

Crescent installs blink-of-the-eye security system

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Once reserved for spy movies and sci-fi flicks, futuristic security systems are now catching the public's eye.

Mark S. Mehlman Realty is bringing such a security system to The Crescent, Clayton's \$72 million, high-end condo project. Tenants of the planned Crescent will gain access to the complex by staring into the forefront of iris scanner security systems.

"We want to make this a very secure and state-of-the-art building," said Joshua Corson, Mehlman Realty principal.

Installed outside entryways, iris scanners are a no-touch entry system, a plus Doug Collinger said appeals to residential developers. Residents are able to have a door open with a blink of the eye and aren't fumbling for keys.

Collinger is owner of Admiral Technologies LLC, which provides security products such as entry-access and network-authentication platforms to protect personal information. This is the firm's first year of operational sales, with a focus on St. Louis and Chicago.

A person's iris pattern is not altered, even after Lasik or radial keratotomy surgery. Therefore, once an iris pattern is stored in the system it will not have to be re-entered.

Eyeglass and contact users are not required to remove eyewear, and Collinger said there is no eye



Doug Collinger said the iris scanning technology provides tenants with a secure keyless entry system.

irritation with the system. The scanner works in 1.5 seconds from 12 inches to 15 inches away. The

system's audible commands tell users where to stand and assist the blind to find their way. The unit is capable of being angled for different heights.

Similar to fingerprints, iris prints are unique to the individual and are nontransferable. In addition to the main building entrance, individual residents can opt to install the device outside their units for around \$4,500 and monitor who is granted access. Guests can be added and deleted from the system, without the hassle of recovering a key or keycard. Homeowners will be able to admit the plumber, cable technician or other workers by storing their iris prints, Collinger said.

Corson finds the process cost effective and more secure. Because of the need to resend passwords or replace keycards, Collinger said labor costs and service calls under other systems can range between \$51 and \$147.

A single iris scanner is connected to a computer server that can open 253 doors and store 1,000 iris patterns. The system is ideal for The Crescent, Corson said, because it will allow residential and retail spaces to be separated. The 72-unit residence, slated to begin construction in 2006, is designed as a mixed-use facility. Corson said there are 28,000 square feet reserved on the ground floor for high-end retail.

The residential units, ranging in size from 2,200 square feet to more than 5,000 square feet, cost between \$850,000 and \$1.5 million.

Two years away from its first resident moving in, The Crescent has already reserved 50 percent

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