



## **Commercial Instruments & Alarm Systems, Inc.**

The Hudson  
Valley's premier  
**NOTIFIER**  
Fire Alarm  
Provider

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**Locally owned, nationally recognized**

495 Main Street  
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# Video analytics help you get the most of your system

Your video surveillance system is only as useful as the incidents you can actually capture and watch, and CIA's new video analytics systems will help you find them.

Using video analytics makes your surveillance system more efficient, reduces the workload on security and management staff, and helps you capture the full value of security video by making your IP camera system more intelligent in its work.

Video analytics will allow a business to set its camera system to motion detection during the hours the business is closed, so if it detects motion it will send an email - a quick response that may help you react quickly to a break-in or accident.

Video analytics software for security cameras is available in different forms: installed on your camera or on your NVR. Either form will work in the same basic way – the user sets up parameters for the activity the software is looking for and when the software detects something that meets its search criteria it alerts you. Users can provide feedback about the accuracy of alarm events, training the device to increase accuracy. Over time, the system tracks the operator's changing notion of value and prioritizes important events. It is able to detect movement of people and vehicles distinguishing it from animals or wind.



Video management software uses software to monitor your video feed around the clock, alerting you to activity so you only need to watch the cameras when something happens. This will help you best utilize your surveillance system, saving you time and effort.

Video analytics can be used for:

- Motion detection
- Facial recognition & license plate reading
- People counting & dwell time monitoring for retail stores
- Recognizing long lines at checkout and sending alerts

For more information, contact our surveillance specialists and visit our website.

# Repeat of cellular network shutdowns prompting alarm system upgrades

## Radios offer permanent communication solution

Cellular technology is advancing again which means that alarm systems that communicate via cellular communicators will once again going to need to be upgraded. Verizon just announced their most recent plan to again decommission a cellular network because they are replacing it with a more advanced network. The current network will be decommissioned in December 2019.

Although cellular communications has been a reliable form of communication for alarm systems – being able to operate during a power outage or when phone lines are down – technological advances require that cellular communicators be replaced every few years.

These upgrades cost between \$300 and \$400 each time. CIA last had to have cellular customers upgrade their alarms in 2016. While new upgrades are available, the new devices are expected to once again only last a few years before becoming obsolete.

The upgrades also will not address a deficiency in the cellular network known as “Last Mile Failure.”

In order for providers to connect upgraded technology to the end user, some old infrastructure is used. In the case of cellular, the information is switched between cellular and internet and the switching can result in a communication failure.

Instead, CIA recommends that our cellular customers switch to our most reliable alarm communication – radio. Radio communication travels directly from your location to our operations center via our proprietary radio network. The advantage of radio mesh technology is that the radios communicate through numerous paths as opposed to cellular that only has one path of communication. 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 for your system and this radio will never need to be upgraded.

For more information on our radio communicators, please contact CIA Security.

### CIA in Action

A kitchen fire at a local college activated the fire alarm. The fire department was dispatched and the flames were extinguished. No damage to the building was reported.

A silent alarm was activated at a Poughkeepsie-area bank during a robbery. A male suspect fled the scene. No one was harmed during the robbery.

An oven fire was reported at a Northern Dutchess-area group home. The fire department was dispatched and was able to extinguish the flames. Fire crews removed the stove from the building and no damage to the building was reported.

## Keep the garden trimmed

Plants are starting to grow again. Be sure to keep shrubbery low around your home or business – especially around the doors and windows. Large shrubbery can provide cover for criminals attempting to access your property. The fewer places a criminal has to hide, the better.

Make sure your property is well-lighted. Motion detectors on lights save electricity and also highlight anyone creeping around your property.

## Did you know?

More than 2/3 of house fire deaths occurred in homes in which there were no smoke detectors or smoke detectors were not working properly. Nuisance alarm sounding was the main reason most smoke detectors were disconnected or had no batteries installed. Cooking is the #1 cause of nuisance alarm sounding, but also the #1 cause of house fires. Heating is the #2 cause of house fires.