

Computer labs under supervision.

Axis cameras help the University of Social Science and Humanities (SWPS) in Wrocław to deter and identify crime.



Organization:
University of Social
Sciences and Humanities
(SWPS)

Location:
Wrocław, Poland

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
Anti-theft surveillance,
safety and security

Mission

In December 2014, the SWPS University branch in Wrocław supplemented its monitoring system with 9 new Axis network cameras: 8 AXIS M1004-W and one AXIS M1054 Network Camera with a motion detection option together with AXIS Camera Station software. Until then the university had only monitored traffic in its main hallways. For security reasons and in view of thefts occurring in its computer labs, the university decided to expand its monitoring system. In all, Axis network cameras were installed in 9 labs to make sure that all rooms containing expensive equipment would be under the security service's complete control.

Solution

One of the most important demands made of the hardware was high image resolution. The university wanted the images from the monitoring system to enable possible thieves to be identified and to constitute reliable information in the eventuality of a police investigation.

According to information from the building's security service, the images from the 9 Axis network cameras really are of the highest quality.

Result

The hardware was installed without trouble by the university's own staff who just followed the instructions. The system allows for real-time monitoring of rooms and playback of recordings. The images from the monitoring system are recorded not on a server but on a NAS disk purchased by the university. Data are stored there for 30 days. In addition, the very presence of cameras in the computer labs has psychological value, acting as a deterrent.

“Installing Axis network cameras in the computer labs was a good idea, first of all because of the high image quality, and secondly for psychological reasons – it’s not so easy to steal something from a monitored room.”

Tomasz Hawron, senior support engineer at SWPS University.

Identification above all

As of December 2014, the computer labs at the Wrocław branch of the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (SWPS) have been fitted with 9 new cameras from Axis Communications: 8 AXIS M1004-W and one AXIS M1054 Network Camera with a motion detection option together with AXIS Camera Station software. A total of 2,500 students attend the university’s Wrocław branch. Every day lots of people pass through the university’s rooms but are difficult to identify. Earlier, the monitoring system only covered the hallways and the car park. Due to low image quality, however, these cameras did not allow for full identification of persons, therefore did not quite fulfil their role. After a case of theft from a computer lab, the university decided to install extra cameras in places containing costly teaching aids, i.e. in 9 labs. The challenge for this hardware was to provide the highest possible image quality that would enable any thieves to be identified.

Equipment under control

One camera was installed in each of the 9 SWPS University computer labs, in a corner of the room. This enabled the device to cover the entire room. “Monitoring staff confirm that the images from the Axis network cameras are of much higher quality than those obtained from the cameras in the hallways. The resolution is much better and shapes are easy to identify”, explains Tomasz Hawron, support engineer at SWPS University. The system allows for real-time monitoring of rooms and playback of recordings. The presence of cameras in the computer labs has psychological value, acting as a deterrent.

The system

The hardware was installed without trouble by the university’s own staff following the instructions. Images from the monitoring system are saved not on a server but on a NAS disk purchased by the university, where they are stored for 30 days. In Tomasz Hawron’s view, this is enough time to report a theft and identify the need to see a recording. After this time the recordings are erased. The university is also considering supplementing the system with a motion detection option. “We want to secure sensitive sites at night as well, hence the decision to test visual material management software – AXIS Camera Station”, Tomasz Hawron confirms.

