Photo: STANLEY Healthcare

Wandering management

Snapshot

Pricing based on number of people to protect: The technology used, degree of interoperability and terms of a service agreement can produce wide variances. Investigate thoroughly in order to bring suitable comparisons.
Average price: All projects are customized. The number of doors and sizes of areas to be monitored vary from job to job. Equipping doors for detection can vary from about $1,000 to $5,000. Inquire about all options.

Typical delivery time: Installation is the big variable here; about a week for material.

Typical delivery charges:
Included in purchase agreements

Average life span of product:
Around 12 years. Technology advances will likely spur changeouts sooner, however.

Power sources:
Battery, electric

Installation: Take the vendor's advice as to its installers or recommended professionals

Average maintenance costs per year:
Transmitter replacements are $200 or more when needed; batteries; frequent software updates, which might not be covered already.

Buyers Notes

• Try to get the most technically advanced system you can afford. New technology could quickly eclipse today's best, so you want to be flexible to adapt, or at least not be too far behind the curve since you won't want to be buying something new every year.

• Investigate your area's needs regarding Wi-Fi and RFID.

• Units now can identify who, besides the resident, is in a space, which can come in handy when safety is an elevated concern.

"Sliding doors should stay closed for 15 seconds. We're finding not all keep closed for 15, so we're testing all candidates. It needs to do what it should."

— Amber Anderson, CFO, Carolina VIllage, Hendersonville, NC

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Sources: *Ciscor, Direct Supply, Sensara, Skynet Healthcare Technologies, STANLEY Healthcare Solutions, Symtech*