

Environmental Monitoring of Computer Rooms at UCAR – 1/3/07

Technology advancements in environmental monitors have prompted the support groups, Networking and Telecommunications Sections (NETS), Physical Plant Services (PPS) and Security and Site Services (SaSS), to re-evaluate the use of telephone response devices (Sensaphones) at UCAR. New environmental monitoring devices are available that:

- handle more types of equipment
- provide a variety of notification styles
- log trend data

As of November 1st 2007, we will no longer support the use of Sensaphones.

Any new user would be required to use one of the new devices, as described in sections II and III below. The users of the old Sensaphone units have these options:

I. Keep the Sensaphone after the sunset date for internal monitoring

- The division/lab/program accepts full responsibility for the existing unit
- Notification goes directly to division personnel
 - Security will no longer accept calls from Sensaphones and will not provide any notification services
- Unit verification will be by division/lab/program personnel – periodic calls to check operation, batteries, and that the unit is not in “standby” mode
- Phone line problems should be reported to NETS via the [work request system](#)

II. Purchase one of the recommended replacement monitors

We have tested and installed a product provided by IT Watchdogs (<http://www.itwatchdogs.com/products.shtml>) and recommend this line as the replacement for Sensaphones. IT Watchdogs has several models available, all of which offer the following features:

- Stand alone unit
- Internal sensors including temperature, humidity, air flow, light level, and sound level
- Additional sensors available. Unit can monitor 16 remote sensors.
- Internal web server that graphs sensor readings. When alerts received, a history is available to note spikes or trends. These logs are downloadable to Excel as well.
- Multiple notification protocols: SMTP/POP (email), SNMP, PDA display format, WAP (cell phone display), Pager (email to pager proxy)

Models currently available with these features: MiniGoose1, MiniGoose2, WeatherGoose, SuperGoose (online demo available at site listed above)

Advantages of choosing this option include:

- Internal assistance available for initial setup
- Documentation is already available for PPS and SaSS personnel (what to do)
- Tested

III. Purchase another device that provides similar notification

The division/lab/program can choose to research and install a product of its own choosing. The unit must provide the following:

- Email notification, which must clearly state: Unit location and Threshold exceeded
- Unit must provide read only access for PPS and SaSS personnel (userID/password provided by PPS) via the web. Access will be used to check status and configurations.
- The division/lab/program shall provide documentation for the device and instructions for PPS and SaSS