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# Device Designed to Reduce False Alarms

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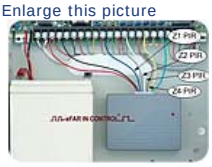

This false alarm reduction device hooks up to an alarm panel to intercept the signals from four PIR zones.

In the late 1990s, when the founder of E&E Electronic Engineering Research Inc., Randall Wang, realized that his southern California alarm company was faced with a serious and growing problem of false alarms, he reviewed thousands of accounts and discovered that approximately 75 percent of false alarms are caused by false trips from PIR motion detectors.

These in turn are caused by differential temperature sources, lightning, radio fre-quency (RF) energy, insects, air drafts and other sources. The main characteristic is that they happen only once within a reasonable period of time.

In contrast, a real break-in will cause more than one trip to occur, either as the burglar moves around in front of the same PIR or moves in front of two or more PIRs. This is a key differentiator between false and real alarms, he determined.

Another significant source of false alarms is lightning. A lightning strike in close proximity will simultaneously set off multiple PIRs, something a burglar is highly unlikely to do.

Wang, a medical doctor and electronics engineer, created the original eFAR (electronic false alarm reduction) module to connect to an alarm panel and intercept and interpret the PIR zones.

It looks for two trips on a single PIR or two trips on different PIRs before passing the signals through to the alarm panel. The false alarms therefore are blocked from reaching the alarm panel. The module also has an output that can be used to tag signals as verified to the monitoring station, thus eliminating the need for other forms of verification.

In 2003, a sister company to E&E called EE Systems Group Inc., Temple City, Calif., was formed by Wang and Jim Parker, a veteran in new product development. The first project for this company was to re-engineer and improve upon the original eFAR module.

The result is the eFAR100, which has all the features of its predecessor, plus many enhancements including lightning block. It works with any standard alarm control panel and all common loop supervision modes (i.e. EOL, DEOL and NC).

Typically only one wire per zone is required. No programming or jump-ers are needed. Two smart wires provide a variety of functionality such as a DV output that can be used to tag the alarm signal as “verified” to the monitoring station.

The device is based on patented digital verification control (DVC) technology. For more information, visit www.eefar.com or contact EE SGI at (888) 452-8988.

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