INDUSTRY REGULATIONS OVERVIEW

A number of regulations address the requirement of having an airflow monitoring device or alarm for fume hoods and bio-safety cabinets. Below are excerpts of the specific language from the organizations that govern our industry.
See your CETA certifier for a quote for alarms suitable to your application.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

"...each hood **should have** a continuous monitoring device to allow convenient confirmation of adequate hood performance before use. If this is not possible, work with substances of unknown toxicity should be avoided or other types of local ventilation devices should be provided."

American National Standards Institute/AIHA Z9.5

"All hoods **shall be equipped** with a flow indicator, flow alarm or face velocity alarm indicator to alert users to improper exhaust flow."

National Fire Protection Association

"A measuring device for hood airflow **shall be provided** on each laboratory hood. The measuring device for hood airflow shall be a permanently installed device and shall provide constant indication to the hood user of adequate or inadequate hood airflow."

Scientific Equipment Furniture Association

"All hoods **shall have** some type of monitor for indicating face velocity or exhaust flow verification... Regardless of the monitor installed, it should provide clear indication to the hood user whether exhaust flow or face velocity is within design parameters. A ribbon taped to the bottom of the sash is not acceptable."

Canadian Standards Association

"A fume hood **shall have** an audible and visual alarm for indicating that the face velocity has fallen below the set point. The alarm shall be readily visible to the user during use of the fume hood."

California Department of Industrial Relations

"By January 1, 2008, hoods **shall be equipped** with a quantitative airflow monitor that continuously indicates whether air is flowing into the exhaust system during operation. The quantitative airflow monitor shall measure either the exact rate of inward airflow or the relative amount of inward airflow. Examples of acceptable devices that measure the relative amount of inward airflow include: diaphragm pressure gauges, inclined manometers, and vane gauges. The requirement for a quantitative airflow monitor may also be met by an airflow alarm system if the system provides an audible or visual alarm when the airflow decreases to less than 80% of the airflow required by subsection (c)."

Bio-Safety Cabinets: NSF/ANSI Standard 49

"Any Type A1 or A2 cabinet when canopy connected **shall have** audible and visual alarm indication notifying the user of a potential loss in canopy containment."