

Safety in the valley with Axis.

The Val Cavallina Community safeguards residents against vandalism and criminal activity, improves municipal traffic and protects property.



Organization:
Val Cavallina Mountain
Community

Location:
Lombardy, Italy

Industry segment:
City surveillance

Application:
Video surveillance of
9 towns in Lombardy

Axis partners:
Allied Telesis, Milestone

Mission

Val Cavallina, Italy, renowned for its natural heritage, art, sports and traditions, extends along the valley of the river Cherio in the province of Bergamo, in the Bergamasque Alps. In historical terms, the first human settlements date from the Paleolithic and Neolithic Eras, as evidenced by archeological findings and the many grave sites discovered. Today, the 16 towns in the valley form the Comunità Montana della Val Cavallina or Val Cavallina Mountain Community.

In view of the ever growing demand for security in contemporary society, 9 of the towns (Berzo San Fermo, Bianzano, Casazza, Grone, Gaverina, Endinegajono, Ranzanico, Spinone al Lago and Vigano San Martino) decided to equip themselves with a video surveillance system to fight petty crime, control areas difficult to monitor, protect local property and control municipal discharges.

Solution

The Val Cavallina Community managed the project in an innovative way, dividing tasks and managing technical responsibilities and skills. In full compliance with the administrative procedures, the Community prepared an execution plan, then held a public tender for the procurement and installation of the equipment required by the plan. These procedures allowed the Community to conduct a very precise analysis of its needs and goals. This was entrusted to the planner and implemented in close collaboration with the municipal administrations and local police.

Result

The drawing-up of a highly detailed plan placed the emphasis on a technical solution, while the selection of a full IP-based solution assured technical and economic benefits for users, particularly the flexibility and performance of the infrastructure.

"We're satisfied with the efficient way this plan was developed and the effectiveness of the technical solution we adopted. We've already seen the first benefits, because the video surveillance system quickly solved some cases of petty crime in our area."

Aristide Zambetti - Vice-President of the Val Cavallina Mountain Community.

Optimal surveillance technology

The objective of the Community was to safeguard residents against vandalism and criminal activity, improve municipal traffic and protect property.

Sharing and comparing the wording of the plan with all stakeholders meant that the design phase could be concluded quickly, effectively and efficiently. The advanced IP video surveillance system uses Axis network cameras, Milestone video management software and Allied Telesis networking equipment, from switches to wireless devices.

One of the critical tasks was to create an infrastructure that would connect the nine isolated communities in an area that did not offer homogeneous connectivity, but rather presented obstacles to wired or wireless connections.

Thanks to compression technology, bandwidth optimization and the strength of the video flow transmission, the Axis network cameras provided the necessary flexibility to obtain optimal connectivity, overcoming the physical limitations.

To manage video flows from display to recording, the Milestone application "X Protect Business" was selected. This application offers simultaneous viewing and management of images from several locations by several operators. To display the images from the cameras located in the different towns, control rooms were created in each town, and accessible only to authorized personnel.

The towns can therefore monitor their areas independently, but in order to integrate them all into a single system, a wireless network was implemented, using technical solutions from Allied Telesis and a control room located at the headquarters of the Val Cavallina Community.

There are 32 Axis network cameras located in the nine towns. AXIS 214 PTZ Network Cameras were installed to monitor the entrances to banks, post offices and recreation centers, and any areas susceptible to vandalism. AXIS 233D Network Dome Cameras were positioned to frame broad areas and places with moving objects, such as town squares, parking lots and roads leading into town.

AXIS 214 PTZ was selected for its optimal price-performance ratio. The highly sensitive CCD sensor can operate under different lighting conditions, and its 18x zoom lens can be rotated to aim the camera at the most relevant scenes. AXIS 233D is a powerful, high-speed dome camera with a progressive scan sensor and a 35x zoom lens. It provides pin-sharp images of moving objects thanks to electronic stabilization and a 128x WDR that provides high-quality video even under complex lighting conditions.

Tangible results

Despite the critical issues caused by the unusual nature of the project and its location, the care that the Val Cavallina Community devoted to planning made it possible to fully achieve its objectives while ensuring the highest cost-effectiveness.

