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Industry must prepare for BT's 21st Century Network

The British Security Industry Association is calling for the industry to gear up for the introduction of BT's 21st Century Network (21CN), which will upgrade the current BT network to an IP-based network over the next five years.

BSIA Technical and Membership Services Director, Alex Carmichael, comments: "For well over 30 years, the industry has been monitoring security systems over the telephone network without major problems, but the 21st Century Network is different and may have an impact on information transmission. The BSIA is evaluating what the various issues that will stem from 21CN are and is in discussion with BT to inform them of our concerns."

"Whether you are a user, an installer or an Alarm Receiving Centre, it is important that you understand what is going to happen and how the new network may affect you. There may be no consequences, but the BSIA is advising its members that if they use digicoms or communications devices, they need to confirm that they will continue to work once the migration to the new network has taken place."

"The BSIA is currently investigating what the changes mean for its members and will inform its membership as progress is made. Non-members should be contacting their representative body to keep them informed of how 21CN will impact on them."

Alex Carmichael
Technical Director
British Security Industry Association