



Commercial Instruments & Alarm Systems, Inc.

The Hudson Valley's premier
NOTIFIER
 Fire Alarm
 Provider

2 Summit Court, Suite 306
 Fishkill • New York • 12524

Locally owned, nationally recognized

495 Main Street
 Catskill • New York • 12414

Why are you keeping your landline phone line?

Landline telephones seem to be falling out of popularity and into obscurity. According to a survey by the CDC in 2015, over 47% of American homes used only cellular phones.

Some people continue to hang onto their landline phones because of their home alarm system. The belief is that landline phones are more reliable.

However, a landline phone is the most vulnerable form of communication for an alarm system.

At one time, phone lines were the most reliable form of communication for alarm systems. But when the FCC changed rules to allow phone companies to stop maintaining their copper lines, more outages and problems have been occurring.

This fall, residents in southern Dutchess County experienced four days of interrupted service. In February 2015, Verizon's phone lines were down for six hours across the Hudson Valley. That same month, residents in Manhattan went almost



the entire month without phone service.

CIA recommends using radio communication for alarm systems. It is the most reliable form of communication. Battery backup allows it to operate during power outages, it's wireless so it's considered tamper proof and it has the highest transmission speed for sending alarm signals.

The additional monthly fee for radio monitoring is often offset by the savings customers receive when they cancel their phone line.

For more information regarding radio monitoring, contact our sales office.

Expanding radio communications

Our radio network now spans the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Radios offer highly reliable transmission of alarm signals. The AES radio network uses the latest in Intelligent Technology and provides immediate transmission of alarm signals to CIA's Monitoring Response Center without the use of telephone lines.

Radios are a great addition to alarm systems as a primary means of communication in case phone lines are cut or down.

While there is an installation charge and monthly fee associated with the radios, they can offer overall savings by eliminating the need for a telephone line.

These radios are rated for residential and commercial use.

If you are interested in adding an AES radio to your security or fire alarm system, please contact our offices for details.

Professional security systems provide greater peace of mind

DON'T
Do-it-yourself

When it comes to home security, there are more options than ever. DIY home security systems are popping up in hardware stores and are even being offered by phone companies. But DIY and a CIA Security -monitored systems are vastly different. They have different objectives and outcomes for helping better protect your property.

1) DIY security systems aren't always easy to install.

We live in a Pinterest and DIY world. But home security isn't something you want to take lightly. You can buy home security systems that come from a box. They promise you can unbox it, plug it in, and activate the system.

However, professional installation has its benefits. A professional installer will test the system and help ensure the security system will work when you need it most.

2) Monitored systems connect all your home security devices together.

Most DIY security systems are modular, meaning the devices and detectors stand alone and aren't interconnected. Our sales team personalizes each system to meet your needs. They provide you with a total solution, integrating security, fire, carbon, flood devices and can connect those systems to video surveillance systems.

MIRROR, MIRROR IN THE HALL

A mirror in the entryway lets you assess your look before heading out the door. But check its position from your front windows. Can you see the reflection of your alarm system? If so, would-be intruders can too—and they'll know at a glance if you neglected to arm it when you dashed out on an errand.

CIA in Action

Firefighters in Hunter, NY credit CIA's fire alarm system with saving a century-old home in late November. The detection system was able to alert emergency crews at the first sign of fire. When fire crews arrived on scene, smoke was not yet visible from the windows.

According to the Hunter Fire Department Facebook page, "Had there been no early detection by the smoke detector, this balloon frame house could have suffered extreme if not complete damage.... Smoke detectors proved to be invaluable."

3) DIY home security systems require more attention.

DIY systems without a contract mean the system is usually monitored by the customer. You lose 24-hour monitored protection from a professional staff that can send the proper services or authorities in time of need.

Without professional monitoring of your home security system, you're the one doing the monitoring.

In addition, DIY systems are typically tied into your internet, via the modem. If you lose power, you will lose security, too! This is even more critical if you do not have a generator or battery backup. CIA Security systems come with backup batteries and with our radio monitoring, systems are still monitored during power outages, too.

4) Burglars are less likely to break into a monitored home.

Did you know simply having a home security system installed can help keep criminals at bay?

Almost 60% of the burglars indicated that the presence of an alarm would cause them to seek an alternative target altogether. This was particularly true among the subset of burglars that were more likely to spend time deliberately and carefully planning a burglary.

Always use the signs and stickers that your home security system providers gives you.

Protect your pets during a fire

Adding monitored fire detection to your security system will not only help protect your home and loved ones, it will also help to protect your pets when you are not home.

With monitored fire detection, fire devices will send a signal to our Central Station who will contact the fire department immediately.

Adding monitored fire detection to your existing security alarm system does not increase your monthly monitoring bill.

Call our offices for more information.

