Devices communicate with each other via the mobile network

Being able to manage your SIM cards for machine-to-machine (M2M) applications yourself helps to save time and money. Swisscom now also offers a web-based platform for smaller companies that makes M2M SIM card management considerably easier. This is particularly attractive for managing M2M SIM cards for alarm systems, for example.

Increasing numbers of devices are able to communicate with each other thanks to M2M technology, and more and more M2M SIM cards are used. Whether large corporation or SME, Swisscom's Connectivity Management Platform (CMP) enables every company to manage their M2M SIM cards, which means activating and deactivating them, defining new locations and adjusting roaming options, thereby making cost-efficient use of M2M technology.

Redundant for greater security
In the past, alarm systems were connected to the alarm receiving centre via analogue telephone lines. With the switch to All IP that is currently taking place worldwide, including in Switzerland, alarm systems are also increasingly being connected to the All IP network. A redundant connection via the best[1] mobile network from Swisscom is recommended as an additional level of security and a second communication channel. This increases availability in comparison with previous analogue lines – and all that is needed is a modem fitted with an M2M SIM card.

Activating M2M SIM cards
Being able to manage M2M SIM cards directly within the company saves a great deal of time and money. Companies such as CDS AG from Weiningen (ZH), which specialises in security solutions and has over a thousand alarm systems in operation, are highly enthusiastic about Swisscom's CMP. According to CDS AG's managing director Roberto Panzera, managing M2M SIM cards is straightforward: "I was sceptical initially, but it works perfectly. Commissioning the platform together with Swisscom also went without

Redundant alarm and error message to alarm receiving centre via GSM

Transmission module

Alarm and error message to alarm receiving centre via IP (Internet)

Alarm system
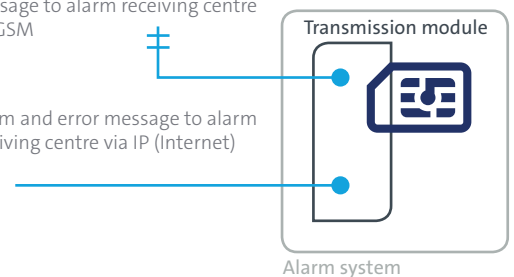
a hitch." CDS AG has a number of M2M SIM card blanks that are put into use directly via the CMP just before activation. CDS AG configures the cards itself, without having to rely on third parties and therefore completing the process more quickly and flexibly. No monthly fees for the cards are incurred before they are activated.

Managing M2M SIM cards
CDS AG manages its installed M2M SIM cards autonomously on the CMP, with access gained via a secure Internet connection. In just a few clicks, the platform provides a complete overview of card usage, diagnoses for troubleshooting and real-time updates in the case of unusual events or potential misuse. Moreover, a reporting tool visualises all activities involving the M2M SIM cards (usage, costs, etc.), ensuring that card misuse or errors immediately become visible. Thanks to Internet-based access, the cards can be managed from any location and device. When it comes to passing on costs to the customer, CDS AG concludes a separate M2M SIM card agreement for each customer with no change to the existing maintenance agreement for the installed systems.

1) For the seventh time in a row now, Swisscom's mobile network has come out top in a big test carried out by the independent trade magazine connect.

The alarm system is equipped with a new transmission module that ensures communication with IP and can establish a redundant communication channel via mobile technology.

Thanks to M2M SIM card blanks, CDS AG can configure its cards just before putting them into use, and Swisscom's CMP makes the cards easy to manage.

What are the benefits of Swisscom's CMP solution?
› Ready to use in no time
› Test kit with migration and integration tests for a successful start
› Professional self-management tool
› Static IP address for 100% bidirectional device connection
› M2M SIM card configuration and roaming profile for maximum availability
› Flexible pricing to meet individual company requirements

What does Swisscom's M2M competence centre have to offer?
› Support from kick-off to final roll-out
› 20 years of experience in M2M
› M2M ecosystem with a network of innovative partners
› Coverage of complete M2M value chain for rapid and reliable integration (module and terminal providers; engineering specialists for middleware, hardware and software; system integrators)

CDS AG für Sicherheit
CDS AG is one of the leading companies in Switzerland's security industry, both in the residential and business markets – and has been now for over 30 years. The company's innovative security solutions comprise both electronic and mechanical systems, and its customer base consists of several thousand customers from all over Switzerland. All of them enjoy comprehensive advice, reliable products, accurate and neat installation and prompt, round-the-clock service. **www.cds.ch**

Roberto Panzera,
Managing Director of CDS AG für Sicherheit

Communication between devices or machines with other devices via the Internet is rapidly becoming increasingly common. Experts refer to the "Internet of Things" (IoT), which is expected to have a great future. Devices come equipped with Internet connections and use the Web to communicate with each other. Where this is not possible, communication takes place directly via the Swisscom mobile network, with an interface that connects the device with the mobile network and hence with the Internet. These devices are fitted with a SIM card, just like mobile phones. This technology can be applied in a huge number of areas, including alarm systems, fault detection systems, lift telephones, control systems, etc.