

# Application Notes



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**CondoSecure by Mircom is the industry's *Premier* condominium security system.**

- **Proprietary Condominium Alarm System**

**CondoSecure** is a graphical alarm system that is usually installed at a main security location in a building and monitors and displays alarms located in the individual condominium units as well as from a multitude of common area alarm door and zones. Quick and precise alarm information is provided with on-screen displays of the suite which activated the alarm and the alarm type (Entry / Smoke / Panic etc.)

**CondoSecure** uses two main pieces of equipment, the **MCS-3200** main processor panel and the **MCS-2010** keypad. The **MCS-2010** is a full alarm system, just as you would find in many private homes and small businesses. Those systems are connected to remote monitoring services and relay to local police in response. However, many high-rise condominiums have their own on-site guard staff that could provide much faster local response to an alarm in a suite. The **CondoSecure** does just this, it provides a complete local alarm system. All apartment suites have an **MCS-2010** keypad for alarm control and are connected to the main security console in the building where the **CondoSecure** display PC is located. All alarms are attended to on site without the expense and time delay involved with using a commercial alarm monitoring agency, although Mircom's CondoSecure certainly allows all suites, or just individual ones, to opt for paying an extra fee for external monitoring to supplement on-site monitoring, using Mircom's optional software upgrade (contact Mircom for details and availability).

Recently, **CondoSecure** has been redesigned using the latest technology. The new **MCS-3200** main computer has the capability to change its on-screen menus to adapt to other languages, with upcoming software, placing the graphical user interface on an existing PC at a central security location.

The current **MCS-2010** keypad system is an important step for our future, as there is much renewed condominium construction activity and a greater than ever need for security. Other manufacturers are very wary of entering this market as there are many technical problems with implementing such a "distributed" security system in a residential environment. **CondoSecure** has been the leader in this for many years with a very reliable and proven system.

Compared to the very few alternative systems the **CondoSecure** is smaller, meaning reduced installation costs to a dealer, making the **CondoSecure** even more financially attractive. On a technical level, the **CondoSecure** uses 'pipeline' communication where one keypad unit talks to the next in a chain back to the central computer. If one keypad were to become defective the **CondoSecure** computer knows immediately the exact location because the chain is broken.

The few competitive systems available use multiplex communication, a party line type of connection, and a defective keypad unit can, and often does, 'grab the line' preventing all of the keypads from communicating with the central computer. There is no way to know where the malfunction is without a technician actually disconnection wires in a trail-and-error approach to locating the malfunction. This leads to increased service costs and longer system down time. Mircom's **CondoSecure** eliminates such problems completely.