

TROUBLESHOOTING CCTV SYSTEMS

In troubleshooting a malfunctioning CCTV system, it is easiest to have a spare camera or monitor. This allows for simple substitution and a quick determination of the malfunctioning unit. Most companies in the field keep a demonstrator system which also doubles as a spare for troubleshooting purposes.

If you do not have a spare camera or monitor, and you do not receive a picture on the monitor, the following checklist should be used to determine the source of the problem:

1. Check that AC power is being received by the camera and monitor. See that pilot lights are on or that the rear of the picture tube in the monitor shows evidence of power.

If no power is being received by one of the units check that:

- a) the unit is plugged in
- b) the on-off switch is in the on position
- c) the AC receptacle has power
- d) the fuse in the unit is not burned out

2. If power is present, but no picture is received, check to see that good connection exists between camera and monitor.

- a) See that connection to units is properly made and that connectors are fully inserted in socket and screwed on tightly.
- b) Check continuity of coaxial cable with an ohm meter. Also check for shorts. The braided shielding and the outside of the coaxial connector form a ground circuit. The center conductor carries the video signal.

3. If a good connection is present, check the monitor.

- a) Rotate the brightness knob of the monitor to see that a raster (illuminated screen) appears.
- b) Rotate horizontal and vertical controls to check for improper setting.
- c) If screen illuminates and monitor is properly set, trouble is probably in camera.