

ICON Signals Technical Overview

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1.0 Introduction

ICON Signals is a software system which interprets sensor and phone system event data and executes actions.

Within ICON Signals, a signal is an event which can trigger a programmable action.

Examples of signals are:

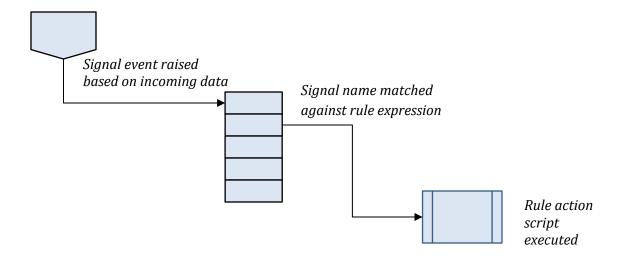
- an *E911* call made from a phone system station
- a campus lockdown event
- an alert event generated from a wireless sensor
- an alert event generated from a dry contact closure
- an incoming call to a specific, monitored phone extension
- an outgoing call from a specific, monitored phone extension

When certain signal events occur, customers want actions to be taken. Examples of desired *actions* are:

- sending alert information to one or more recipients via email, SMS, or automated voice calls
- initiating alert message broadcasts to paging speakers
- turning on strobe lights
- handling acknowledgements to SMS messages or automated phone calls

The challenge we face is how to map interesting signal events to possible desired actions. We can provide configuration options for fundamental scenarios, but in our experience customers often want something different from what was anticipated. We can solve such problems with custom programming, but that often involves considerable time and prohibitive expense.

ICON Signals addresses this challenge by moving the programming of actions into the application itself. When a signal event is detected, the system searches a list of rules and executes an associated action script if a matching rule is found.



The action script runs within a Javascript interpreter and contains auto-generated code to perform basic tasks such as sending texts and automated voice calls. Smaller hand-crafted code "snippets" can be included to perform tasks unique to the customer's requirements. Examples include turning relays on/off or sending alerts to third-party systems using proprietary APIs.

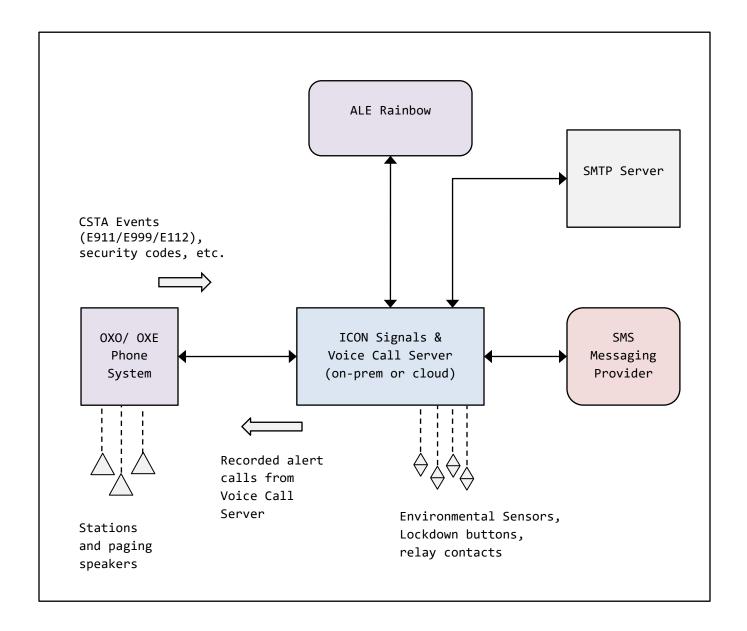
1.1 Organization of this Document

Section 1 of this technical overview describes the components and platform details of ICON Signals. Sections 2 through 5 cover the Signals UI. Remaining sections provide further details on frequently-used hardware and scenarios.

1.2 Platform Details

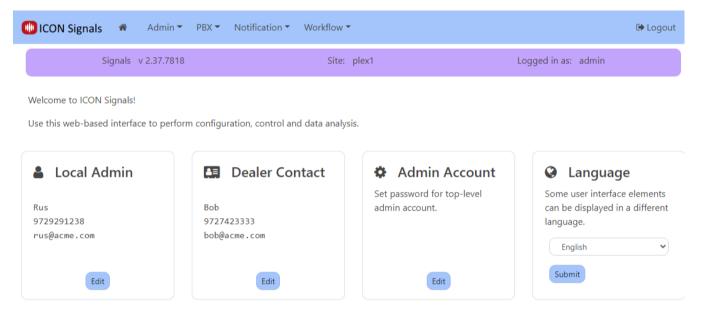
item	info
OS	Debian
Memory	4GB (2GB for smaller installations)
Disk Footprint	~9GB
Disk Partition Recommendations	500GB physical, 32GB VM
Protocols	HTTP, HTTPS, SIP, OXO/OXE CSTA, TCP/UDP (data
	from various sensors)
Major Components	ICON Signals application, ICON Voice Call Server
	(Asterisk)

1.3 Components



1.4 Home Page

The ICON Signals web-based UI has a header with a home page icon, four drop-down menus and a Login/Logout link.



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The home page contains optional contact information boxes as well as configuration settings to change the admin password used within the UI and the language displayed within the UI.

Data displayed within the Signals UI is in English. Many fields and descriptive labels may be displayed in French, German or Spanish, but is intended as an aid to a non-native English speaker rather than a comprehensive translation.

2.0 Admin Top-level Menu

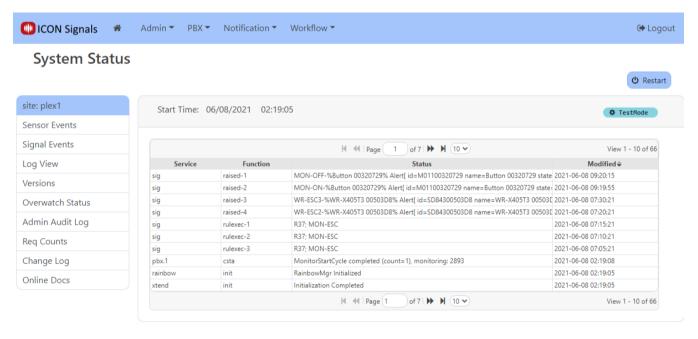
The Admin menu contains items:

- System Status
- Configuration
- Log View
- Event View

Admin > System Status and Admin > Configuration lead to additional status and configuration pages. The Admin > Log View page is an interface used to view the contents of various log files. Admin > Event View leads to various event data grids.

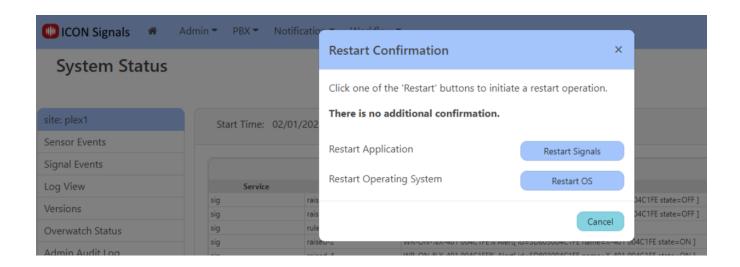
2.1 Admin > System Status

The System Status page shows initialization information about various components within ICON Signals and has Restart and TestMode buttons in the upper right area.

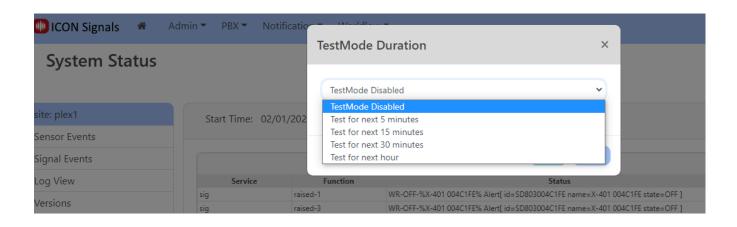


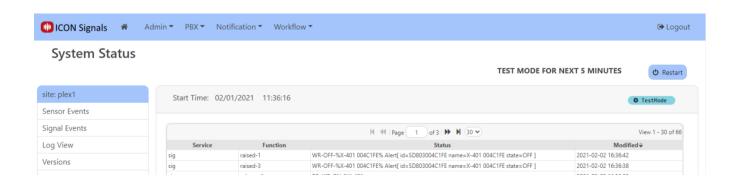
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The Restart button displays a confirmation dialog allowing the admin user to either restart the ICON Signals application or the entire operating system.



The TestMode button allows the admin user to temporarily set an internal "test mode" flag within ICON Signals.

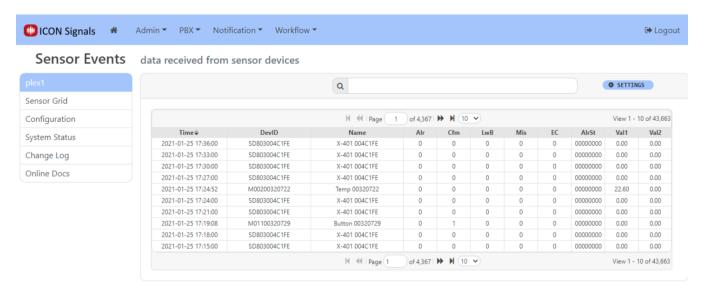




As we will see in section 5, rules can be set to be *bypassed* in test mode. An example use of this feature would be to avoid notifying people during early testing of an alarm button. The main notification rule could be bypassed and a fall-thru rule which only notifies the technician testing the alarm button could be executed instead.

2.2 Admin > System Status > Sensor Events

The Sensor Events page shows event data received from various sensor devices. The Workflow > Sensor Grid page can be considered a "processed" event view page and is typically more useful.

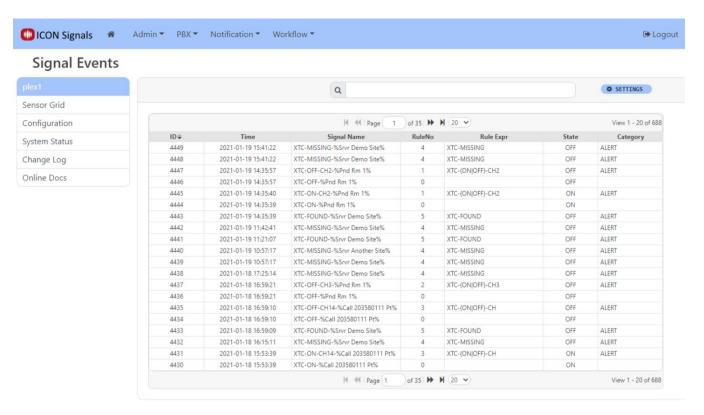


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2.3 Admin > System Status > Signal Events

The Signal Events page displays basic information about the signals that are raised by the ICON Signals application. *RuleNo* shows the number of the rule in the rules list which was executed. Note that this value can be misleading since it is simply the position of the rule in the list and the list can change. A value of 0 indicates that no match was found and consequently no rule was executed.

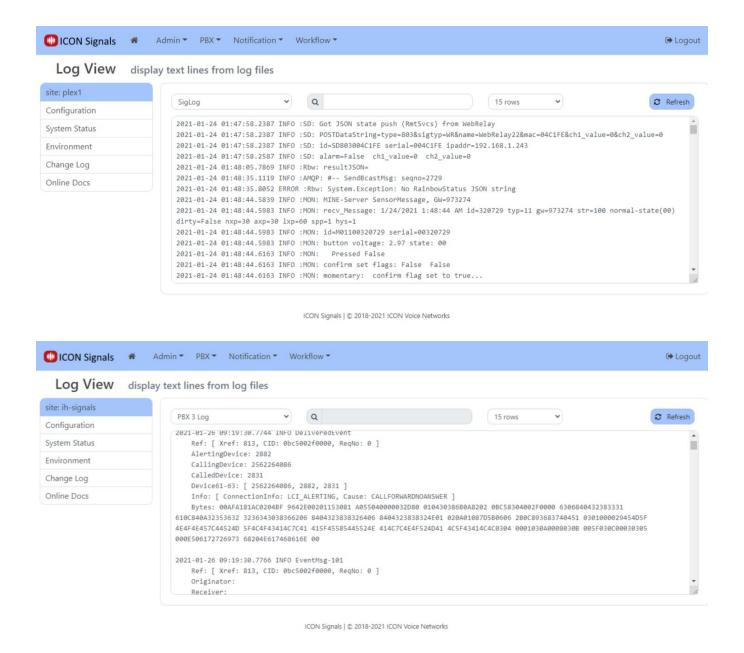
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2.4 Admin > System Status > Log View

The 'Log View' page allows convenient viewing of recent application log files generated by Signals. It does not currently support viewing all existing log file data on the Signals system, so terminal access is required in those cases.



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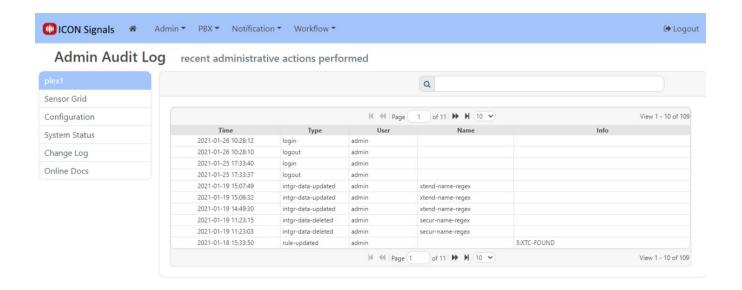
2.5 Admin > System Status > Version Info

This page displays version information for various software frameworks and tools used in ICON Signals.



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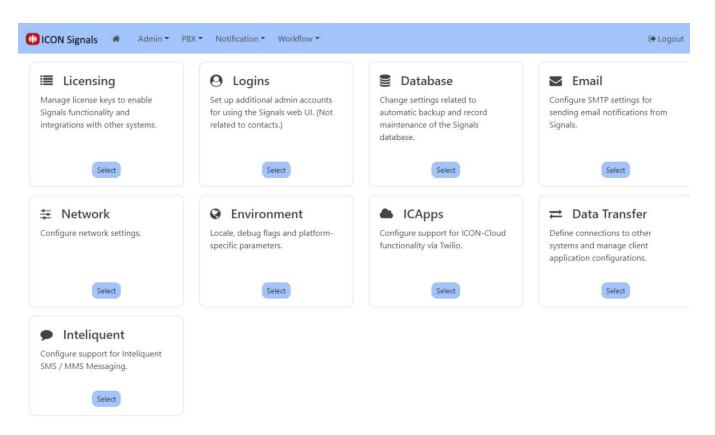
2.6 Admin > System Status > Admin Audit Log



2.7 Admin > Configuration

Admin > Configuration has links to various general configuration pages.

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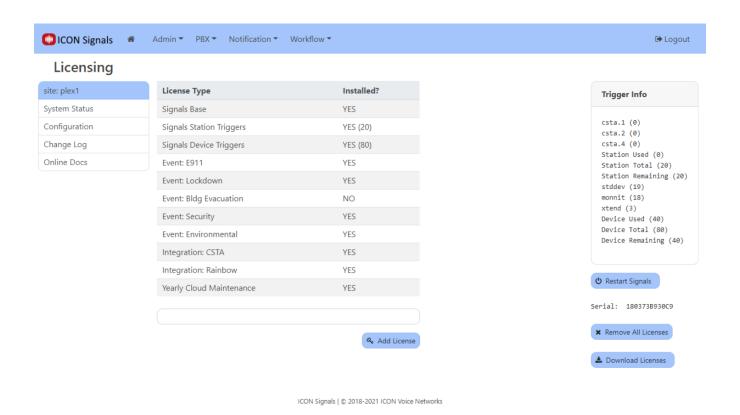


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2.8 Admin > Configuration > Licensing

This page shows which licenses are installed, and gives quantities for PBX station triggers and sensor device triggers. In most cases the Signals application must be restarted for new licenses to take effect – hence the 'Restart Signals' button on the right.

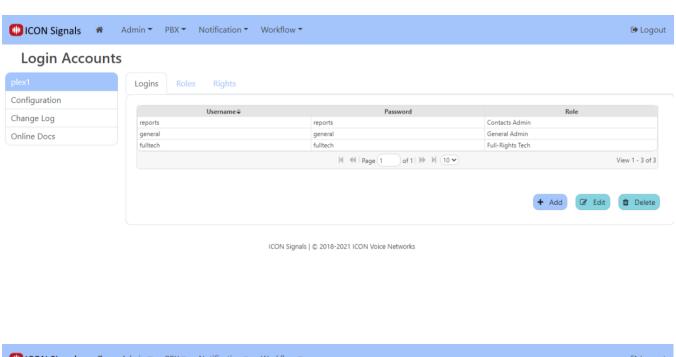
More details can be found in the Signals Technical Note on Licensing. (STN-Licensing.pdf)

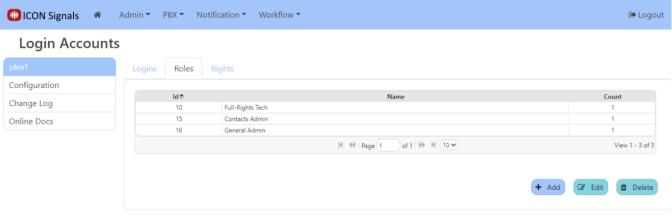


2.9 Admin > Configuration > Logins

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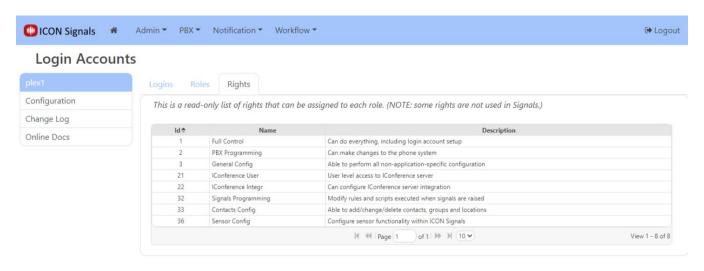
Most sites use the default admin login, but it is possible to set up additional logins with either full privilege (other than changing the default admin password) or access to a subset of all pages within the Signals UI.





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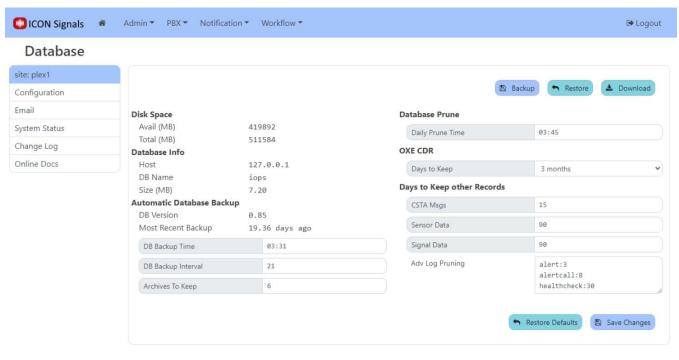
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2.10 Admin > Configuration > Database

The 'Database' page contains configuration parameters to manage data backups and prune various log files generated by ICON Signals. The default settings on the 'Database' page are sufficient for most sites. The relevant buttons and settings are:

- Backup, Restore and Download buttons
- DB Backup Time, DB Backup Interval, Archives To Keep values
- Daily Prune Time value
- Sensor Data and Signal Data log file pruning values

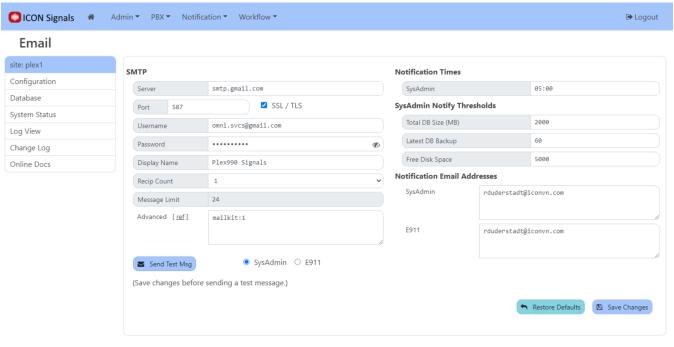
Remaining fields are not currently used.



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2.11 Admin > Configuration > Email

The 'Email' page includes SMTP configuration as well as generic notification settings for basic system health checks.

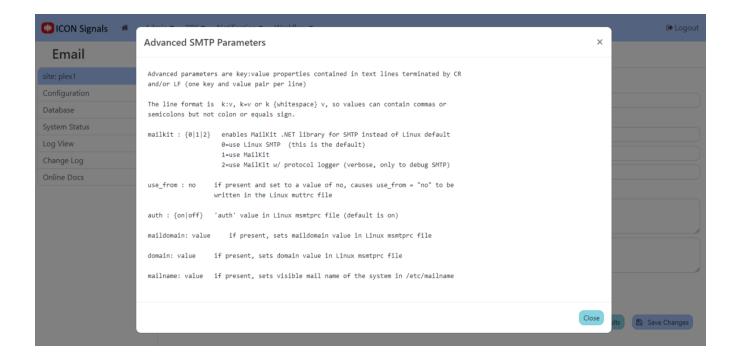


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Two different SMTP mechanisms are supported:

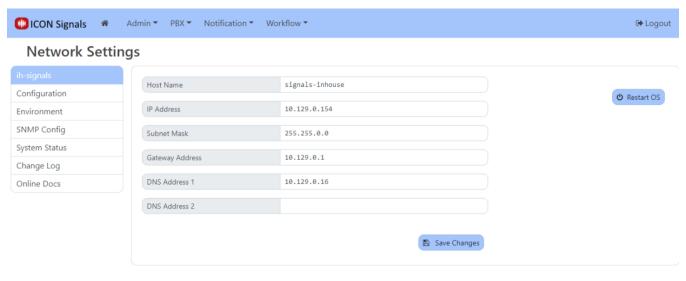
- Linux SMTP (default)
- Mailkit .NET library

In our experience, the best method and parameters to use depends on the customers' mail relay. Linux SMTP often works better for older SMTP relays, Mailkit for more modern ones.



2.12 Admin > Configuration > Network Settings

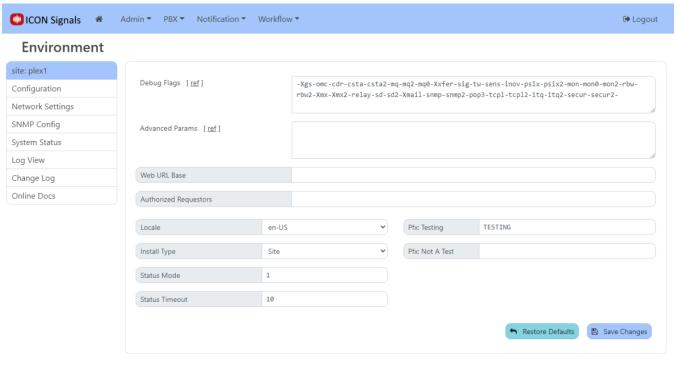
The 'Network Settings' page is self-explanatory. After changes are made, the operating system should be rebooted.



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2.13 Admin > Configuration > Environment

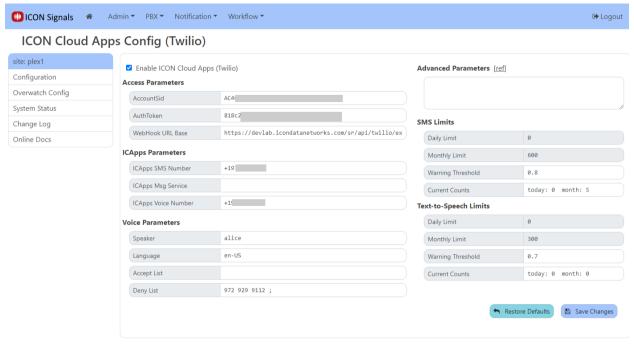
The 'Environment' page is primarily used for system integration testing. A few general purpose configuration settings such as Locale can also be found here.



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2.14 Admin > Configuration > ICApps

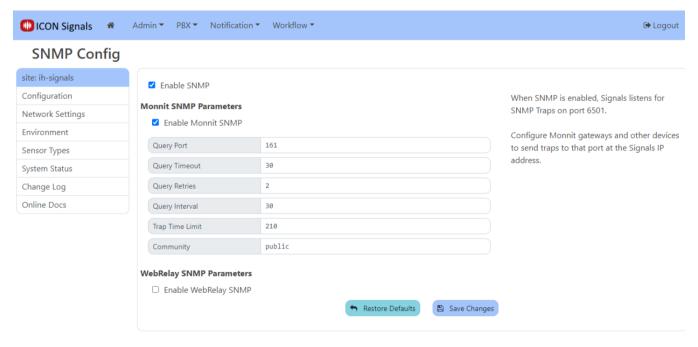
The ICApps page contains Twilio-based SMS and Text-to-Speech configuration data. Daily and month limits on SMS messages can be modified by ICON if necessary.



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2.15 Admin > Configuration > SNMP Config

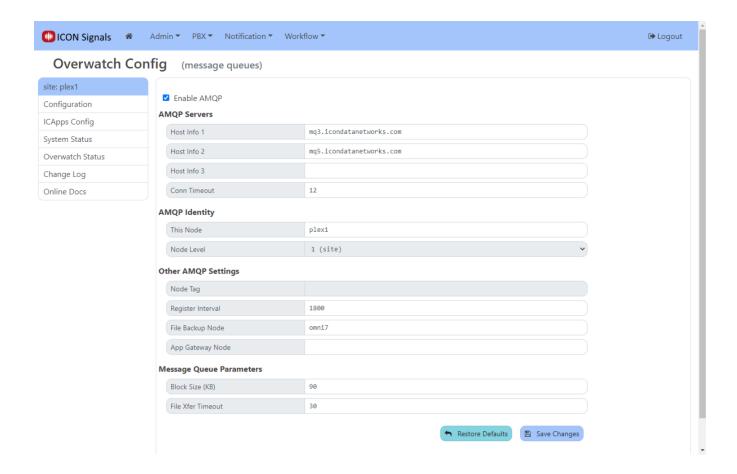
Currently the 'SNMP Config' page is not used. It is possible that a production use will be added in the future.



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2.16 Admin > Configuration > Overwatch Config

Overwatch is an ICON tool used to monitor Signals instances and perform automatic database backups and software updates. It is configured by ICON during initial setup of a Signals site.



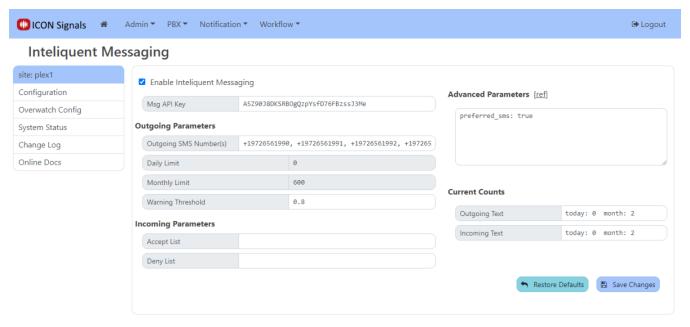
2.17 Admin > Configuration > Data Transfer

A *Data Transfer Connection* is configuration data for an external system or service which receives data from ICON Signals. For example, alert information sent to a VSS Alloy server.



2.18 Admin > Configuration > Inteliquent

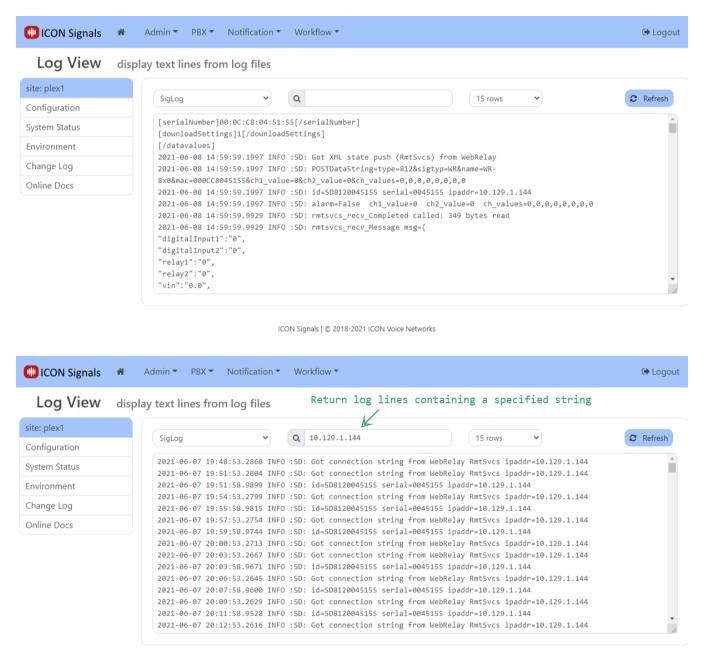
The Inteliquent page contains configuration data for use with Inteliquent's SMS service. Daily and month limits on SMS messages can be modified by ICON if necessary.



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2.19 Admin > Log View

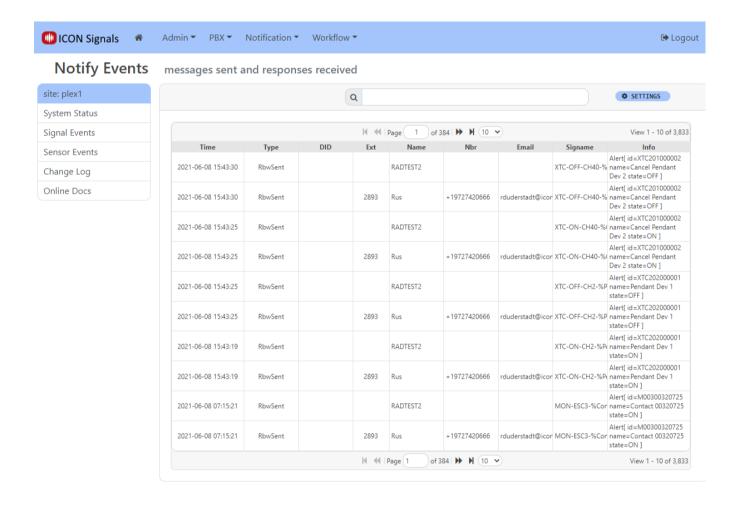
LogView shows data from the last few rollover log files. Recent SMTP and PBX log data can also be examined. There is also a filter text field. Click the Refresh button when changes are made or to see the latest data.



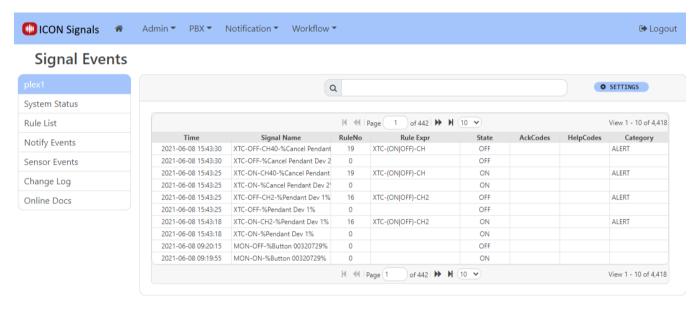
2.20 Admin > Event View

The Admin > Event View toplevel menu option opens the Notify Events, which in turn has links to the Signal Events and Sensor Events pages.

Notify Events displays records for individual notification messages sent to recipients or to Rainbow bubbles.



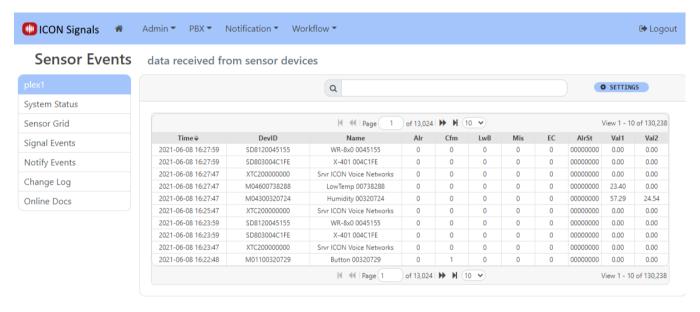
Signal Events shows the signals that have been raised and the number of the rule executed (if any). A RuleNo of 0 means that no matching rule was found.



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Sensor Events show incoming messages from sensor devices as well as the current state of the device.



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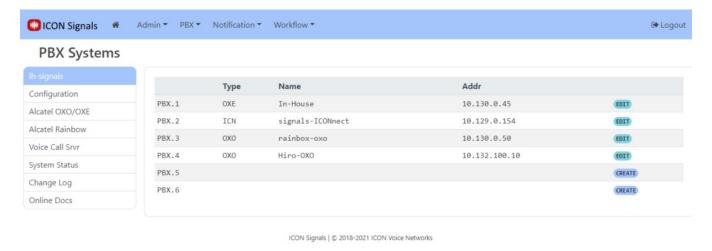
3.0 PBX Top-level Menu

ICON Signals receives and interprets CSTA messages from Alcatel OXO and OXE systems and Asterisk Management Interface (AMI) events from Asterisk PBXs. This top level menu contains links to the main pages for those subsystems as well as for the interface with Alcatel Rainbow.

3.1 PBX > PBX Systems

Up to six PBXs can be defined in the 'PBX Systems' page. Although not explicitly controlled within the UI, the design supports:

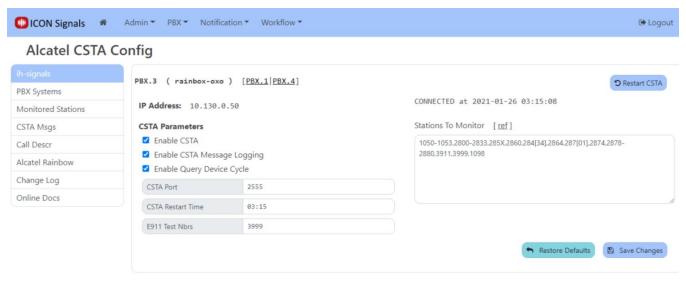
- At most one ICONnect (Asterisk) PBX
- Up to five Alcatel PBXs with no overlap in their extension ranges





3.2 PBX > Alcatel OXO/OXE

This is the primary configuration page for a connection between ICON Signals and an individual Alcatel PBX. Left side navigation links lead to secondary status pages for this connection.



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Normally, all three *enable* boxes are checked. As a CSTA client, Signals sends a MonitorStart message for each station of interest and waits for a response indicating the station exists and the phone system will send events associated with that station to Signals.

Signals examines the comma-separated list of stations and station ranges to monitor and sends a MonitorStart message for each one. When a successful MonitorStartResponse message is received, that station is included in the monitored stations list and displayed in the 'Monitored Stations' page.

For Alcatel, the default CSTA Port is 2555. If a restart time is specified, the CSTA connection will be closed and reopened at that time every day.

Within Signals, calls to station(s) in 'E911 Test Nbrs' are treated the same as E911 calls. This provides a way to test Signals E911 notification functionality without actually calling the emergency dispatch center.

3.3 PBX > Alcatel OXO/OXE > Monitored Stations

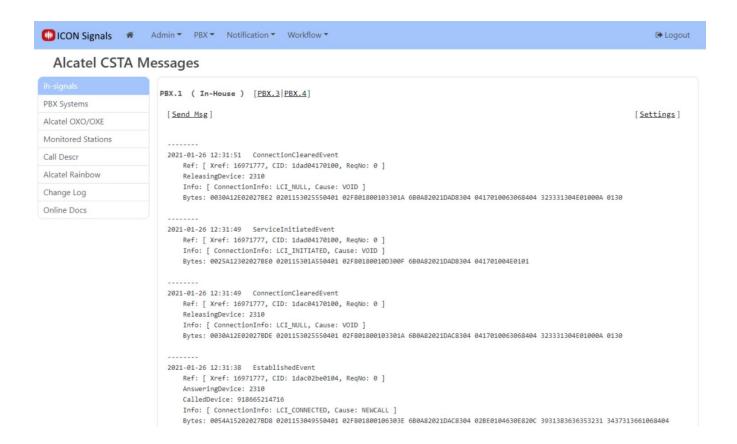
This page shows the stations currently being monitored *for this CSTA connection*. If a station you expected to be monitored (via the 'Stations To Monitor' field) is not in this list, then it means either the station is not connected or is not configured within the PBX.

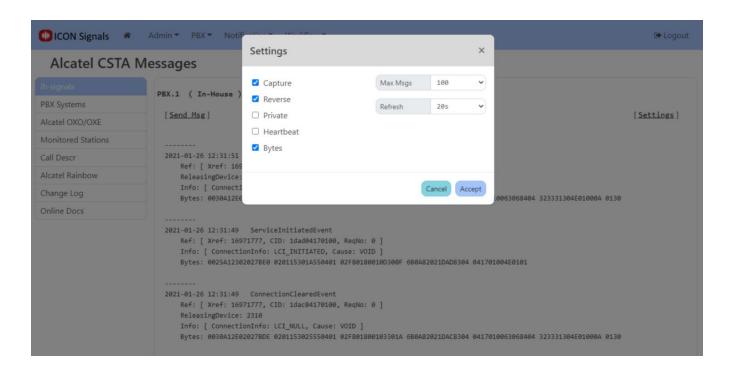
Reminder: If there are multiple CSTA connections, the stations for those PBXs cannot overlap.

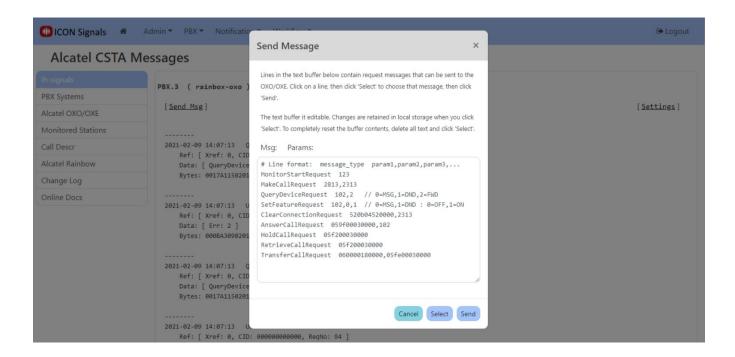


3.3 PBX > Alcatel OXO/OXE > CSTA Msgs

This page shows the content of recent CSTA messages received by ICON Signals. There is a Settings dialog to change display options and a Send Message dialog which can be used to create an individual request message to the PBX for testing and troubleshooting.







3.4 PBX > Alcatel OXO/OXE > Call Descr

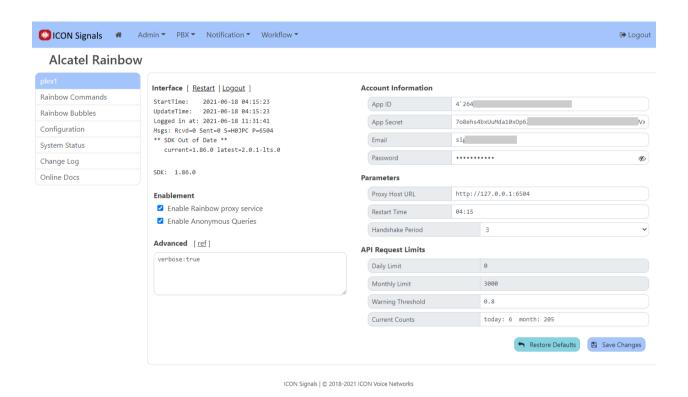
The 'Call Descriptions' page is similar in nature to the 'CSTA Messages' page, but provides a very terse description of the entire call instead of message content details.



Settings **Call Descriptions** ☑ Capture Max Calls PBX.1 (In-House Reverse PBX Systems Refresh ✓ Completed [Settings] Alcatel OXO/OXE Current 2021-01-26 12:31:49 sie(), orig(2310 65214716), est(2310,918665214716), cce() Cancel Accept Change Log ICON Signals | © 2018-2021 ICON Voice Networks

3.5 PBX > Alcatel Rainbow

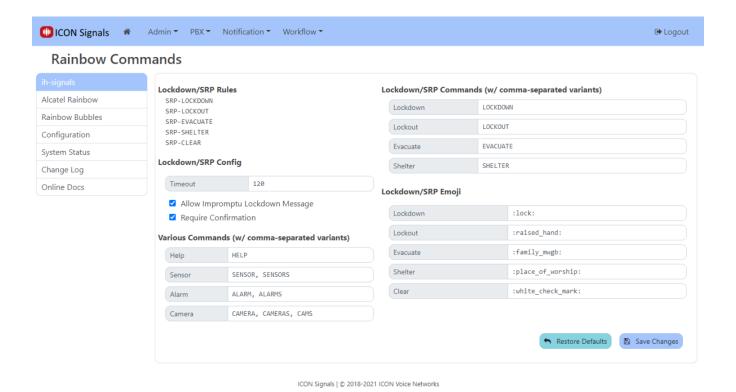
Rainbow is a cloud-based communication service. The 'Alcatel Rainbow' page is used to configure the Signals interface to Rainbow.



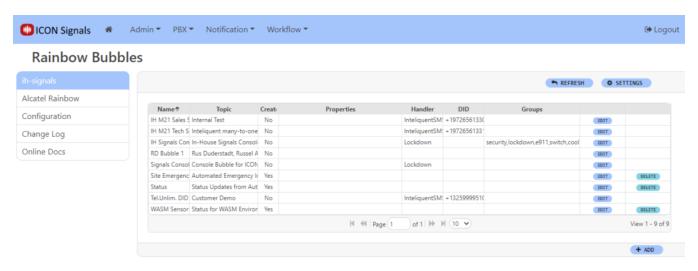
These field values are typically entered by ICON personnel if Rainbow integration is supported for this site. A Rainbow Integration license key must also be installed.

3.6 PBX > Alcatel Rainbow > Rainbow Commands

Interactive commands within Rainbow to initiate and manage lockdown or evacuation procedures can be configured in this page.

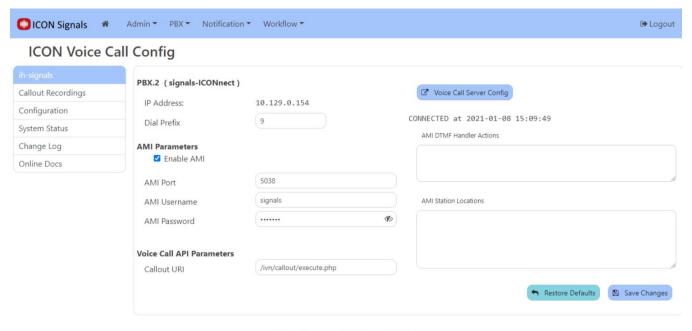


3.7 PBX > Alcatel Rainbow > Rainbow Bubbles



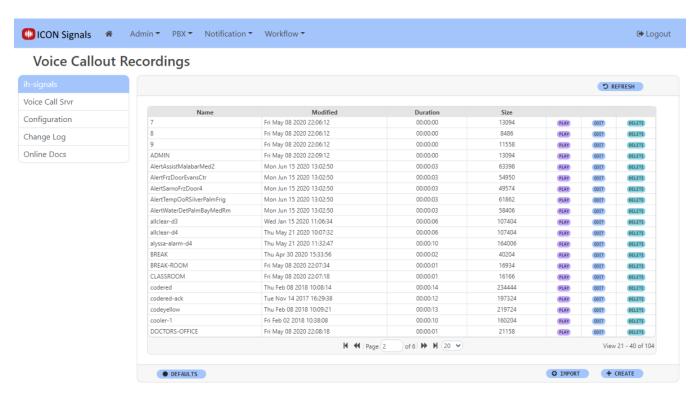
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3.8 PBX > ICON Voice Call

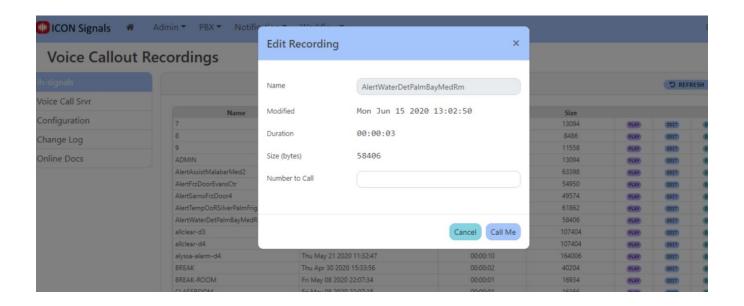


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3.9 PBX > ICON Voice Call > Voice Callout Recordings



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4.0 Notification Toplevel Menu

The Notification menu contains items:

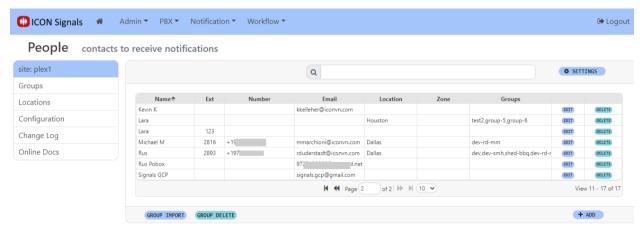
- People
- Groups
- Locations
- Zones
- Send Mass Text (if configured)

People and Groups are closely-related pages.

Within ICON Signals, a *Location* represents an individual site such as a building or campus while a *Zone* presents a small area such as a room, lobby, hallway, etc.

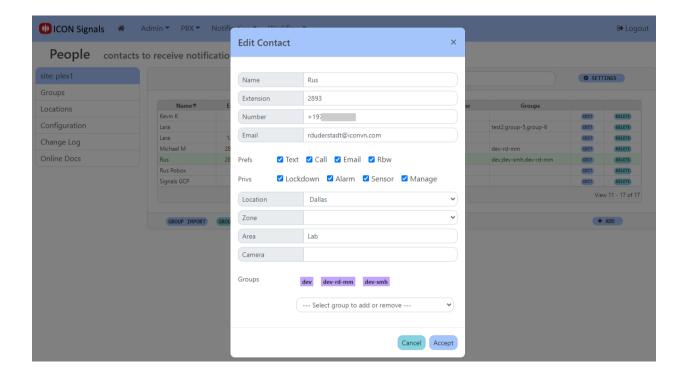
4.1 Notification > People

This page contains contact information records for people to receive notifications.



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Editing a contact record displays a dialog as shown below.



Number is a DID or cell number for the contact.

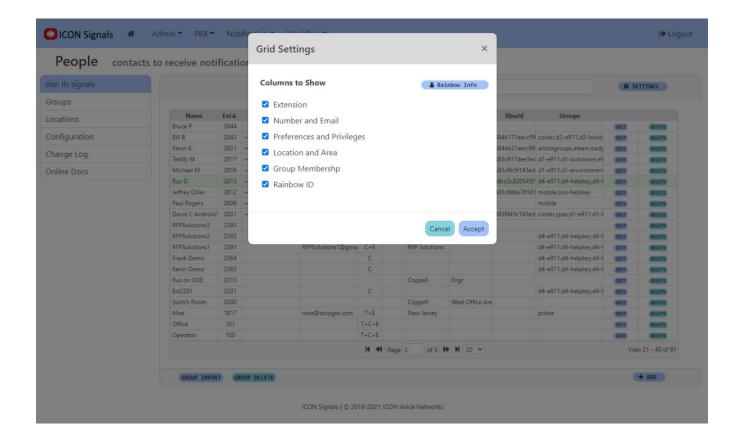
The Prefs checkboxes control which communication methods are enabled for the contact. For example, SMS-based notification messages will not be sent to the contact unless the Text checkbox is checked.

The Privs checkboxes enable interactive Rainbow commands to initiate lockdowns and request sensor and alarm data.

Location and Zone are described below. Area is an informal, deprecated zone description which is only used if the location and zone are not set for the contact.

The Groups dropdown is used to add or remove group labels for the contact.

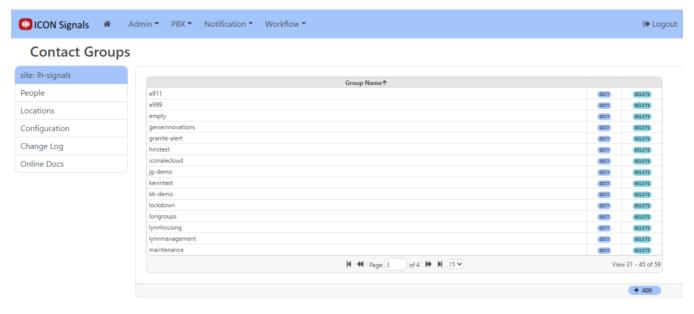
The Settings button in the upper right corner of the page displays a dialog to control which columns are shown in the Contacts grid.



4.2 Notification > Groups

Groups are simply labels which are applied to contacts and used to control who receives a particular notification message. For example, when Signals detects a 911 call, it executes an E911 rule which sends SMS and Email messages to people in the e911 group.

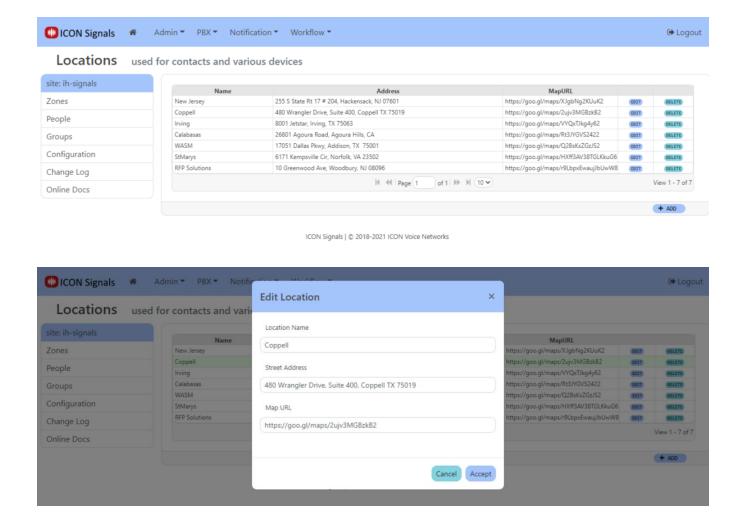
There is no limit on the number of group labels that can be applied to a contact. If a notification is sent to multiple groups, contacts will not receive duplicate messages.



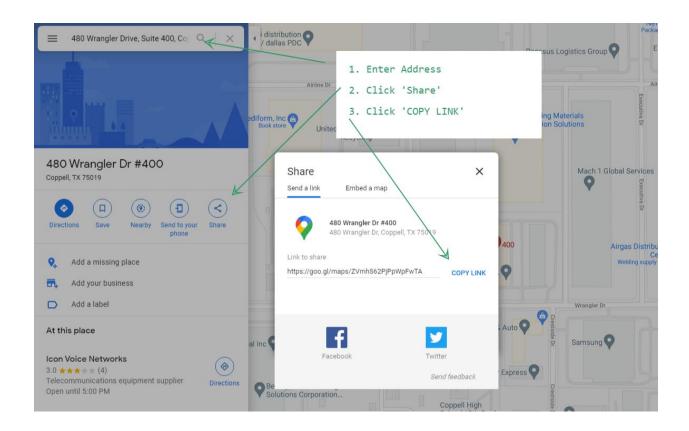
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4.3 Notification > Locations

A Location in ICON Signals is usually a street address of a building or campus.



Any mapping service can be used, but we typically use Google Maps to obtain a URL associated with a location.

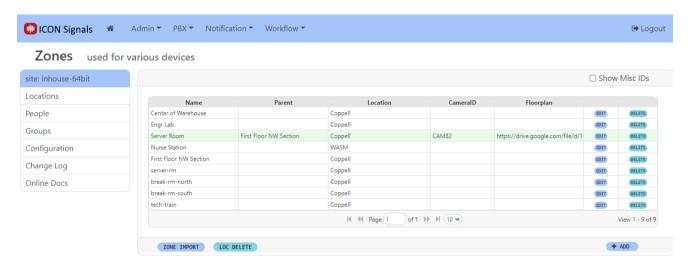


4.4 Notification > Locations > Zones

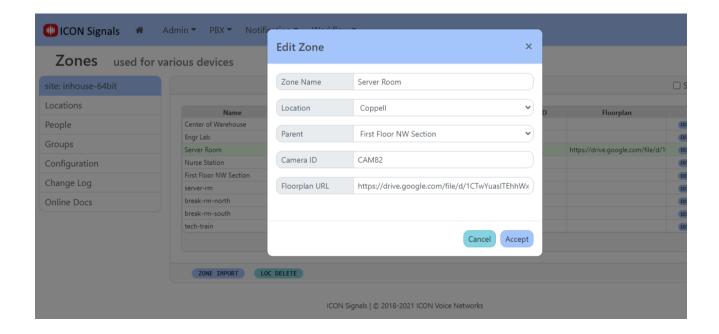
A Zone in ICON Signals is a room, hallway, or other area within a Location.

An associated webcam and/or floorplan URL can be included in notification messages from an alerting device in a zone.

Some zones can be designated as 'parent' zones. When an alert is sent by a device in a child zone that doesn't have a webcam ID, Signals can use the parent zone webcam ID instead. For example, a school might have a webcam in a hallway, but not in nearby classrooms. Alerts from devices in those classrooms could use the hallway webcam in notification messages.



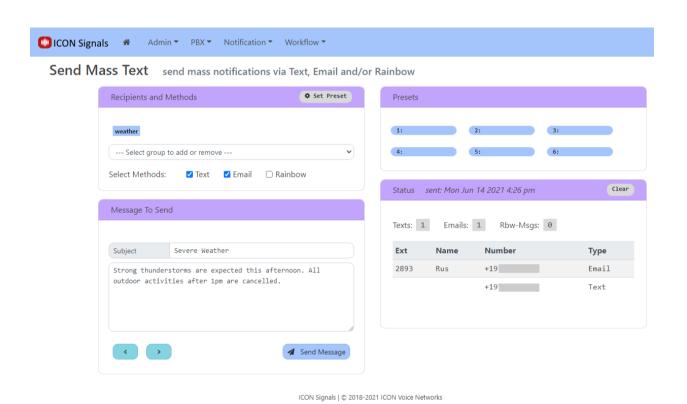
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4.5 Notification > Send Mass Text

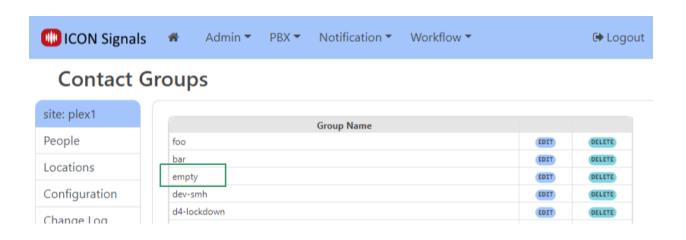
It is possible to send a mass notification message using the ICON Signals UI.

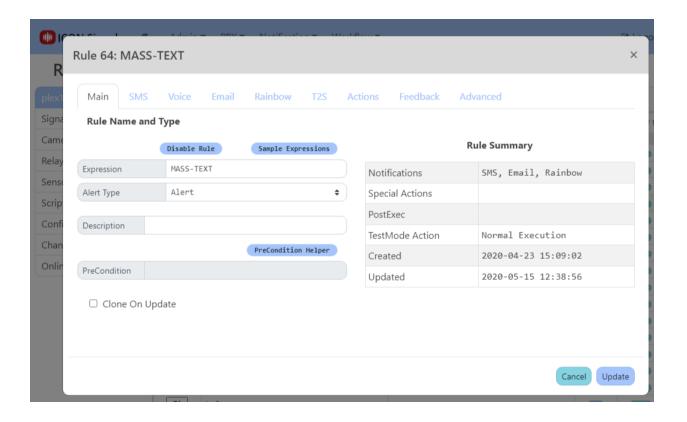
- 1. Select one or more groups
- 2. Select one or more communication methods
- 3. Type a message in the text area
- 4. Click the Send Message button

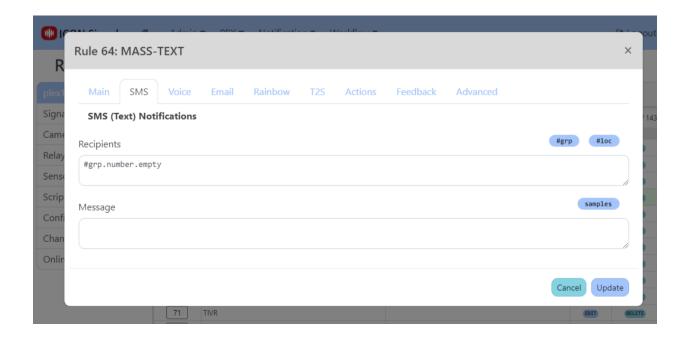


Mass Notification is enabled in ICON Signals by:

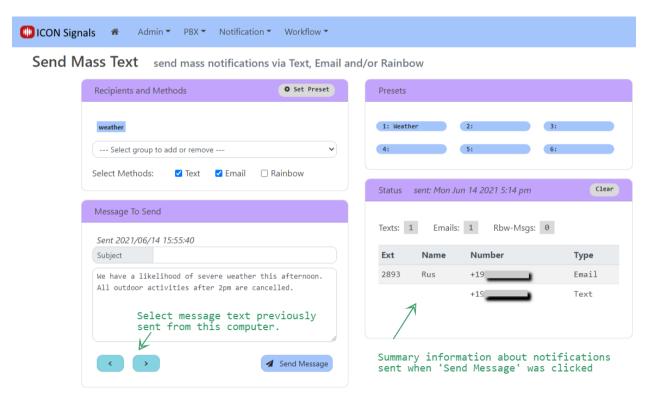
- 1. Creating a notification group named empty
- 2. Creating a rule named MASS-TEXT which sends notifications to the empty group





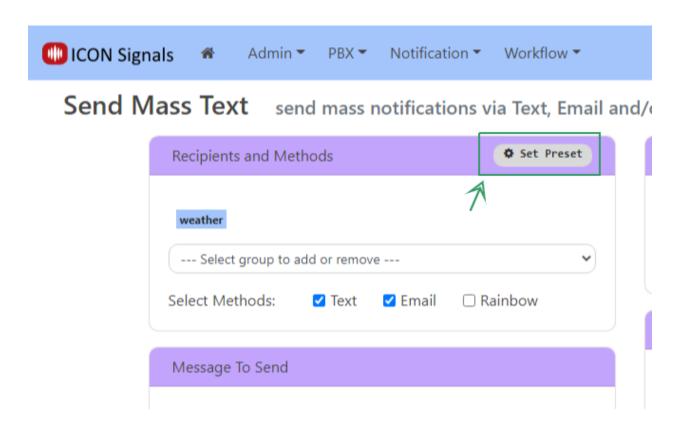


The rule serves as a template for a mass notification message. Recipient groups and message content are obtained from the Mass Notification page itself before the rule is executed.



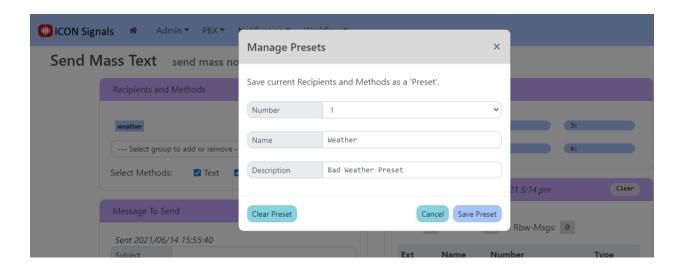
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Data about previously-sent messages is stored in the local browser cache for possible use next time.

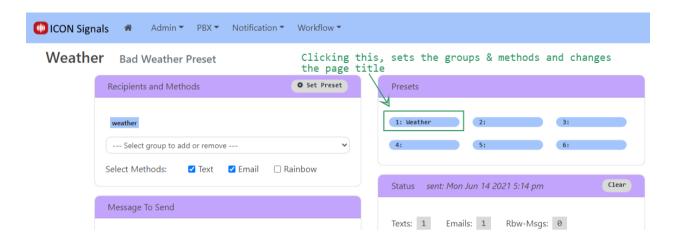


Notification groups and communication methods can be saved in a 'preset' for later use. (Think of radio preset buttons.)

- 1. Set the groups and methods
- 2. Click the 'Set Preset' gear button
- 3. Select the number of the preset, and enter a name and description



Clicking a preset will then set the groups and methods for the notification.



5.0 Workflow Toplevel Menu

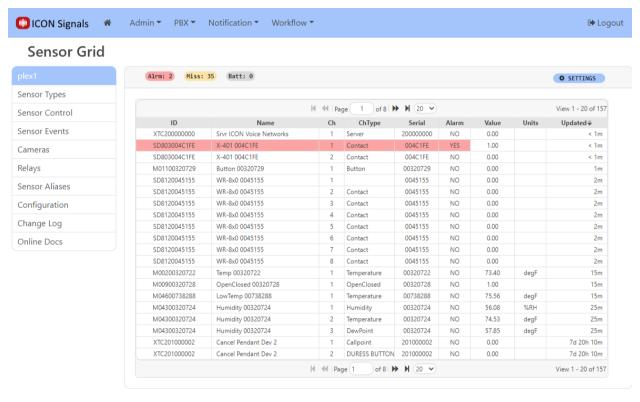
The Workflow menu contains items:

- Sensor Grid
- Sensor Types
- Rule List
- Integrations

A number of additional configuration pages will be covered in the Workflow > Sensor Types section.

5.1 Workflow > Sensor Grid

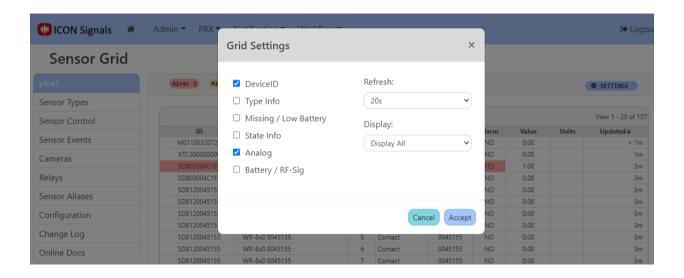
Status information for all known devices is shown in the sensor grid. When data is received for a new device, ICON Signals adds it to the database and begins displaying it in the grid.



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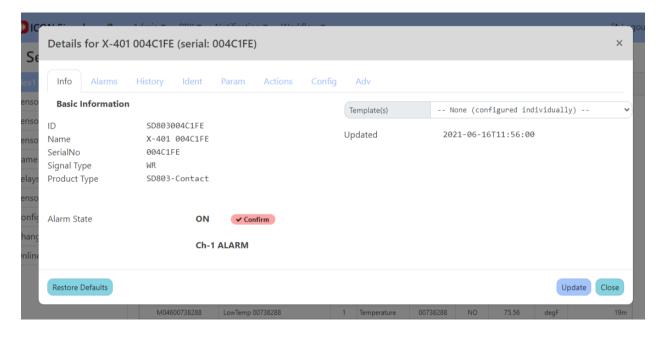
In Signals, all sensor devices have one or more I/O channels. The X-401 device in these figures has two contact closure channels.

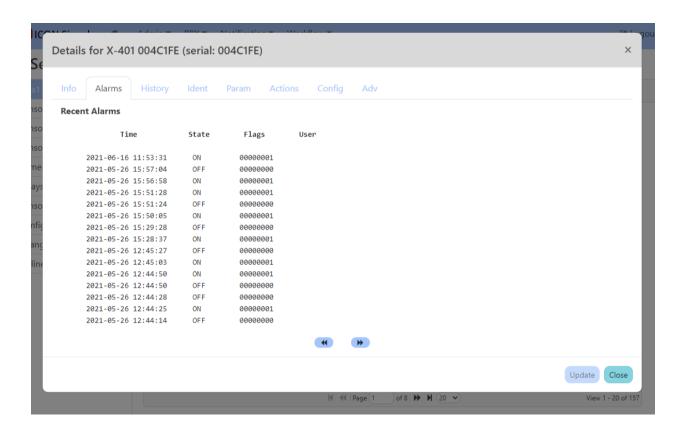
The Settings column controls which columns are shown in the sensor grid.

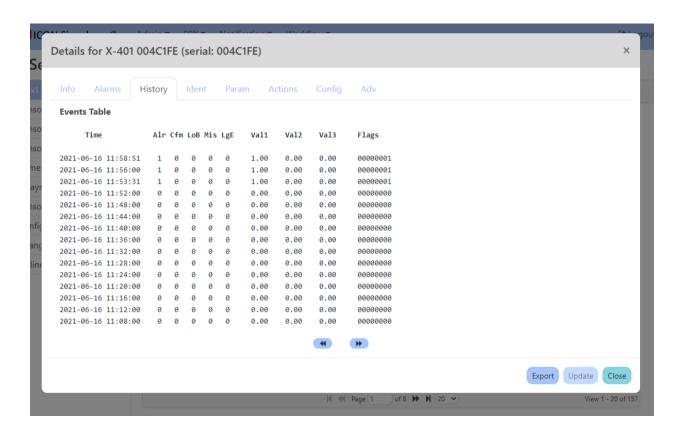


The Info tab shows basic information about the device and may include a Confirm button if the device is currently in alarm state.

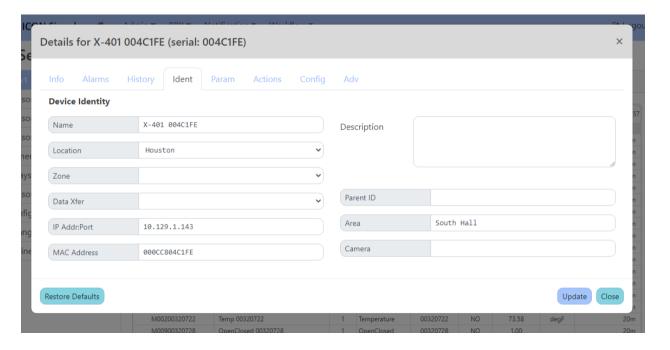
The Template(s) dropdown will be discussed later in this section.







When sending notification messages associated with the device, Signals uses the Area field if a zone is not set for a device.



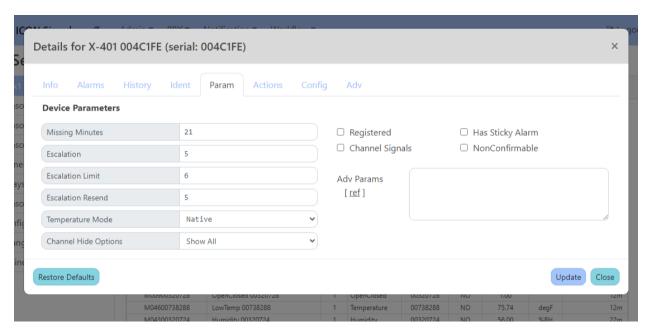
Escalations are covered in a separate technical note: STN-Escalations.

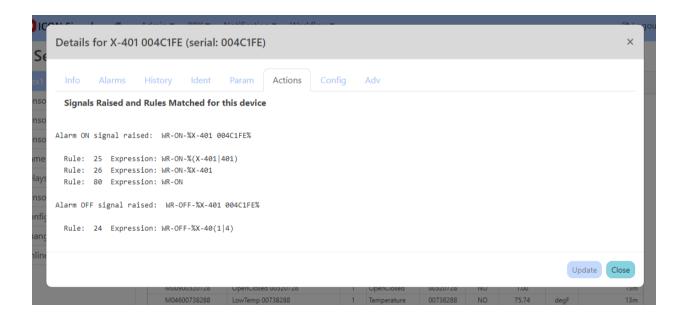
ICON Signals can be configured to only display and/or raise signals for a limited subset of known devices. The Registered checkbox adds or removes the sensor to this subset. Additional details will be provided later in this section.

Consider a device that has both *Lockdown* and *Medical Emergency* contact closures connected to buttons. We want to perform different actions for those two events. If the Channel Signals checkbox is checked, then the system raises a separate channel-specific signal when an I/O channel enters or leaves alarm state. This makes it easy to create unique rules for each channel.

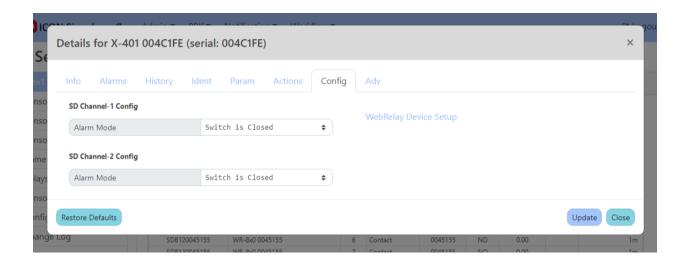
The Has Sticky Alarm checkbox is used for momentary contact button devices. Usually the auto_confirm advanced parameter is also set for that device.

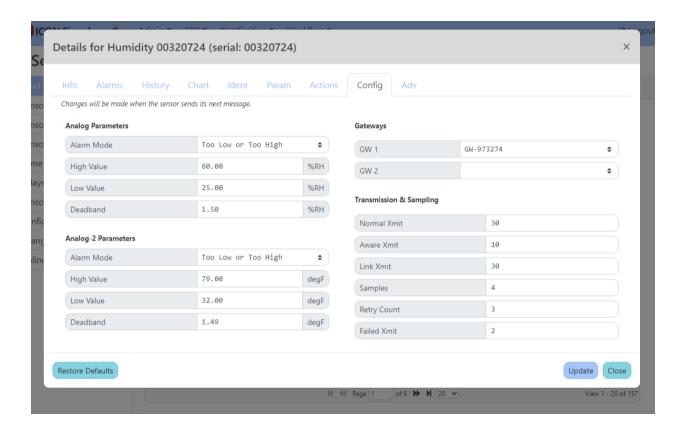
The NonConfirmable checkbox determines whether a device alarm can be confirmed in the Signals UI. (Note: A "confirmed" alarm is not the same as a cleared alarm. It is an acknowledgement of a device in alarm state. The alarm must still be cleared either physically or by some other mechanism.)



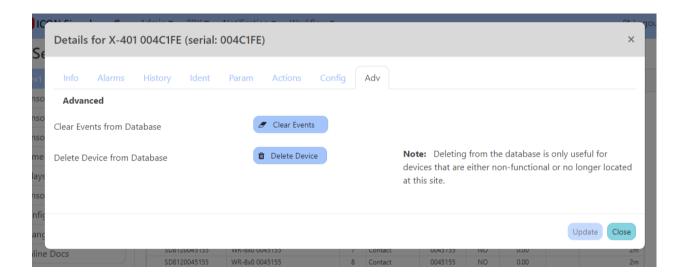


The content of the Config tab is device-dependent. The following two figures show 'Config' for a WebRelay contact closure device and a Monnit temp/humidity sensor respectively.





The ${\tt Adv}$ (Advanced) tab is used to scrub a no-longer-operational sensor device from the Signals database.

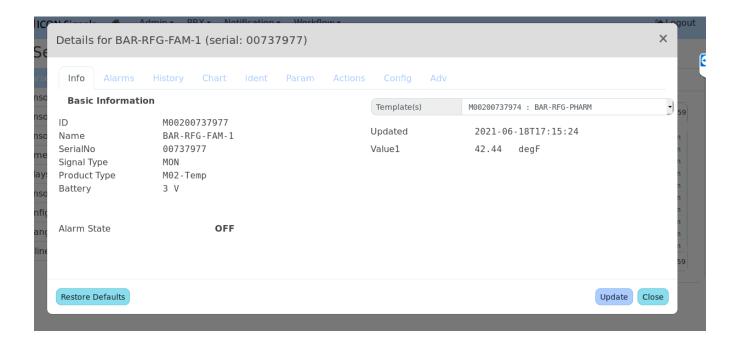


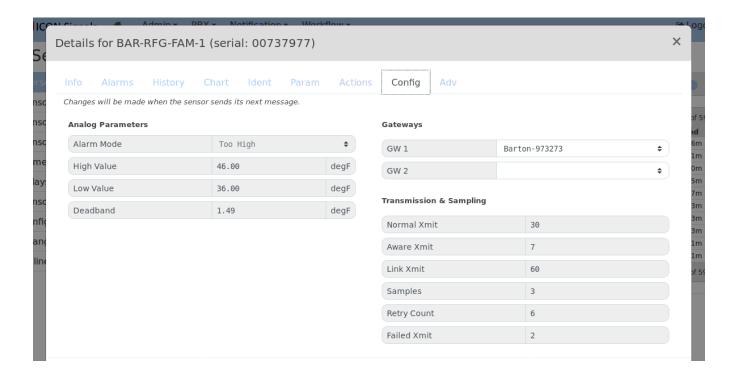
Returning to the Info tab, the Template(s) dropdown can be used to have one device serve as the configuration template for other devices of the exact same type.

The dropdown will be set to one of:

- -- None (configured individually) --
- ** This is a Template Device **
- The ID/Name of another device which has been set as a template

In the following two figures below, a refrigerator temperature sensor named BAR-RFG-FAM-1 is using configuration settings of another temp sensor named BAR-RFG-PHARM. Consequently, all of the data fields in the Config tab are greyed out (disabled).

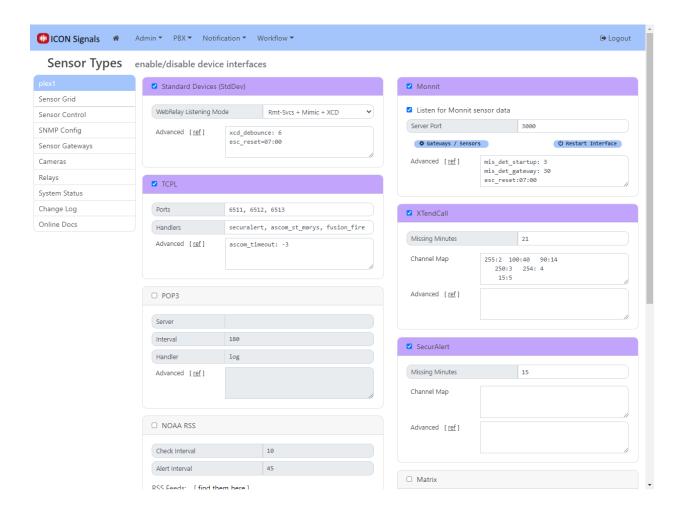


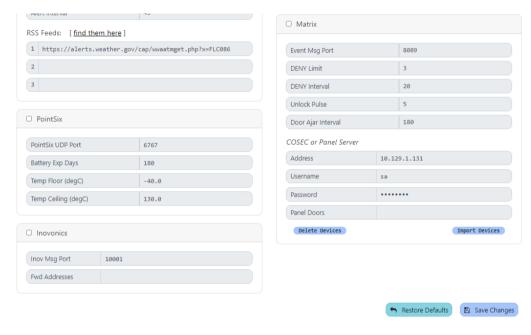


This feature is explained in detail in the technical note: STN-DeviceTemplates.

5.2 Workflow > Sensor Types

This page contains a configuration group box for each type of sensor data as well as types of incoming data from external systems.





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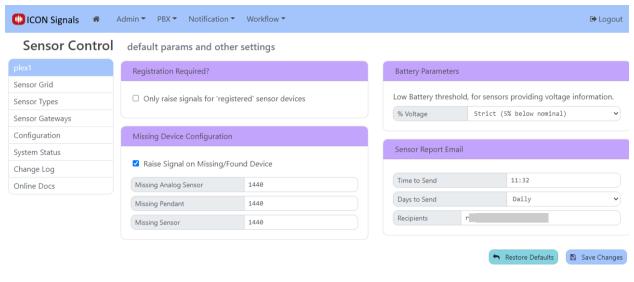
Every type group box has an enable/disable checkbox and one or more config settings. Details of these settings are covered in various technical notes:

- STN-WebRelay-*
- STN-MonnitGateways
- STN-XTendCall
- STN-SecurAlert

5.3 Workflow > Sensor Grid > Sensor Control

A number of default configuration settings related to sensors and inputs from external systems can be found in the Sensor Control page.

The most important setting is the checkbox to enable raising a signal when a device goes missing or is found. The amount of time before a device is considered "missing" is usually set in the Sensor Types page for that device type.

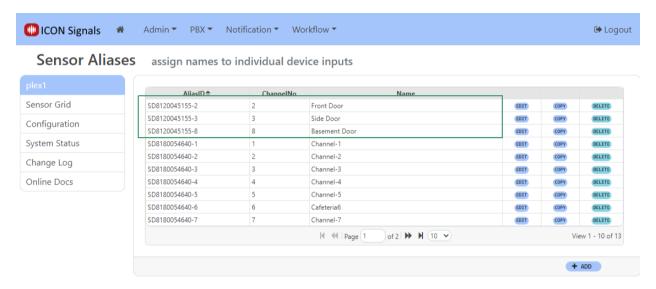


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5.4 Workflow > Sensor Grid > Sensor Aliases

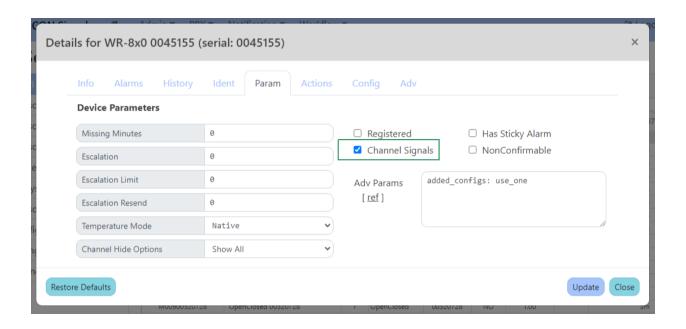
Sensor Aliases are used in combination with channel signals to give meaningful names to individual inputs. For a contact closure device with a large number of inputs (buttons), we want to know which button was pressed when sending notification messages.

In the figure below we have assigned aliases to channels 2, 3 and 8 for a WebRelay X-400 with 8 digital inputs.



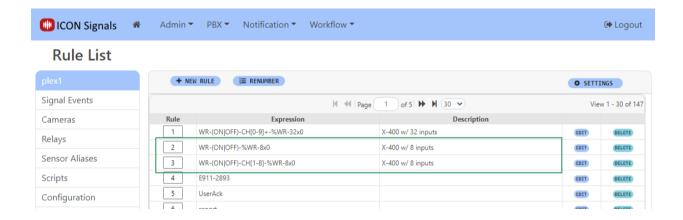
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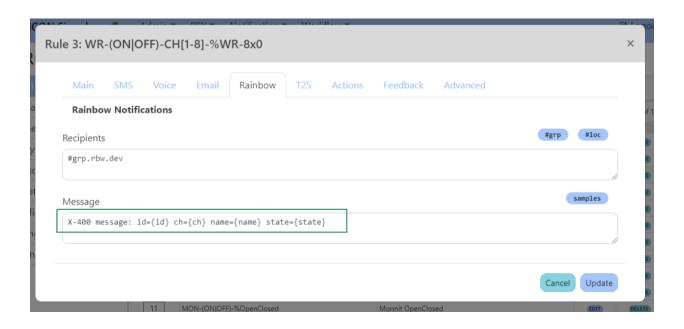
Channel Signals are enabled for the device.



Rules have been created to send a Rainbow message when the device enters or leaves alarm state (rule 2) and when an individual channel enters or leaves alarm state (rule 3).

Note: the device enters alarm state when is has at least one alarming input and leaves alarm state when it has no alarming inputs.





Closing the channel 1 and channel 8 contacts sends the following Rainbow messages.



The X-400 device is named WR-8x0 0045155. Rule 2 is executed when the device enters/exits alarm state and replaces the {name} variable with the device name.

Rule 3 is a "channel rule" and is executed when an I/O channel enters/exits alarm state for a device with a name starting with WR-8x0. The {name} variable is replaced with the alias value for that channel if it exists.

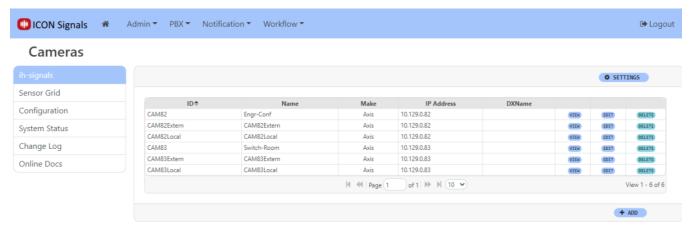
The CH8 contact was closed at 4:37 PM and resulted in both rules being executed since the X-400 was not already in alarm state. An alias of 'Basement Door' was defined for CH8, so it appears as the {name} value in the message.

The CH1 contact was closed at 4:46 PM. Rule 2 was not executed since the device was already in alarm state. Rule 3 was executed, but since no alias is defined for CH1, the device name was used as the {name} value in the message.

More information about Sensor Aliases can be found in the X-400 technical note: STN-WebRelay-X400.

5.5 Workflow > Sensor Grid > Cameras

The Cameras page contains information about IP cameras which can be associated with sensor devices or location zones. Both the ID and Name fields can be up to 60 characters in length. The ID value can consist of alphanumeric, hyphen and underscore characters.



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5.6 Workflow > Sensor Grid > Relays

Relays is an optional page which shows the current state of relays for WebRelay devices configured in the table.



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5.7 Workflow > Sensor Types > Sensor Gateways

Monnit gateways are configured in the Sensor Types > Sensor Gateways page. ICON Signals records the latest gateway status message received from each gateway and can raise a MISSING or FOUND signal.

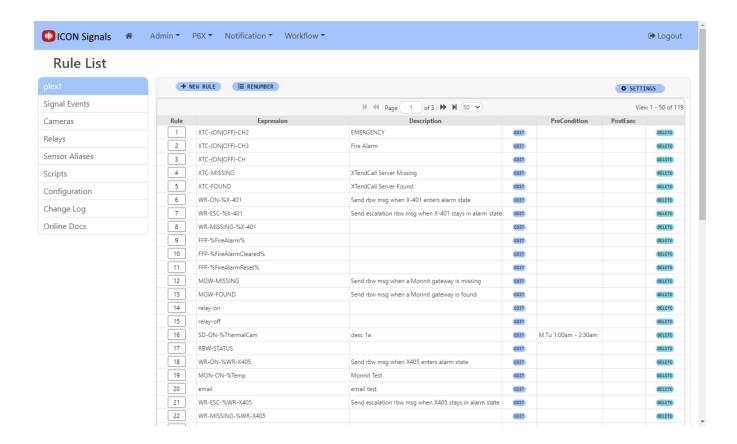
This is important because we want to notify about a missing gateway instead of simply reporting as missing all of the sensors that were reporting to that gateway.



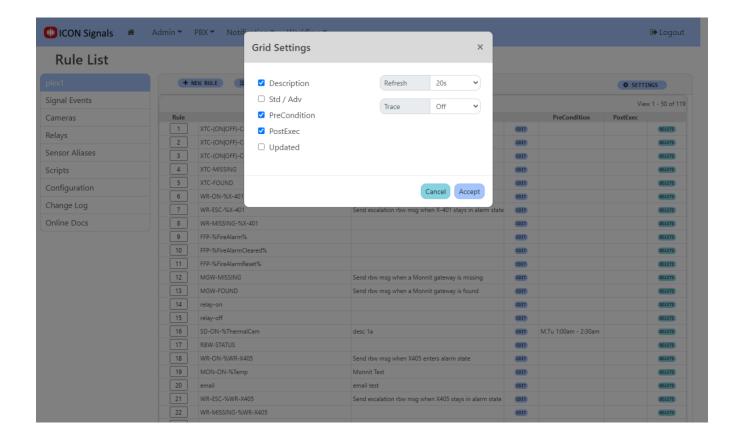
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5.8 Workflow > Rule List

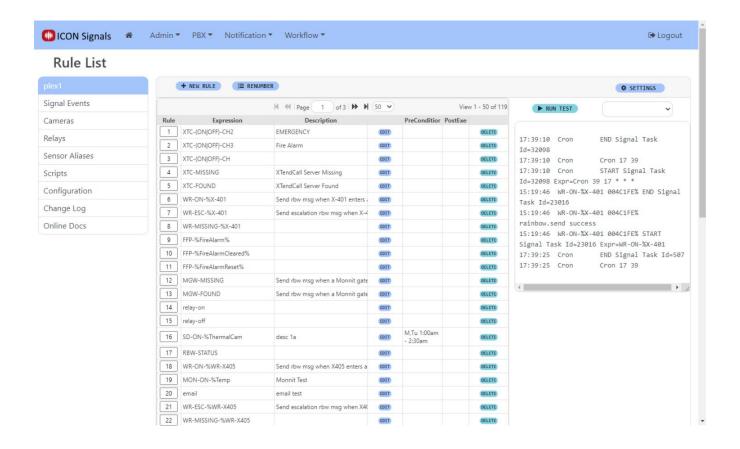
The Rule List page shows an ordered list of rule expressions and action scripts. When a signal is raised due to an incoming sensor event or other data, the name of that signal is checked against the rule expressions. If a match is found, ICON Signals starts a JavaScript interpreter to execute the associated action script.



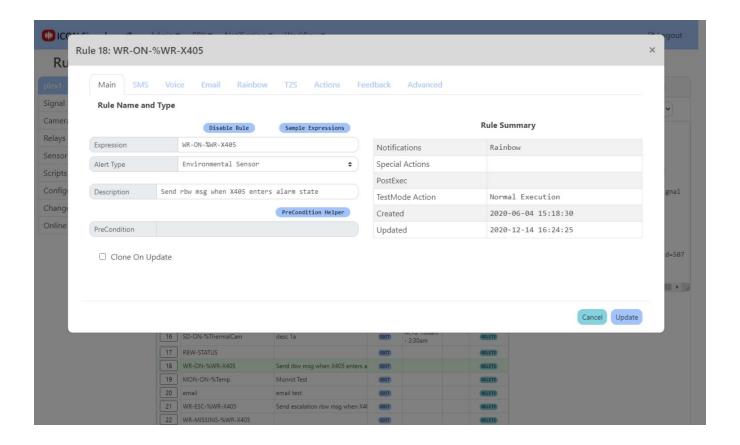
The Settings button opens a dialog to configure which columns are shown in the grid as well as *Trace* options.



Trace Mode is used to manually execute a test rule and is commonly used to verify that notification methods (SMS, Email, Rainbow) are working correctly.



Clicking the Edit link for a rule opens the rule dialog. Basically this dialog is a "rule builder". After changing fields in one or more tabs, the user clicks the Update button and a rule action script is generated and stored in the ICON Signals database.

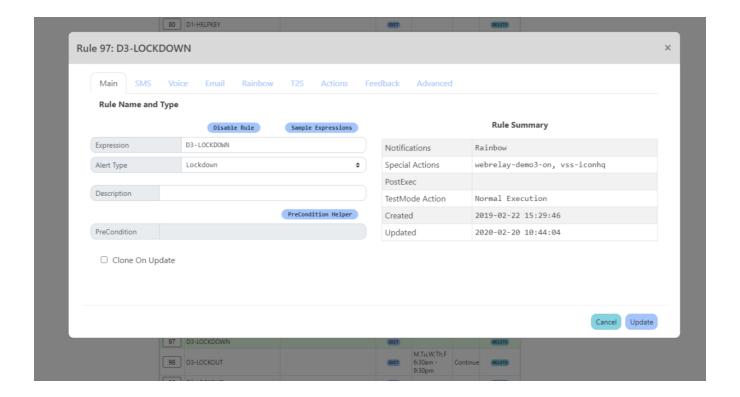


5.8.1 Rule Dialog: Main tab

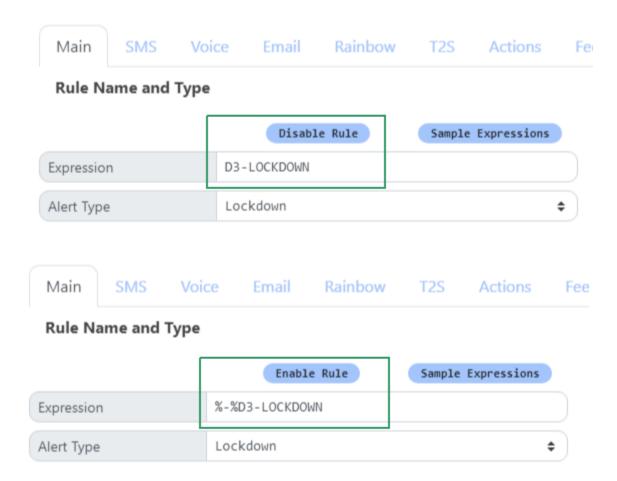
The Main tab has the following fields:

Expression	Signal names for raised signals are matched against this <i>regular expression</i> .
Alert Type	Basic template code used to generate the rule action script.
Description	Simple description to be displayed in the Rule List grid.
PreCondition	When this rule is matched with a signal, a PreCondition can be set to either cancel the match or rename (redirect) the signal to match with another rule further down the rule list.

The right side of the Main tab provides a quick look of which notification methods and special action scripts are currently configured in this rule.



The Disable Rule button is a toggle which adds or removes a prefix to the rule expression to prevent matching against any incoming signals.

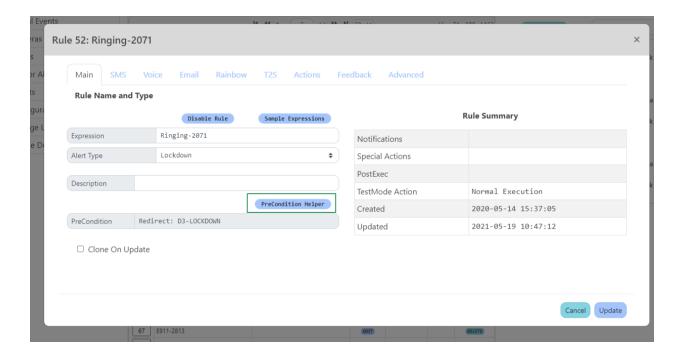


When an incoming signal is matched against a rule expression, the application checks to see if a PreCondition exists for that rule. If it does, then one of several things will occur:

- The effective signal name is changed and the rules engine continues searching the rule list. This is called a *redirect*. In this case, all other details of the current rule are inconsequential because it will not be executed.
- If the terms of the precondition are not met, then the match is ignored and the rules engine continues searching the rule list. For example, when the current day/time falls outside of the range of a *days+times* precondition.

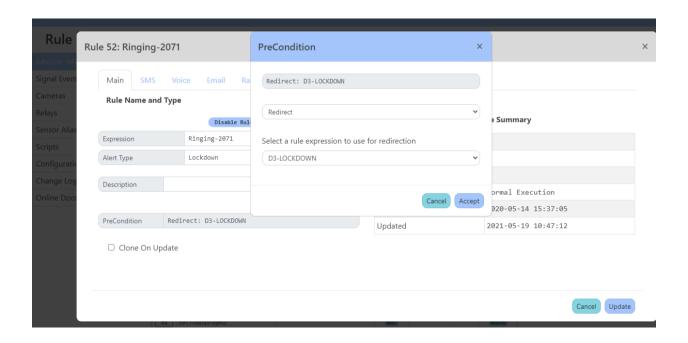
• The signal is transferred to another ICON Signals instance. This is called a *transfer*. Similar to a *redirect*, all other details of the current rule are inconsequential because it will not be executed.

The PreCondition Helper button opens a dialog to select a precondition type and fill in type-specific data fields. By far the most common preconditions are Redirect and Days+Times.

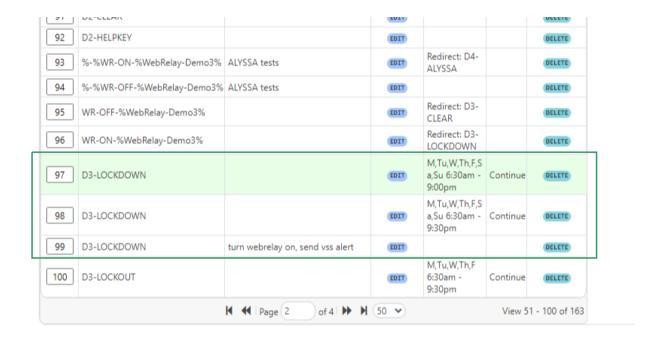


The figure below shows a rule with rule expression Ringing-2071. When ICON Signals receives a ringing event for extension (or virtual extension) 2071, it will raise a signal named Ringing-2071-{source number} which will match with this rule.

The PreCondition of Redirect: D3-LOCKDOWN will cause the signal name to be effectively renamed to D3-LOCKDOWN and match against the first rule with that expression further down the rule list.



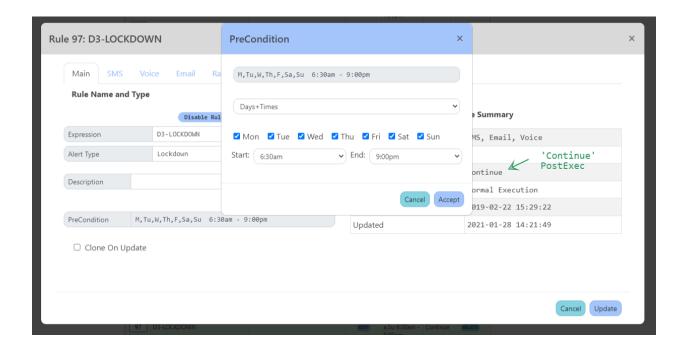
Redirect preconditions can be used to funnel different types of signal inputs to a single set of rules. In this case, we might also have a contact closure "lockdown" button rule which also redirects to D3-LOCKDOWN.



One configuration field not on the Main tab but salient to this topic is PostExec, which determines what happens once execution of this rule action script is completed. If PostExec is set to the default value of 'None', then the rule execution task is finished. However, if PostExec is set to 'Continue', the application continues searching the rule list for matches.

In the figure above, the first two D3-LOCKDOWN rules will be executed if the signal is raised during any day between 6:30am and 9:30pm local time. After each rule action script completes, the rule task continues processing and the third D3-LOCKDOWN rule is executed.

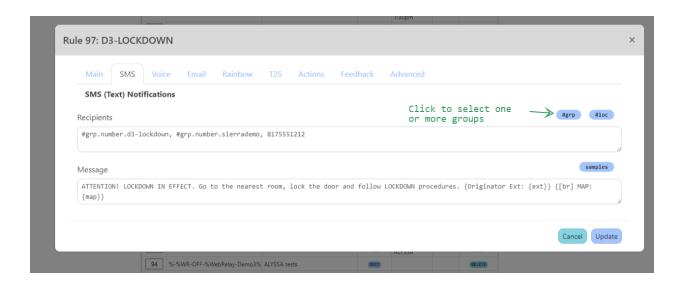
In a production environment, 'Days+Times' preconditions are often used to notify different groups on people during office hours and at other times.

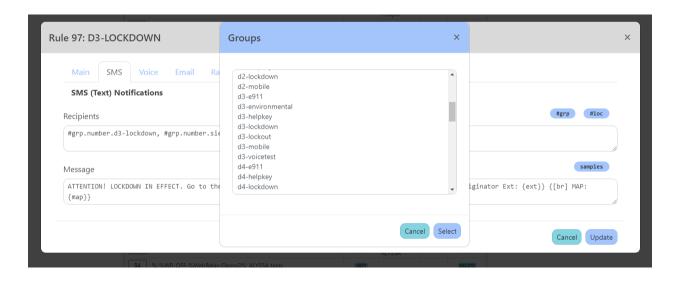


5.8.2 Rule Dialog: SMS, Email and Rainbow tabs

These three tabs are very similar. These examples will focus on the SMS tab.

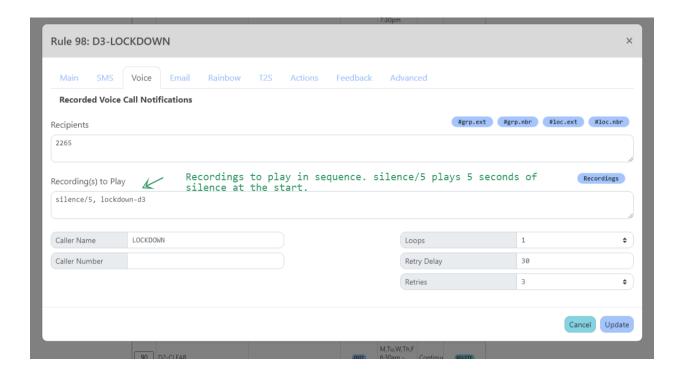
Cell numbers can be directly added to the list of recipients for an SMS message, but we recommend using contact groups. The same idea applies to email addresses entered in the Email and Rainbow tabs.



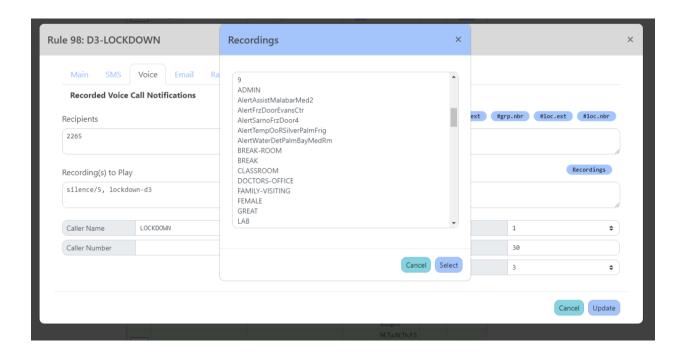


5.8.3 Rule Dialog: Voice tab

The Voice tab configures recorded voice calls made by ICON Voice Call, a purpose-built Asterisk system which is integrated with ICON Signals. When recipient calls are made, pre-recorded voice files are played in the order configured in this tab.



Click the 'Recordings' button to open a dialog with a list of available files.



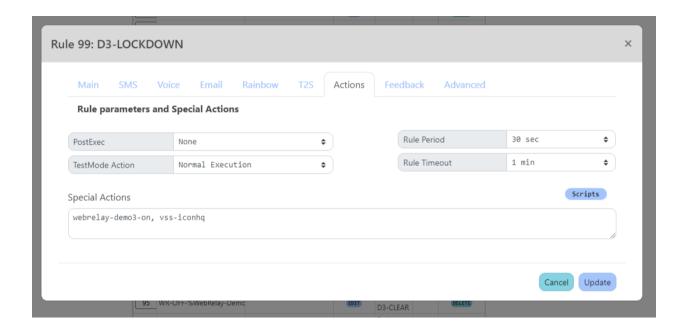
There are options to assign a caller name and number for the outgoing call and repeat the sequence of recordings several times during the call.

5.8.4 Rule Dialog: Actions tab

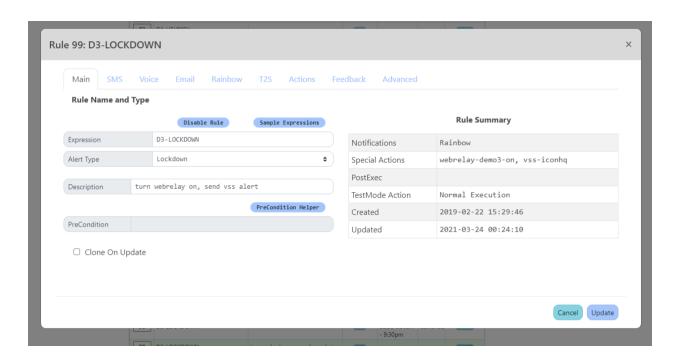
The Actions tab contains several process flow parameters and a list of *special action scripts* to be inserted into the overall rule script.

The parameters are:

PostExec	The PostExec setting indicates something to be done after a rule script completes execution. Currently the only supported PostExec value is 'Continue'
TestMode Action	Indicates if this rule should be bypassed when ICON Signals is running in TestMode
Rule Period	Minimum interval between executions of this rule.
Rule Timeout	Watchdog timeout of this rule.



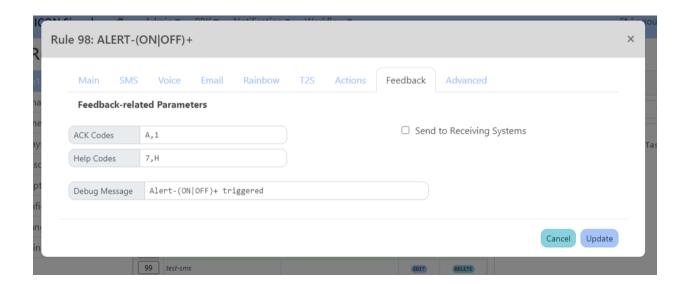
'Special Action' scripts are snippets of code inserted into the Rule script to add functionality not found in the normal configuration UI. For example, sending commands to WebRelay devices to turn relays on or off.



5.8.5 Rule Dialog: Feedback tab

The Feedback tab contains properties to log a debug message when the rule is executed and send an alert to external systems configured to receive them.

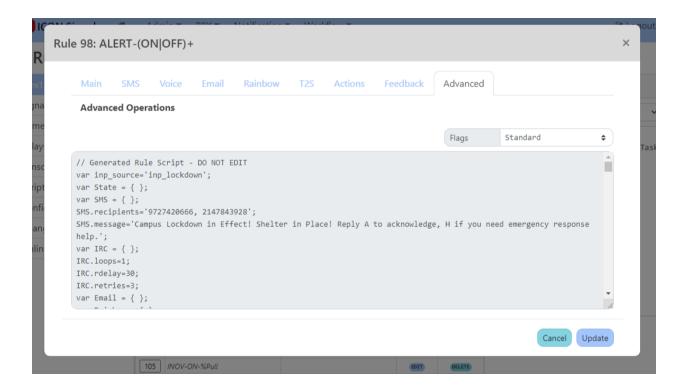
'ACK Codes' and 'Help Codes' fields are used to process messages received in response to SMS notifications. When ICON Signals detects a valid ACK or Help code, it raises a new signal names <code>UserAck-{cell-number}</code> or <code>UserNeedsHelp-{cell-number}</code>. Rules beginning with the expression <code>UserAck</code> and/or <code>UserNeedsHelp</code> can be written to notify appropriate personnel.



5.8.6 Rule Dialog: Advanced tab

This tab shows the actual rule action script that generated from the various configured properties in the other tabs.

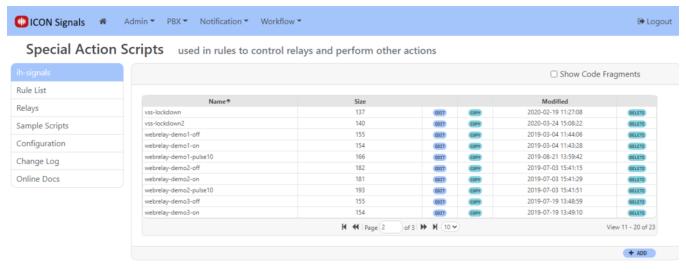
It is *possible* to change the flag and modify the rule script by hand, but in practice it is never done. Custom scripting needs are handled by writing a special action script (basically a code snippet) and including it in the Actions tab.



5.9 Workflow > Rule List > Scripts

Special Action Scripts (henceforth referred to as "Scripts") are code snippets inserted into the overall rule script when it is generated. These scripts usually consist of a single JavaScript function call to perform a specific action such as:

- Turning a relay on or off
- Sending a command to an Access Control System to lock or unlock a door
- Sending an alert message to a Video Management System

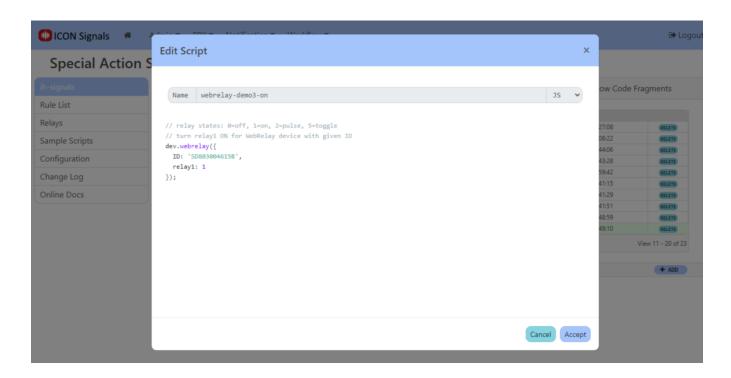


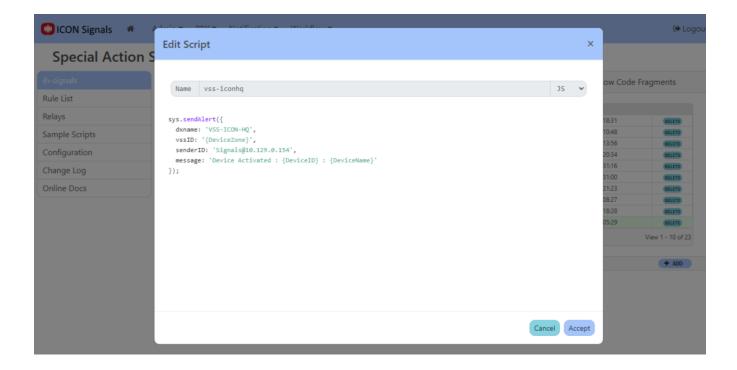
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Example scripts are shown in figures below. Some of the parameters can effectively be variables ({DeviceName}, {DeviceZone}, etc.). Details will be covered in a future Signals Technical Note.

One other note:

When a script is edited and saved, every rule that uses that script is re-generated automatically.





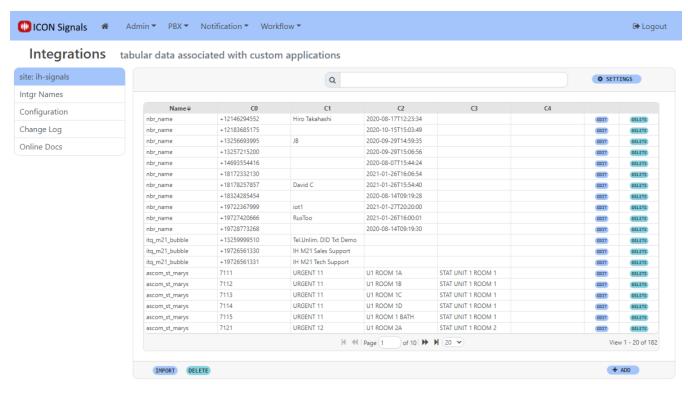
5.10 Workflow > Integrations

Integrating with external systems often brings a need for new configuration data or "data associations".

Device IDs from the other system may need to be transformed into a format that ICON Signals understands. Data may be needed to tell Signals what to do with specific inputs from the external system.

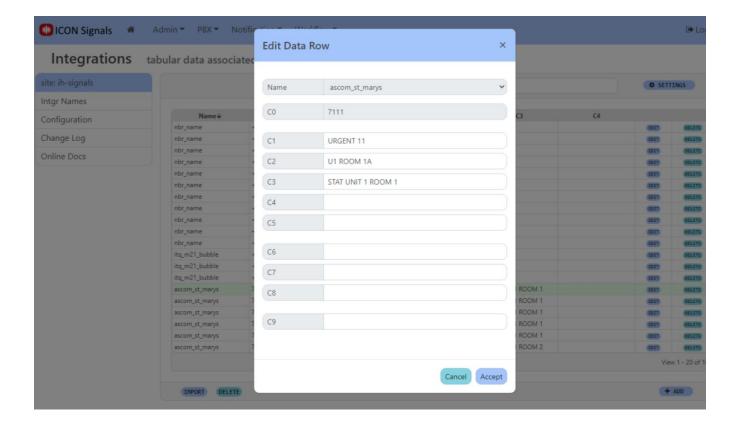
The problem with using standalone CSV / JSON / XML files for these purposes is that they are tedious to install, update and maintain.

The *Integration Table* is a general purpose database table used to store these types of data. Rows can be imported from a CSV file, edited within the Signals UI, and saved within the Signals database archive as part of a normal backup.



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The data table used for integrations has 10 variable-length character (varchar) columns named C0 thru C9. Column C0 is combined with the integration name to form a unique index.



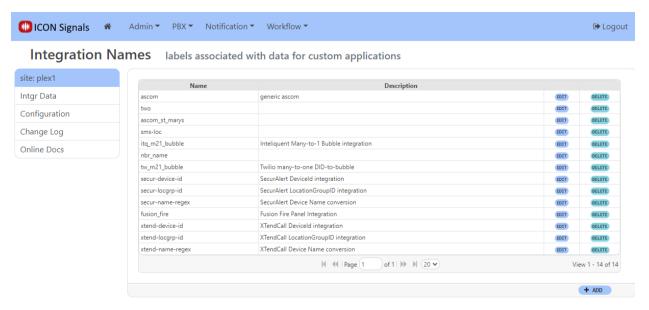
At the time of this writing:

- C0 has a maximum length of 160 characters.
- C1-C3 have a maximum length of 256 characters.
- C4-C9 have a maximum length of 128 characters.

Use of this table is a reasonable approach for integrations involving a few hundred or a few thousand rows of data. If more data is involved, then a custom database table should be created for that integration effort.

5.11 Workflow > Integrations > Intgr Names

Integration names are entered in a separate table, as shown in the figure below.



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6.0 Signals Technical Notes

"Technical Notes" are additional stand-along documents that cover a single ICON Signals topic or feature in more detail. Here is a current list of available documents. All documents are available in MS-Word (.docx) and PDF (.pdf) format.

STN-Licensing	Covers all aspects of licensing with Signals.
STN-Datasheet	One-page data sheet with memory and disk footprint.
STN-Overwatch	Describes Overwatch capabilities. Work in progress.
STN-WebRelay-X405	ControlByWeb X405 Temperature sensor
STN-DeviceTemplates	Details how to have one device serve as a configuration template for others.
STN-Monnit-SNMP	SNMP-based Monnit sensor functionality. (Deprecated.)
STN-DeviceTypes	Type ID details for Signals DeviceIDs. Based on Monnit types.
STN-WebRelay-DryContact	ControlByWeb X-301/X-401 devices
STN-WebRelay-XW110	ControlByWeb Wireless (Wifi) Temp sensor
STN-WebRelay-XW111	ControlByWeb Wireless (Wifi) Digital Inputs sensor
STN-AlarmState	Details about Signals AlarmState bits
STN-SecurAlert	Describes the Signals integration with the SecurAlert system.
STN-MonnitGateways	Setting up Monnit sensor gateways for use with Signals.
STN-RainbowBubbleHandlers	Details about how Signals is integrated with Rainbow

	bubbles.
STN-XTendCall	Describes the Signals integration with the XTendCall system.
STN-PortsUsed	Details about which TCP ports ICON Signals uses.
STN-FirewallWhitelist	Describes the outside hosts needed by ICON Signals.
STN-WebRelay-X400	ControlByWeb X-400 and expansion modules. Only contact closure / digital inputs at this time.
STN-Escalations	Details about "escalations" within ICON Signals when a sensor remains in alarm state or missing.