
- Work on Sundays and public holidays, when these fall on a Sunday: 75 %
- Work on Easter Sunday and Whitsunday: 200 %
- Work on all other public holidays on other days than Sundays: 200 %
- Work on Christmas Day and 1 May and Christmas Days on Sundays: 200 %
- Work in closed containers, in crawl spaces up to a height of 1.20m or in rooms with a temperature above 35°C: 25 %

If several additional fees apply, they are to be paid in addition to each other.

6. Other Wage Costs

6.1. Engineering services agreed in connection with assembly tasks, such as assembly supervision, inspection and approval procedures, function tests, certification and drawing modification, etc. will be calculated in accordance with the current wage work price list for engineering services. If no express agreement is made otherwise, one specialist engineer’s hour will be charged in addition to every 10 assembly hours.

6.2. Costs for Mobile Workshops
The use of a mobile workshop, stowed up in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the current price list for wagework.

6.3. Costs for Emergency Services
In case of emergency services, i.e. services agreed on short notice in case of a breakdown, we will charge an additional amount for each case of requested support as specified in the current price list for wage work.

b) Maintenance Works

1. Effects of Modifications of the Operation of the Facility
The compensation for inspection and maintenance works depends on the scope agreed and the operating conditions of the systems, provided that, in case the scope of the system or the operating conditions change, MFSI is entitled to adjust the compensation accordingly with effect from the beginning of the next calendar month. MFSI shall inform the customer in advance of the additional costs to be expected by means of an offer.

2. Additional Compensation For Services Not Agreed Upon
The compensation for the contractual performance specified in the maintenance agreement is a lump sum price. Reconditioning and other tasks, repairs and waiting times not caused culpably by MFSI, which are not specified in the appendix to the maintenance agreement, must be ordered separately and will be carried out as wageworks in accordance with these conditions and will be invoiced in accordance with the price list.

3. Price Adjustments
MFSI may adjust the agreed maintenance fees if the federal basic rate of pay (“Bundeslohn” or “Bundeslohndolr”) pursuant to Clause 5 of the federal framework collective labor agreement of the construction industry (“Bundesrahmentarifvertrag für das Baugewerbe”) in connection with the respective collective wage agreement (“TV Lohn/West, TV Lohn/Ost, TV Lohn/Berlin”) changes. Unless otherwise expressly agreed, such adjustment will be made at the same time and will be applied at the same percentage rate as the federal basic rate of pay (“Bundeslohnlohr”) changes for the relevant business unit of MFSI.
4. Automatic Assignment Regarding Minor Additional Works

In the event that it becomes clear during maintenance that repair measures are required in order to restore the system's optimal condition and failure to do this would jeopardise the system's safety and operation, MFSI, by virtue of the conclusion of the maintenance agreement, is assigned with carrying out such repairs up to a value of €500.00 and in accordance with these general terms and conditions for the supply of goods and services and the price list, even in the absence of a separate assignment.

5. Right of Retention

In the event that pre-payment is arranged in the form of an annual invoice, MFSI may, in the event of delayed payment by the customer, exercise its right to retain its services. MFSI will not resume services unless the agreed pre-payment has been effected in full. Retention does not give rise to delay in the legal sense by MFSI.

c) Supplies

1. Retention of Title / Release of Securities

The goods delivered (goods subject to retention of title) remain property of MFSI until fulfillment of all the claims of MFSI. As far as the value of the security interest that MFSI is entitled to exceeds the value of all secured claims by more than 20%, MFSI will release a corresponding part of the security interest at the request of the customer.

2. Prohibition on Pledging/Prohibition of Security Transfer Agreements in Relation to the Goods Subject to Retention of Title

As long as the retention of title remains in force, the customer is prohibited from pledging the goods subject to retention of title or from transferring title to them as security to any third party.

3. Notification Duty in Case of Third Party Measures Regarding the Goods Subject to Retention of Title

In case of attachments, confiscations or other seizes or measures by third parties the customer shall notify MFSI immediately.

4. Right of withdrawal

Violations of obligations by the customer, in particular default of payment, authorize MFSI to withdraw from the contract and to take back the goods after the expiration of a reasonable deadline for the customer’s performance; any statutory provisions stipulating that the setting of a deadline is not necessary shall remain unaffected. The customer is obliged to return the goods.

III. Material Defects

1. Basic Principle

MFSI is liable for material defects only in cases of deliveries of goods (including the installation works agreed) and repair works. In case of inspection or maintenance works no warranty regarding material defects is granted and no other liability for the state of the items inspected or maintained is assumed.

2. Right to Choose

In case of a material defect the customer may request that the defect is repaired (Nachbessern) or that a replacement item free of defects is supplied (Nacherfüllung). An entitlement to the supply of a replacement item free of defects is subject to the condition that MFSI has unsuccessfully attempted to repair the defect at least twice, repairing the defect is impossible or that repairing the defect has been refused by MFSI.

3. Warranty Periods

Claims on the grounds of material defects lapse after 12 months unless mandatory law prescribe a longer period of limitation. The period of limitation begins with delivery in cases of deliveries without installation, after completion of installation in cases of deliveries with installation and upon acceptance in cases of repair works.

4. Obligation to Notify

The customer is obligated to notify MFSI of any material defects immediately in writing.

5. Right to Withhold Payment

In cases of justified complaints regarding material defects the customer may withhold payments only in an amount that is appropriate with regard to the material defects.

6. Insignificant Deviations

In cases of minor deviations from the agreed condition in which the usability of the goods for the purpose agreed or intended is not affected, claims on the basis of material defects are excluded.

7. Non-compliance Regarding Dates for Maintenance

If MFSI fails to perform maintenance works on the data agreed and the customer has set a deadline of one month for the performance and MFSI has failed to perform the maintenance within the deadline, the customer may withdraw from the contract.

IV. Liability

MFSI is liable in accordance with the statutory regulations if the customer claims damages based on intent or gross negligence, including intent and gross negligence of the representatives or servants of MFSI. Unless there has been an intentional violation of contractual duties, the liability for damages is limited by the foreseeable, typically arising damage.

MFSI is liable in accordance with the statutory regulations if MFSI or its representatives or servants culpably violate a substantial contractual obligation. In this case, too, the liability for damages is limited by the foreseeable, typically arising damage. Furthermore, the liability for loss of data for which MFSI is responsible is limited by the costs of duplicating the data from the backup copies to be made by the customer and of restoring the data that would have been lost in case of regular risk-adaptive backups. If the customer does not carry out proper and risk-adaptive data backup, MFSI is not liable for the resulting damages. As far as MFSI gives technical information or advice and this information and advice is not part of the contractually agreed scope of performance owed by MFSI, it does so free of charge and any liability is excluded.

Furthermore, the liability for slight negligence is limited to € 5 million per case of damage. The liability for culpable violations of life, body and health and the mandatory liability according to the Product Liability Act (Produkthaftungsgesetz) remain unaffected by the provisions above. The liability of MFSI under a guaranty granted by MFSI is not governed by the provisions above; instead, it is governed by the conditions of the guaranty and the statutory regulations.

The above provisions apply regardless of the legal basis for liability, in particular also for extra-contractual claims and claims under tort law.

VI. Compliance / Code of Conduct

MFSI is subject to the group-wide applicable Code of Conduct of Minimax Viking GmbH. This Code of Conduct and that applicable to MFSI and that has been implemented for all the employees of the company can be made available in text form on demand. Further explanations here to can be provided by our Compliance Officer.

The customer shall notify MFSI immediately in case third parties raise any claims on the customer's name and/or logo is not permitted to be used in the reference list or into a reference list to be newly created. In no way does the non-inclusion on the internet or in other electronic media.

The customer allows MFSI to use his company's name and company logo free of charge in reference lists, on advertising material such as brochures etc., on Minimax’s homepage on the internet or in other electronic media.

The above provisions apply regardless of the legal basis for liability, in particular also for extra-contractual claims and claims under tort law.

VII. Permission for Inclusion in a Reference List

The customer hereby informed that we may collect, store, process and forward to credit agencies personal data of the customer (name, address and invoice details). In connection with this, credit agencies will also be informed of data concerning a compliant or non-compliant, as the case may be, carrying-out of the contractual relationship entered into with the customers. The Federal Data Protection Act (Bundesdatenschutzgesetz) does not apply only as far as it would be essential to protect MFSI's legitimate interests and provided that there is no reason to assume that the customer's interest in not using or processing these data will not be preserved. Credit agencies store the data in order to allow credit ratings and to give the respective information to affiliated companies. Credit agencies supply relevant data to their affiliated companies only, if they plausibly prove a legitimate interest in data transmission and if there is no circumstance giving rise to the assumption that the customer has an interest in the data not being transmitted which is worthy of protection.

VIII. Intellectual Property Rights and Copyrights

The customer shall notify MFSI immediately in case third parties raise any claims on the basis of violations of intellectual property rights or copyrights against the customer because of the use of the delivery/performance by the customer. With regard to such cases MFSI reserves the right to all defense and out of court measures for the protection of its rights. The customer shall support MFSI in this regard.

MFSI is only liable for the violation of intellectual property rights or copyrights of third parties if these rights belong to the respective third party also in respect of the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany, the country to which delivery is to be made or those countries in which the goods are to be used in accordance with the purpose of the agreement. The latter applies only if the countries covered by the purpose of the agreement are explicitly indicated in the order confirmation.

IX. Jurisdiction and Applicable Law

Provided that the customer is a registered business entity, any disputes arising directly or indirectly from this contract will be dealt with by the courts having jurisdiction at the registered headquarters of MFSI in Bad Oldesloe. Nevertheless, MFSI is also entitled to bring a claim at the courts having jurisdiction at the location of the customer’s registered headquarters.