

BROWNSTONE SECURITY

A TRUSTED LEADER IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY FOR OVER 40 YEARS

6 TIPS FOR COMBINING YOUR ALARM SYSTEMS WITH VIDEO SURVEILLANCE FOR EFFECTIVE INTRUSION DETECTION

Alarm systems and video surveillance systems have many benefits when used alone, but when combined they act as a more powerful deterrent and detection method for intrusions by unwanted persons and other criminal acts.

Traditional alarm systems have evolved from burglar alarms that sounded a bell to attract attention to alarms that are monitored by 24 hour central alarm stations to provide immediate assistance when alarms are activated. However, even with central alarm stations there still persists a major problem with false alarms. Normal procedures require the central alarm station to call a predetermined phone number to "verify" the alarm. This is successful if the client is at his/her business and can verify it is a false alarm. However, if the premises are being broken into it is highly unlikely the phone can be answered in the process of a criminal act.

If the central alarm station does not receive an answer, the alarm is considered unverified except in limited cases such as silent alarms in banks. Unverified alarms are a very low priority for law enforcement agencies and response times are typically extremely slow. In some areas, such as in Las Vegas, law enforcement does not ever respond to unverified alarms.

So what is the answer to ensure your property is properly protected? Adding a video surveillance system that is integrated with the alarm system ensures that the alarm can be verified. When the alarm system is activated a camera is also activated which allows the dispatcher to verify if there is an intrusion. An alert along with the camera's video feed will appear on the dispatch screen, allowing the dispatcher to see what is happening in real time. The dispatcher can then alert the police to a verified criminal act and track the incident until they arrive.

When combining your alarm system with a video surveillance system there are several things to consider:

- 1) Does the digital video recorder (DVR) that comes with the video surveillance system have the ability to integrate with your alarm system, another alarm system, on an individual sensor basis?

Continued on page 2

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COMBINING ALARM SYSTEMS & VSS **1**

ALARM SYSTEMS & VSS CONTINUED **2**

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE HARDWARE **3**

BROWNSTONE SECURITY INFORMATION **4**



MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON :

REMOTE VIDEO MONITORING AND VIRTUAL GUARD TOUR SERVICES!

BROWNSTONEPS.COM

6 TIPS FOR COMBINING YOUR ALARM SYSTEMS WITH VIDEO SURVEILLANCE FOR EFFECTIVE INTRUSION DETECTION (CONTINUED)

For example, can a specific camera be programmed to start recording when a specific door or window is opened and the alarm is activated?

2) Does the video surveillance company provide 24 hour monitoring and alarm verification? If not, does your alarm company? If the alarm company does, is the video system compatible with their requirements?



3) Does the video surveillance company provide 24 hour technical support? Can they monitor the system to know when there is a technical problem or when a camera is not working? If not, how will you know if your system is working properly and your property is being protected?

4) Can the video surveillance system send automatic email or text alerts to you when a camera is activated? This will allow you to take immediate action.

5) Can you access the system efficiently from anywhere on the Internet? Can you access the system from handheld and mobile devices? This will allow you to get real-time information when an alert is received.

6) What is the quality of the images recorded by the video surveillance system? The images must be a quality that law enforcement will be able to use to help identify the intruders.



Combining your video surveillance system with your alarm system can help to create a safe and secure environment not only against unwanted intrusions, but also to deter other types of liabilities and losses such as inventory shrinkage and personnel liability claims. Billions of dollars are lost to these types of claims each year, so it may be time to look into adding or upgrading your current video surveillance system as a way to protect your business.

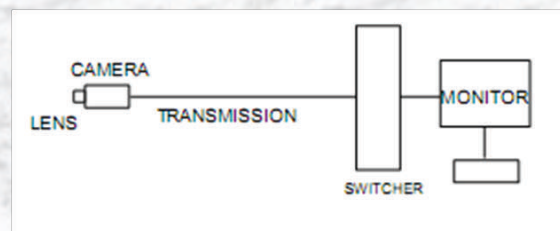
INTRODUCTION TO VIDEO SURVEILLANCE HARDWARE

MAJOR COMPONENTS OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

A CCTV system is made up of various components:

- Cameras
- Lenses
- CCTV Accessories
- Transmission Systems
- Recording Systems

The lens "sees" the view; the camera converts that view into some form of electrical signal. The transmission system sends that signal to a control room. If you have 40 cameras you cannot have 40 monitors, therefore you require a switching system which displays the cameras on a limited number of monitors. The monitor converts the signal back into optics. The recording system is to record the events for later evaluation. The components remain the same for every application but the design of the CCTV system varies.



Types of Camera Lenses

Lenses can be divided into the following major groups: fixed lens, zoom lens, varifocal lens.

Housing & Brackets

Housing is used to protect the camera. A full range of housings are available depending upon the application. External housings are normally weather proof and available with various accessories, such as sun-shield, heater, blower, wiper/washer. Heaters usually require 10-20W of power and blowers need 1-2 W. Various brackets are available to mount the cameras, depending upon the location and the application.

Connectors

Various types of BNC connectors are used CCTV. BNC crimp-on and twist-on are most commonly used.

Power Supplies

Most cameras require 12v DC or 24v AC power. Therefore, power supplies are available on those two formats. Most power supply boxes in either come with 9 ports to support 9 cameras or come with 18 ports to support up to 18 cameras. Power supplies have built in fuse for each port to protect against power surge.

Transmission Systems

Transmission systems are necessary to send video signals from remote camera location to the control room; and then send control and power from the control room to the camera location.

Recording Systems

There are 3 types of recording systems available today: Stand-Alone DVR, PC Based DVR, and IP Video.



BROWNSTONE SECURITY

310-297-3600

www.brownstoneps.com



Search for "Brownstone Security" and start discussions, become a friend or fan, or watch a video about Brownstone Security.

Brownstone Security provides security officers, mobile patrol, virtual guard tours and remote video monitoring for a variety of clients including retail facilities, industrial & transportation facilities, shopping centers, homeowner associations, office complexes, government agencies and a variety of other industries. Brownstone Security also provides a wide variety of video surveillance systems. For the retail industry Brownstone Security can provide loss prevention services in order to deter theft. In addition to these services Brownstone Security provides a full spectrum of security and risk management consulting services.

Brownstone Security, a partnership founded in trust and service.

*California PPO License Number: 15625
Nevada PPO License Number: 1180*



Brownstone Security
Trust | Strength | Experience | Service | Loyalty

2613 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Ste. 100
Redondo Beach, CA 90278