List of some key features for the Crow Power wave-16 Control Panel. 9-2-2001
Features other panels either don't have or at least not all of them together:

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1) Multi-tasking keypad buss:

The panel can support up to 8 keypads and multiple radio receiver cards on the keypad buss. The buss is multi-tasking in that users can be simultaneously entering in codes at different keypads with no interaction at all. While this is happening, inputs from the radio card/s can also be received. Each keypad is separately addressed and as such can be customised to provide different button options, display options and audible options.

2) Microprocessor buss control:

The keypad buss is under the control of the microprocessor. Should any of the devices connected to the keypad buss stop communicating with the panel, the panel can power the buss down for 2 seconds resetting all devices connected to the buss.

3) Multiple reporting options:

The panel has up to 6 user programmable telephone numbers and 4 scenarios.
A scenario is a dialling string telling the panel which telephone number/s to dial when acquired. This unique feature can allow each partition to report to a separate monitoring company if required. Another example of how flexible this option can be is partition "A" could report to a monitoring company, partition "B" could report to a pager and partition "C" could use the voice dialler for reporting. Alternatively, the panel may be monitored by a monitoring company but some plant alarms which require immediate action by an engineer could be sent to a pager or use the voice board.

4) Optional voice board:

The optional voice Module board allows the installer or the alarm owner to put in unique voice messages, customised to the individual requirements, (No canned messages like other more expensive systems). If the owner wants they can even program the speech messages to be in their native language. The voice Module board allows for up to 90 seconds of speech to be recorded. The messages can include up to 8 monitoring messages and up to 22 remote control messages. The remote control messages can be used to give the status of the set/unset (Arm/Disarm) of each partition and a message for each of the outputs. The remotely controllable outputs (by telephone) are associated with the "Remote Control Messages" that require the 4 digit DTMF codes each (from the Telephone Keypad) to control set/unset (Arm/Disarm) and the outputs from anywhere in the world.

5) Optional PA board:

The new PA board which will be available in about 3 weeks time will consist of a 90 second voice unit with a 10 Watt audio amplifier which is designed to drive a 10 Watt 8 Ohm speaker. The PA connects to the keypad buss. Up to 50 messages can be recorded into the PA board (obviously not very long messages if all were to be used) and these messages can then be assigned to a function eg: set/unset (Arm/Disarm), monitor mode (Partial) on/off, alarms by zone or outputs on/off. When a trigger occurs which has been assigned a voice message at the PA board, the message will play through the connected horn speaker. There are 2 volume levels for the messages, high and medium. Status messages such as set/unset (Arm/Disarm) or output on/off can be played at medium volume while alarm messages can be played at full volume. Messages can also be set to single play (in the case of a status message "The Alarm Is Now Set") or may be repeating (in the case of an alarm message " You Have Violated A Protected Area, The Police Were Called, Leave These Premises Immediately!!!" or "Fire Alarm, Please Evacuate The Building"). Repeating messages will continue until the alarm condition is reset by a valid user code. Finally, repeating messages may also include the voice message followed by 5 seconds of siren tone then the message again, repeating until reset.

6) Dynamic Battery Check:

The panel performs a dynamic battery check every 5 seconds and does not have to remove AC power like some less sophisticated systems to check the battery. This ensures that the battery is always ready to act as a standby, yet through superior engineering, the test does not lower the life expectancy of the battery.

7) Wireless Operation:

The optional radio board is connected to the keypad buss and as such does not have to be fitted at the control panel, it can be fitted close to the radio equipment it is expecting to receive signals from. Also, multiple radio receivers can be fitted to each Power Wave system, allowing full coverage of a larger site (The radio boards are relatively inexpensive as well, making this feasible).

8) Upload / Download:

For up/down load purposes, the panel supports BELL103 and V21 modem formats making it more modem friendly.

9) Control function:

The CONTROL feature allows access control through a door or one per partition. The control feature provides for full door monitoring with "Request To Exit" inputs and door forced or door open too long timers.

10) 24 Hour abort timer:

24 hour zones can be instant or have an abort delay (a separate timer for every zone). The entry delay for each zone can be used as an abort delay when the zone is 24hr. This feature is useful for monitoring perimeter doors which can be opened for a short period (eg: 15 seconds) with no alarm but if left open longer, then an alarm will sound.

11) Optional serial board:

The on board "Serial Port" (when connected with cable) can allow the 63 time & date stamped event buffer stored in the panel to be sent to a standard serial printer. Alternatively the "Direct Connect" serial board can be used as a direct connect up/down load via a laptop or PC.

12) EEProm board (Programming Key):

The optional EEProm board allows the installer to locally download a panel setup via an inexpensive EEProm board. This means that time and effort is saved when programming Multiple Power Wave Panels with "Standard" programming options. This feature may also be used to increase the installers productivity, by sending a less skilled employee (or a trainee) to perform or implement system changes, while the installer may work on a more demanding task that requires his skills.

13) 8 Script Programmable Outputs:

The panel is fitted with 8 alarm outputs as standard, 2 x high current and 1 x Medium current (500mA), 5 x 100mA outputs. (Most alarm panels only have 2 or 3 outputs). This gives greater flexibility to the installer as internal and external sounders can be driven separately or interfacing to lights, garage doors, etc. can be accommodated within the standard panel installation. The panel can also accommodate either the 2 relay output module or the 8 open collector (High Current) output module.

We have summarised some features that we feel are either unique to the Power Wave-16 or only available in much more expensive panels from our competitors.