



Web-to-wireless remote control.

Case Study on Honeywell Security and Custom Electronics

"Rearguard"

The 25-hour blackout that gripped New York City in 1977 was a free-for-all for burglars, firebugs and vandals. The NYPD arrested nearly 3700 people for arson and looting alone, and property damages spiked to more than \$150 million. The lesson provided by the episode is painfully clear. Bad things happen when the power goes off, and the telephone lines go down.

Rising crime rates and debacles like the '77 blackout have made Americans more security-minded than they used to be. That, plus the on-going threat of domestic terrorism have helped foster a security products boom in this country. These days, many American homes and businesses are hard-wired against break-ins and burglaries. Traditional burglar alarm systems operate over the telephone lines, but what do you do when those lines are deliberately cut or the telephone communications network is temporarily put out of business by some act of man or nature?

The answer is radio back-up.

Honeywell Security and Custom Electronics of Syosset, New York supplies an auxiliary radio security system to independent security dealers in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Marketed as "Control Channel Cellular Radio", the system operates via the cellular network assisted by Aeris MicroBurst™ technology. Control Channel Cellular Radio augments phone line-based burglar alarming. The system is virtually fail-safe because it is battery-powered, and therefore independent of both the electrical and communications infrastructure. Central Station customers of Honeywell Security and Custom Electronics provide consumers with the back-up

cellular radio service for a few dollars a month more than telephone-only service. This is a small price to pay for the peace of mind the solution provides.

"If your phone line is cut during an attempted burglary, the radio back-up goes to work instantly," says Honeywell Security and Custom Electronics Vice President of Marketing, Gordon Hope. "It also works fast. It takes only about five seconds to complete an end-to-end transmission."

Control Channel Cellular Radio transmissions travel a great distance at breakneck speed, Hope explains. The radio back-up activates the moment a break-in occurs. A cellular radio sends a message to a telephone tower, which relays it to Aeris over the SS7 network via the MicroBurst device. Aeris forwards the information to the routing agency, in this case Honeywell, which passes it on to the relevant security agency.

"That's the whole process in a nutshell," Hope says. "We partnered with Aeris because the patented MicroBurst technology takes advantage of the cellular network without consumers having to sign-up for cellular contracts in their area. That offers a tremendous advantage in a security application. Radio back-up offers countless applications beyond home security. Say for example, you get an electrical storm that takes out a power line. Once the alternating current goes down your telephone system fails, and you run the risk of looting. In such a situation radio backup will save the day. It works independent of the phone lines, and is actually faster. Should you get a spate of looting during a power outage a security system equipped with radio back-up will sound the alarm. It will stop a looter dead in his tracks."