SAFE AND SECURE

Technology Makes Powered Gates Safer

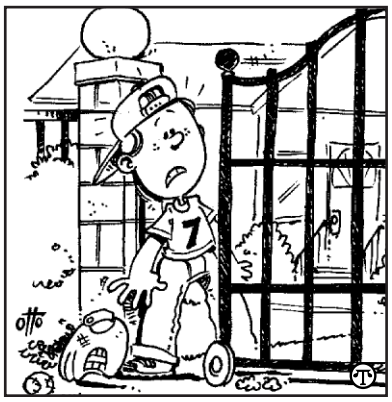
(TVA)— With increased awareness of the importance of security and safety, more and more powered security gates are being installed in a variety of locations. We now find powered gates and doors everywhere we go: airports, hospitals, schools—even where we live in high-rise apartments and gated communities.

Powered gates do create a safer and more secure environment. Unfortunately, they can also create some very dangerous and costly situations. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 2,000 people each year are treated in hospital emergency rooms for gate-related injuries. Many costly lawsuits and insurance claims arise due to gates that reversed only after hitting an automobile or person.

Now, a company in Florida has developed a way to reduce or eliminate this danger by detecting a person or object before contact occurs. The company, Invisa, has developed a technology that creates an invisible, non-contact safety and security field precisely where it is needed: moving with—and preceding—a gate arm or door to sense possible contact before it happens.

The technology, called InvisaShield™, also promises to be a safer, more reliable solution for perimeter protection and other security applications. On gates and doors, the InvisaShield technology can dramatically limit the damage and expense of gate strikes and costly strike-related accidents. Used in security applications, the technology is difficult, if not impossible, to circumvent.

Here's how it works: InvisaShield creates a "sensing" field of radio waves around an object or surface and detects any changes in the field that are caused by an interruption in the field from a conductive body (such as a person or metal object). Traditional non-contact sensors include light beams, ultrasonic sensors and ground loop detectors. None of these sensors travel with the hazardous edge of the device they are presumably there to protect, so they can leave exposed areas unprotected; areas where the sensors cannot detect the presence of a person or a vehicle, for example.



Invisible shield technology improves safety and security.

Other methods employ a contact edge. Contact edges work by touching or hitting a person or object. Only then do contact edges trigger a signal to stop movement of the powered gate or door. It is for this reason that contact edges may damage a vehicle or, even worse, cause personal injury. Unlike other approaches to sensing, InvisaShield surrounds an object with an invisible field. On a gate, this field travels with the leading edge and detects a person or object long before any contact occurs.

In a security-related application, a major East Coast museum now protects priceless valuables with InvisaShield. The U.S. Department of Defense has also recognized the value of this technology in potential applications for homeland security. To learn more about Invisa, call 800-863-9361 or visit www.invisa.com.