

# ACCESS

The Centurion Systems Newsletter, Issue 35: November 2011

**CENTURION**  
THE AUTOMATIC CHOICE

www.centsys.co.za

25  
Years

## Welcome TO THE November 2011 Issue of the CENTURION Trade Newsletter

They say that when you're known by your first name only, then you've really made it. Like Brad, George, or even Angelina, there's no need to mention these Hollywood heartthrobs' last names. They own the real estate that is their name, their identity. Each of them is 'the real thing'.

This is the case with our legendary **D5!** Ask anyone what gate motor they have and you'll be hard pressed to hear anything other than 'a **D5**... Duh!' No more. No less. And a clear indication that this operator has earned its reputation as South Africa's favourite gate motor.

Considering the original **D5** was launched 15 years ago – how did it manage to dominate the market and make such a lasting impression? We like to think that the reason the **D5** was – and still is – so successful is because we did it right. We came up with a good, reliable operator that just worked very well. And South Africa loved it.

In the 15 years since its inception, the **D5** has grown from strength to strength. Some major changes in 2005 kept the **D5** up-to-date with changing times, technologies and consumer demands. But it wasn't enough. We kept asking ourselves: 'How can you make one of the most reliable and durable operators ever made even better?' Four years later, we found the answer. Taking what we learned from the **D10**, 2009 saw the evolution of the **D5** into the faster, smarter, easier-to-use and even better looking **D5-Evo** that we know today. Besides running 15% faster, one of the things that really sets the **D5-Evo** apart from its predecessor is its LCD display.

Taking a step into the digital age, an intuitive menu lets you set acceleration or deceleration of the gate, set up any feature or simply perform diagnostics – all at the touch of a button. The **D5-Evo** also features ultra-secure Keeloq™ rolling code encryption and can memorise up to 500 remote control buttons, which you can add or delete via the handy LCD screen. And the innovation doesn't stop there.

Not only is the **D5-Evo** easier to use, but it takes care of your home security too. Because crime is such an issue in South Africa, and in fact many countries throughout the world, the **D5-Evo** incorporates a couple of security world firsts: **Intruder Detection Alarms** and **ChronoGuard**. When your gate isn't running, your infrared safety beams become Intruder Detection Alarms – setting off an alarm or alerting your security company if someone has obstructed your gate beams or is loitering near your gate. Our **ChronoGuard** timer also works hard to make sure that crime doesn't pay – allowing you to set up timers to turn your pillar lights on or off automatically and bar access to your residence or business at certain times so staff can only enter the premises during working hours.

Over the years, we've tried, tested and perfected everything about the **D5-Evo** – but it's time to take one more bold step. Just like powerhouse brands Apple and AEG/Electrolux, **CENTURION** has looked to China for all the cost, quality control, raw material availability and global delivery benefits that this offshore environment provides us.

For many years now, we have been sourcing components directly from overseas suppliers – but it's still not enough. In order to remain competitive in the ever-growing gate motor industry, we need our entire product line to be made abroad – and we believe our partner SUPERLIFT, who have manufactured our **XTrac** garage door operator for the past few years, will deliver the **D5-Evo** at the same quality and price customers expect from **CENTURION**.

We have designed a completely new, purpose-built assembly line in our Johannesburg production facility and shipped it off to China, together with **CENTURION** engineers and production crew.

Our engineers have been hard at work assembling and commissioning the production line, training the local Chinese production crew and fine-tuning the line before it goes live.

There is no doubt that the quality of the product coming directly from SUPERLIFT will not only match, but may even exceed the quality of our locally produced **D5-Evo**.

We will continue to maintain a strong production capability locally, manufacturing all our other products in our Northriding, Johannesburg facility and remain very much a proud South African manufacturer of gate and access automation equipment.

And, with production lines in both South Africa and China, should something unforeseen happen, we will always be able to supply quality products with no down-time – making sure that **CENTURION** is always **The Automatic Choice**.

We will soon be receiving our first shipment of **D5-Evo** operators from our counterparts across the water and we look forward to bringing these to you!





# Interesting Installations

Installed on a small private reserve on an eco estate halfway between Lydenburg and Burgersfort, we are pleased to report that two **D5-Evos** have been used in quite an amazing setup!

As the main entrance to the estate is quite a distance away from any power source, the local installer, Xmet, completed the installation using a solar panel system to control everything from the **D5-Evos**, a B1000 intercom, to the electric fence and the perimeter beams, all of which are connected back to the large black box seen to the right of the entrance.

The clever design of the housing caters for the solar panels on the top of the unit and also houses all the electronics such as the power converters, fence energizers and batteries being charged by the solar panels. As can be seen, the unit also has a floating top and wall top fence surrounding, to prevent theft or tampering of the expensive equipment inside.

To enhance security, a **CENTURION G-SWITCH-22** has been wired into the system to transmit SMS signals to warn the owners of fence and perimeter beam activation or alarms.

*Wow, what a site!*







# Featured Distributor

## Ndlovu Fencing

**Ndlovu Fencing**, trading as **STAFIX ELECTRIC FENCE AND SECURITY CENTRES**, is the South African distributor of the International **STAFIX** and **JVA** ranges of electric fence energizers.

They are a South African-owned company with a choice of quality imported locally manufactured products that meet all the electric fencing and automation needs of the agricultural, wildlife domestic and perimeter security markets.

**Centurion Systems** would like to congratulate **Ndlovu Fencing** on winning yet another First Place Gold prize at this year's Royal Show.

We thank them for allowing us to be part of their outstanding and innovative stand! 2011 saw The Royal Agricultural Society celebrate its 160th anniversary in

Pietermaritzburg from the 27th May to 5th June 2011.

**Stafix Electric Fencing** in conjunction with **Centurion Systems** entered into the spirit of KwaZulu Natal's premier show by putting together a truly awesome display which resulted in **Stafix** winning the Royal Agricultural Society's Industrial Floating Trophy for the Best Exhibit in an Outside Building. This prestigious award is based on scoring and judging standards set by the **Commonwealth Society of Royal Shows** of which **Princess Anne** is the patron!

**Stafix** has been a loyal supporter of the Royal Show for the last 16 years with **Maurice Williamson**, CEO of **Stafix**, exhibiting for the 40th consecutive year. The Royal Show's 160th anniversary was certainly a fitting climax to so many years



of 'showing off'!  
It just shows what can be done when two companies work in harmony with each other!

# Featured Installer

## Bar One Security

Established in 1985 and founded by **Barry Prangley** and supported by his wife **Jeannette**, **Bar One Security** quickly became a successful company. His two sons, **Craig** and **Wayne** joined the team in 1992 and together with **Andrew**, they have taken the company to new heights in very difficult times.



Their factory is situated in Strijdom Park, Randburg, and they boast very impressive premises. Their well-equipped showroom allows staff to demonstrate to potential clients how well **CENTURION** products perform.

Needless to say,  
**Bar One** has a proven track record of converting many prospective clients into long-term happy customers!

**BAR-ONE SECURITY (Pty) Ltd**  
(Established 1985)



Proof of their professional workmanship is seen in the photos in this article.

**Bar One** management takes a 'hands on' approach to all work undertaken, in giving personal attention to final signoff of all new installations, ensuring that the high standards of **Bar One** are maintained and not left up to the client to point out any substandard work.



## TYPICAL DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGES FOUND ON THE D-SERIES CONTROLLERS\*

4 TECHNICAL TIPS

### S Symptom

**GATE STALLED**  
The 'Gate Stalled' error message will appear whenever the motor is physically unable to move the gate along the track, and is indicated by the onboard buzzer sounding four beeps periodically for ten seconds.



### ? Possible causes

- A possible cause might be an obstruction hindering the gate's travel (a collision), a motor that has not been engaged, or even a DOSS that has been dislodged from its holder (underneath the power supply on the D10, or just above the manual release thumbwheel on the D5-Evo)
- Check your track for any dirt or other obstructions on the track

### ✓ Solutions

- Check your track for any dirt or other obstructions on the track
- Check that guide-rollers are not too tight
- Check that the wheels aren't seized
- Check that the rack isn't pressing down on the pinion
- NOTE: If the cause of the fault is a multiple collision condition, the alarm will be periodic until the obstruction is cleared

### S Symptom

**FUSE BLOWN OR DRIVE FAULT**  
As with the 'Motor Disconnected' condition, the buzzer will emit five beeps for a period of 30 seconds.



### ? Possible cause

- This message usually points towards a blown motor fuse. This is the 30A automotive fuse found on the side of the controller

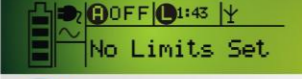
### ✓ Solution

- Make sure that the fuse is not blown both by visual inspection and a continuity test. The diagnostic screen will show an 'X' in the fuse cell if the fuse is blown or removed



### S Symptom

**NO LIMITS SET**  
Five beeps, sounding periodically for 30 seconds, will signal this fault condition.



### ? Possible cause

- This error message indicates that the end-of-travel Limits for the operator in question have not been set. The operator will not run at all until limits have been successfully set, and the onboard buzzer will emit three short beeps for five seconds

### ✓ Solution

- Refer to your manual for assistance in setting up Gate Limits

### S Symptom

**AUX OVERLOAD**



### ? Possible causes

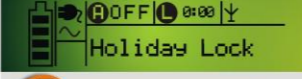
- This message is displayed for one of two reasons:
  - The auxiliary 12V supply is being overloaded
  - The battery voltage is far higher than it should be

### ✓ Solutions

- Check to see if the auxiliary has any peripherals connected to it that could potentially cause a problem. Consider disconnecting all the peripherals and see if the problem goes away. One may have to test this over a day or two if the problem is intermittent
- Test the battery voltage – it should be no higher than 13.8V DC with the mains disconnected

### S Symptom

**HOLIDAY LOCKOUT (or Lck waiting to close)**  
This is not so much an error message, but simply a preset condition.



### ? Possible cause

- Sometimes the Lck input is activated by accident, and the circuit needs to be completed before the gate will operate again

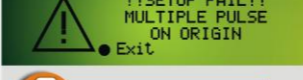
### ✓ Solutions

- There are basically three methods of remedying this condition:
  - Firstly, if Lck has been activated by a transmitter, any transmitter with this function programmed to it needs to be pressed in order to take it out of the holiday lockout.
  - Secondly, a bridge piece can be wired in between Lck/Stp and Com and then permanently left there
  - Lastly, a Factory Default can be performed by accessing the General Settings>Reset Options Menu and selecting Factory Defaults. In this state, one beep will sound periodically for 30 seconds



### S Symptom

**SETUP FAIL! MULTIPLE PULSES ON ORIGIN**  
This is another error message related to the setup of the motor



### ? Possible cause

- It literally means that the pickup is receiving more than one magnetic pulse from the origin magnet

### ✓ Solutions

- An important check to perform here is to look at the orientation of the motor wires
- On the D-Series controllers, these wires should face away from the controller so as not to cause induction around the sensor
- Also make sure that there are no metal bars or anything that could have possibly become magnetized on the rack
- If both the aforementioned tests are negative, the pickup could possibly be faulty

### S Symptom

**IRB-O/C SAF FAIL**  
This is an error message pertaining to the operation of the infrared safety beams.



### ? Possible cause

- This condition usually occurs due to the incorrect operating standard being selected, for e.g. CE or UL325

### ✓ Solution

- In South Africa, the operating standard should always be set to ZA. These settings are found under the General Settings menu. A beam failure is indicated by the onboard buzzer emitting five beeps periodically for 30 seconds

5 TECHNICAL TIPS

### S Symptom

**WAITING FOR CO-PROCESSOR (wait one minute or reset all power)**



### ? Possible causes

- This error message is normally related to a power problem, i.e.
  - A flat battery
  - A faulty battery
  - Disconnected battery

### ✓ Solutions

- One should always check for any build-up or oxidation around the battery terminals, particularly the negative terminal. In this state, one beep will sound periodically for 30 seconds
- A load test is often necessary to establish whether a battery is truly flat, as simply testing a battery under static conditions might not give you an accurate reading
- Connect the motor wires straight onto the battery terminals and engage the motor, the gate should now start moving. Now, with your meter set to DC volts, measure the voltage across the terminals while the gate is in motion. The voltage should never drop below 11V DC under load
- If the load voltage tests fine, a faulty controller is the most likely culprit. In either event, the onboard buzzer will emit three beeps periodically for 30 seconds

### S Symptom

**SETUP FAIL! NO ENDSTOPS FOUND**  
As with the 'Motor Disconnected' condition, the buzzer will emit five beeps for a period of 30 seconds.



### ? Possible cause

- This error message will commonly occur during setup, and is the result of no mechanical stops being fitted. These endstops are very important as they induce the current spike that will signal your motor to stop

### ✓ Solution

- If you have installed physical endstops, make sure that they are secure and do not move

### S Symptom

**DRIVE FAULT**  
There is a solid-state H-bridge drive on the D-series controllers which basically consists of a series of FETs (Field Effect Transistors). Since this is a hardware fault the standard diagnostic alarm, i.e. five beeps for a period of 30 seconds, will apply.



### ? Possible cause

- Should one of the FETs at any time become open- or short-circuited, the 'Drive Fault' message will be displayed

### ✓ Solution

- The diagnostic screen (found by scrolling upwards from the standard operating screen) will normally give a clear indication of which part of the H-bridge is problematic. A faulty H-bridge requires a visit to your local CENTURION agent, where a qualified technician will inspect and repair the damaged components

### S Symptom

**BEAMS ACTIVE**  
This is a function that checks the operation of the beams before attempting to open or close the gate.



### ? Possible causes

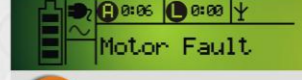
- Faulty, interrupted or misaligned infrared beams
- The beam inputs could have been inadvertently activated

### ✓ Solutions

- The first logical check would be that your beams (if you have them installed) are in fact functioning properly
- Make sure that both the Safety Open and Safety Close LEDs are illuminated on the controller. If one or both of them are off, you can either bridge them to Com or perform a Reset All (found under the General Settings>Reset Options Menu)
- Also ensure that the Beam Test, found under the IR Beams menu, is toggled to Off

### S Symptom

**MOTOR FAULT**  
Five beeps, sounding periodically for 30 seconds, will signal this fault condition.



### ? Possible causes

- The motor wires are disconnected or are not making proper contact
- The motor commutator is inactive

### ✓ Solution

- The diagnostic screen will show an 'X' in the motor cell if the motor is faulty or disconnected. If you are sure that the motor wires are connected and making good contact, try connecting them straight onto the battery. If the motor runs, the commutator is still in working order and the problem could be elsewhere

### S Symptom

**DOSS Fault**  
The 'DOSS Fault' error message will appear on the LCD screen.



### ? Possible causes

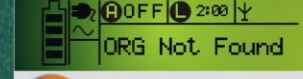
- Whenever the 'DOSS Fault' message is encountered, it is a clear indication that the DOSS unit is either dislodged from its holder, disconnected on either the DOSS or controller side, or that the DOSS is faulty

### ✓ Solutions

- Make sure that the DOSS is securely clipped into place and not hanging loose and that the little white termination points are properly plugged in
- Ensure that there is no oil, dirt or residue on the DOSS
- There is also an easy way to test the DOSS: Simply take your multi-meter and place the terminals between the black and purple wires of the DOSS harness. Select DC Volts on your meter. Now pass an item – preferably a metallic one such as a screwdriver - through the DOSS. The voltage should alternate between +0V DC and +4.5V DC whenever an object passes through the photo transistor. The onboard buzzer will emit five beeps periodically for 30 seconds to indicate this fault

### S Symptom

**NO ORIGIN FOUND**  
In this scenario, the magnetic pickup (normally blue or black in colour) has not received a valid pulse from the origin magnet mounted on the gate's rack. It is important to remember that the origin magnet is what tells the motor how close it is to an endstop, and therefore is of the utmost importance.



### ? Possible causes

- The magnet and sensor are too far apart
- The magnetic pickup is defective and needs to be replaced
- The wiring harness that links the pickup to the controller is faulty

### ✓ Solutions

- Ensure that the distance between the magnet and the pickup, when they are directly opposite one another, is no greater than 10mm. Ideally, it should be about 5mm to 7mm apart and you should hear an audible 'click' when they pass each other
- You can also test the operation of the pickup in a similar fashion to the DOSS. With your meter on DC voltage, test the voltage between the black (COM) and orange wires of the harness.
- The voltage should alternate between +0V DC and +4.5V DC whenever the magnet passes the sensor. If you are not getting these approximate readings, the pickup could be faulty.
- Ensure that the harness connectors are making good contact and that the wires are continuous, or replace the harness
- NOTE: On the D5-Evo, the blue magnetic pickup should be used at all times.

\*Applicable to the D5-Evo, D10 and D10 Turbo





## Branch News

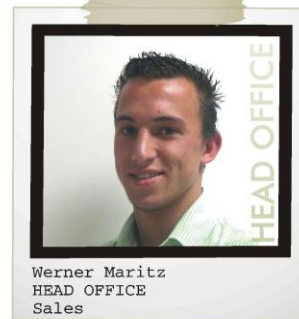
Our Cape Town branch would like to welcome Ronnie Thomson of Roan Security to Cape Town. Ronnie opened a re-seller shop in the southern suburbs of Cape Town and focuses mainly on our CENTURION brand of products.

Herman of Overberg Lighting was the host for a CENTURION open day on the 7th of October. He showed great interest in the all new D2 Turbo operator and it was welcomed enthusiastically by the people in his area. They were also very keen on the G-SWITCH-22, for use in the control of farm appliances and to monitor electric fencing.



## New Staff

# Welcome!







# Exports and Training

CENTURION recently visited Zimbabwe to conduct business and do training at Security Distributors in Harare.

In recent months, CENTURION's Export Department has organized product training in some of the African countries. These included Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

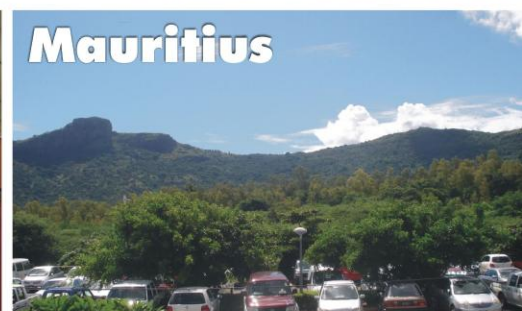
The introduction of new products such as the D5-Evo and D2 Turbo and an increase in sales in these regions necessitated training our distributors and installers.

We also participated in exhibitions such as IFSEC in the UK and Salon De La Maison in Mauritius. In the near future, we hope to conduct similar training programs in Botswana and Namibia. In addition, we also intend to participate in IFSEC, India and Intersec, Dubai.

New distributors have been appointed in Mozambique and Singapore and new clients added in Angola, Canada, Kuwait and Qatar.



Zimbabwe



Mauritius



# ACCESS

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**IFSEC SOUTH AFRICA**

6-8 September 2011 | Gallagher Convention Centre | Johannesburg  
AFRICA'S PREMIER COMMERCIAL SECURITY,  
HOMELAND SECURITY & FIRE EXHIBITION

## New CENTURION products featured at IFSEC this year

At this year's IFSEC SA security expo held at the Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, CENTURION showcased a host of new and undeniably exciting products. Installers spoke, and we listened, with the completely wireless SMARTGUARDair creating quite a stir.

Not only is installing the keypad as easy as inserting two penlight batteries, but it also offers fifteen channels that can be paired to all CENTURION rolling code receivers. This alone would be enough to put CENTURION leaps and bounds ahead of the competition, but add to that the fact that installers can expect up to two years of battery life with up to 300 uses per day, and you've got a product that is destined to be a bestseller.

Another major attraction was our very own **CLAWS**. Criminals will have a very tough time getting past these mechanized warriors. With a strict diet of vulcanised rubber and availability in four different configurations to suit almost any site requirement, **CLAWS** is a welcome addition to the CENTURION family.

The **TRAPEX** barrier fence fills a gap in the security industry, that of pedestrian access control, and as such looked very much at home adorning the **SECTOR** at IFSEC. In addition to all the other eye-candy on display at the show, the **TRAPEX's** sleek and intelligent design was an out-and-out showstopper.

The real star of the show, however, seemed to be the aptly titled **D10 Turbo**. With a top speed of **50m/minute**, it is no wonder that it garnered so much positive attention. Hardly a moment passed that there was not a herd of people huddled around the turbo-charged demo gate, marvelling at the sheer velocity at which it moved. Curiosity having gotten the better of them, even the opposition visited our stand and looked on in awe.

All in all, the many hours that the dedicated **CENTURION** team put in to making our stand an absolute triumph, paid off with a score of leads scanned and much new business generated.

*Well done Team!*

### Did you know ...

**1** That it is illegal to sing "Happy Birthday to You" in public (this is due to a copyright issue)

**2** In many states in North America, from Florida to New York to California, it is illegal to own permanent markers

**3** Most cats are lactose intolerant and should not be given milk to drink beyond the kitten age

**4** Most cats love water and are fascinated by the motion and sound it makes

**5** Lobsters have no vocal chords or pain receptors. The "scream" that is often heard when they are put into boiling water while still alive, is air escaping from their shells

**6** In the game of Chess, the word "checkmate" comes from the Persian phrase "shah mat" and means "the king is dead"

Article Source: [www.cracked.com/www.livense.com](http://www.cracked.com/www.livense.com)



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