



Case Study: **New England Residence**

CO Detector Averts Potential Tragedy

Project:

Single-Family Home
New England

Multi-level residence
Fuel burning generator



CO1224T CO Detectors

Life-threatening carbon monoxide (CO) buildup can happen anywhere flame-fueled appliances or motors are used. A summer CO leak in a New England home demonstrated the universality of potential CO sources and the wisdom of including **CO detection** as part of the home's life safety system.

Because CO is odorless and tasteless, there is no way for residents to recognize its existence without CO detection. CO detection saves lives because it detects, in very early stages, when the highly toxic gas is present.

Although most incidents happen during cold months, dangerous CO buildup is not exclusively a seasonal problem. This was the

case in the summer of 2009, when one of Tasco Security's alarms went off in a customer's home. The customer lost power following a lightning storm and was using a backup generator. A few hours after losing power, the CO detector alarm sounded.

When the fire department arrived, its response team tracked the CO leak to the



generator, which had been installed next to the air conditioning unit. The air conditioning unit was drawing in the CO released from the generator and dispersing it into the home.

“This was an unusual case where the alarm sounded in the summer. Most times it happens in the winter when people place their generators in the garage or kitchen,” said Timothy Surprenant, President, Tasco Security, Inc. “In this situation, the homeowner was doing nothing wrong. The generator was installed improperly and that had a huge effect.”

Tasco Security, a professional alarm company in New England, has been providing a full range of security systems for both commercial and residential customers since 1968. When the company installs

In the residential security systems from Tasco Security, trained professionals install the CO1224T detectors on each level of the home and in sleeping areas. The detectors are then connected to the initiating circuit of the control panel that can send alerts to the central monitoring facility. When dangerous levels of CO are detected, the alarm alerts both the resident and the monitoring facility of a problem. The resident can evacuate while the monitoring facility contacts the necessary emergency response teams.

“We standardize to System Sensor mainly because the product gives a trouble signal at end-of-life. In the past, we have used systems that went to end-of-life, and then tripped the alarm, which is not a good situation,”

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state-of-the-art fire and security systems complete with CO detection, Tasco uses System Sensor CO1224T CO detectors with RealTest®.

The System Sensor CO1224T detector is a 4-wire, electro-chemical CO detector that works with both 12- and 24-volt fire and security panels and has central station monitoring capabilities. It is the first CO detector to include a test feature that verifies CO cell functionality.

These electrochemical detectors are the newest, most-refined CO detectors available. They take the most accurate readings of CO concentrations, from low levels of CO that may be hazardous over long periods of time to high concentrations that present immediate danger.

said Surprenant.

When it comes to CO protection, failure is not an option the award-winning System Sensor CO1224T and the new CO1224TR (round) CO Detectors provide RealTest — the first and only functional CO test fully compliant with NFPA 720: 2009. Only RealTest enables you to quickly verify that the CO detectors you install are actually protecting your customers. With a low current draw, the latest electrochemical sensing cell, and a six-year, end-of-life timer, the CO1224T and CO1224TR provide the most reliable protection available. And to upgrade old detectors to the CO1224T, the CO-PLATE CO Detector Replacement Plate mounts in seconds to perfectly cover the outline of the old detector for a clean, low-profile finish.



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