Integrating your Existing Security System

There may be an existing security system within the home, often features like auto-dialing a number, or with back to base monitoring. In these situations it is best to try and integrate the security system into Gateman. The methods of integration with the existing Security System described below, ensure integration with minimum effort and without compromising the operation of the existing security system in any way.

Integrating the Security Alarm Output into your Gateman Home Server

If you can integrate the Security Alarm Output status into your Gateman Home Server, then you can trigger notification via Text message (SMS), get the cameras to start recording automatically, turn on lights automatically and a variety of other actions may be taken as desired.

Digital input sensors are available in Gateman through the Device Automation hardware (e.g Input Control Module for UPB or Opto-isolated input module for CBus, etc.). They are even available through a camera input (e.g. Foscam FI8908, Axis207, etc.). Use these input sensors to get the status of your security system.

Within your Gateman Server Configuration

1. You will need to create a Security SMS Group, Security Email Group and Security Network Group as required within the ‘Timers & Groups’ tab, to be notified of the event. Details on how to perform this task are found in the Surveillance and Security Configuration Examples.

2. Configure the cameras to record on security alarm input; modify the expression to use the Camera ‘Input1’ or other input as the case may be.

3. You need to configure an Event trigger within the ‘Events’ Tab to notify you via SMS or eMail as desired. You do not need to configure anything within the ‘Security’ Tab.

Integrate the existing security system using one of the following options.

Option 1 – Connect to the Alarm Output Relay of the Security System

In the event that Gateman is to be placed within premises where there is an existing security system that is not to be disturbed, then take the spare ‘alarm output relay’ to an input sensor monitored by Gateman. If there is only one alarm output, then integrate a dual pole relay and feeding one set of contacts to the siren/strobe and the other to the desired input sensor monitored by your Gateman Home Server.

Note: This method does not allow Gateman to identify the zone of the alarm; it supports the ability to notify you, record and take a variety of other actions in the event of an alarm.
Option 2 – Integrating with a mimic panel

In the event that Gateman is to be placed within premises where there is an existing security system that is not to be disturbed, then the easiest way of integrating Gateman with the security system is to purchase an optional Mimic output for the security system if available. Many security systems provide the user the ability to have an additional separate console unit for display purposes. These units generally allow the user to drive multiple LED outputs that turn on for various purposes including:

- Armed
- Alarm
- A separate LED for each zone / input alert
- Other outputs may also be made available

Use these outputs as inputs to the Input devices connected with Gateman. Gateman may now be configured to automatically trigger additional alerts, start recording of cameras, and for taking other appropriate actions.

Arming Your Security System through your Gateman Home Server

In the event that Gateman must be used to Arm and Disarm the security system, then the Security System being interfaced with must provide a remote key-switch option. Use a digital output connected with the Gateman, and wire it to provide the relay contact for this remote key-switch. This will enable the system to be armed from Gateman. Digital outputs relay units are available to integrate with

Integration of Security System via Gateman Device Driver

We may also be able to write a driver to communicate with your security system and provide you with complete integration of your Security System within your Gateman Server. This requires you to provide us with the protocol and other documentation for the purpose of writing the driver as well as a loan unit of the security system for trials. Write to us at support@mygateman.org providing us with details of the protocol and we will investigate further.
Modifying Camera Configuration

The following screen-shot shows the ‘DoorCam’ set to record during ‘Motion + Office Hours + Cleaning Hours + Alarm’. In order to modify the camera to record when the Alarm is triggered by the External Security System we need to modify the recording method. To do this first select the camera by highlighting the row and then click on the ‘Control’ Button.

The screen similar to the one below is opened in which you can modify the ‘Alarm_Office’ node using the following steps.

1. Select the ‘Alarm_Office’ node on the Left Hand Side
2. Select the entry in the ‘Conditions’ box on the top centre.
3. In the Drop boxes below set the required condition depending on the input being used to interface with the security system alarm. This example assumes that it comes in through the Door Cam camera input 1.
   a. Under Device select ‘DoorCam’
   b. Under Parameter select ‘Camera Input 1’
   c. Under Logic select ‘Is’
   d. Under Value select ‘Triggered’
   e. Finally click the ‘Modify’ button and you will notice that the old condition that was highlighted has been replaced by the new one

That’s it; you are done; select ‘Close’ to go back to the ‘Cameras’ tab. You can follow this step for each of the cameras, ensuring that the correct input device is selected. Hence for ‘StreetCam’ you may still select the trigger device to be ‘DoorCam’ – ‘Input 1’ is ‘Triggered’.

*Note that when you modify the preset control method, the recording method in the main table under the Camera tab shows ‘Advanced’.*
Configuring Events

Events are used within the Gateman system to allow configuration of a set of triggers that can be used to notify the user in the online system. Following are the important characteristics of events:

- A trigger event can be configured using any number of conditions
- When the event occurs, the Gateman system can be configured to take a snapshot from one or more camera
- The Gateman system can notify the configured groups of persons when the event occurs

To configure the ‘Alarm’ from the Security system to send a Text message, first create the required Security groups for SMS, Email and Network (pop-up) messages and then create an Event trigger from within the ‘Events’ tab as follows.

1. Click the ‘New Event’ button
2. In the screen that pops up enter a name which describes this event e.g. SecurityAlert and then click OK
3. In the screen that opens do the following

   - Select the cameras that will attach snapshots at the time of the event to email messages sent
   - Select the SMS Groups which will be sent a Text message, the Network Groups that will get a pop-up message, and the Email groups that will receive an email
   - Finally click the ‘Next’ button

4. You can now set the Text message and email subject to be sent, and the ‘Trigger’ condition for this event as shown below
First enter the required message in the ‘Message’ field and then click the ‘Modify’ button

5. Next click on the ‘Set Message’ node with the right mouse button and select ‘New Condition’ from the pop-up menu and enter a name for the trigger e.g. SecurityAlarm

6. Now enter the required trigger condition and then click the Add button
In the example above we have selected:

- **Device = DoorCam** as the Camera input is being used to convey the Security Alarm status
- **Parameter = Camera Input 1** as we get the status via Camera Input 1
- **Logic = is**
- **Value = Triggered**
- Finally click the ‘Add’ button, then close the screen. Your new Event is added as shown below

This technique can be used to set any variations and additions as required.