

SPECIAL REPORT

Too many technical systems live life alone



It's 2010, and the opportunities for communication are greater than ever, yet a vast number of technological devices lead lonely lives despite the fact that they often have important roles to play in making our infrastructure work. Naturally they all ought to get connected so that we can monitor them and prevent damage and disruption. And now it's easier than ever.

Our society is becoming ever more crowded with technical equipment of every kind. Especially in the areas of ITS – Intelligent Transportation Systems – where advances in IT solutions for traffic and logistics creates new possibilities. But today, even the most basic functions in our society are equipped with technology that is crucial for the functions to perform properly, and when things do not work as they should there can be dire consequences. An example might be a flood caused by a sudden cloudburst where the pumps intended to remove the water fail due to a tripped circuit breaker. Monitoring via Infracontrol Online would prevent this.

Technical systems left unmonitored cause problems

Today the most basic functions in our society are equipped with technology that is crucial for the functions to perform properly, and when things do not work as they should there can be dire consequences.

Here are a few examples:

Flooding: *There's a heavy downpour, but the circuit breakers to the pumps that should remove the water from the viaduct have tripped.*

Comprehensive damage to buildings: *A service and maintenance call shows that a dehumidifier in a sensitive building structure has been stopped for months.*

Wasted energy: *A defective light sensor means that lighting at a large industrial site remains on around the clock.*

Installation owners such as the Swedish Transport Administration, the City of Gothenburg, the City of Malmö and a number of other municipalities have long relied on Infracontrol Online to monitor their installations and they continue to help installations bring an end to the loneliness in their lives. A large number of the Swedish Transport Administration's traffic lights in Borås got connected recently. And the City of Malmö's pumping stations soon will be.

Easier than you think!

Does taking control and safeguarding sensitive equipment operations sound interesting? Then we'll ask you three questions that might help you make life easier:

- *Do you or your operation have responsibility for any kind of installation that is not located in the immediate vicinity?*
- *Does this installation have technical components that are crucial for its function?*
- *Would it be useful if you could avoid trips to the equipment to check that all is in order?*

If the answer to these questions is **YES** then you really should continue reading and find out what you can do to help these installations avoid living life all alone out there.

1. Get a GSM-based alarm transmitter and a subscription. There are plenty on the market and they cost around SEK 3,000.
2. Insert the SIM card into the GSM alarm transmitter, hand it to an electrician who will travel to the site, connect it to the equipment's alarm outlets and switch on the power.
3. A call to Infracontrol will register the unit and carry out a function check.

Your installation is now connected to a complete web-based monitoring centre that both you and your operations staff have access to. The only things you need for this to be possible are an agreement and a log-in to our web-based monitoring and control service, Infracontrol Online.