Villafranca in Lunigiana.
A safe and technologically-advanced town thanks to Axis.

Organization:
Town of Villafranca in Lunigiana

Location:
Massa, Italy

Industry segment:
City surveillance

Application:
IP video surveillance of sensitive areas and public buildings

Axis partner:
Safe Network S.r.l.

Mission

Villafranca in Lunigiana is an Italian town of about 5,000 inhabitants in the province of Massa-Carrara in Tuscany, Italy, with a territory that extends into the Magra river valley. The town wanted to offer its citizens the ability to connect to the Internet for free and wanted to exploit the potential of this technology to provide its territory with a video surveillance system. This system would be used to monitor sensitive areas such as public parks, squares and schools, as well as municipal and law enforcement offices.

Solution

To realize this major project, the municipality involved Safe Network of Genoa, an Axis partner specializing in information security and professional video surveillance solutions, reputed for its commitment to ensuring safe and secure access to the Internet, especially for younger users.

Safe Network decided to rely on Axis Communications to provide the whole video part of the surveillance system. A total of 19 AXIS 233D Network Dome Cameras were installed and connected wirelessly, to monitor the areas considered as potential "security risks".

Result

Thanks to the quality and state-of-the-art technology of Axis cameras, the town of Villafranca in Lunigiana benefits from a security system that provides effective protection of individuals, property and assets.

AXIS
COMMUNICATIONS

"The high-quality of the cutting-edge video surveillance system has allowed us to drastically cut down on petty crime. The cameras play an effective deterrent against crime and people can really feel safe, both day and night."

Lucio Barani, Mayor of Villafranca in Lunigiana.

Communication and security

"Today, the crime rate is increasing, and sometimes we are faced with difficult situations to handle. This sophisticated, non-obtrusive video surveillance system connected wirelessly with the law enforcement office, helps us to efficiently keep the territory under control. The system also acts as a deterrent against thieves," said Lucio Barani, Mayor of Villafranca in Lunigiana.

The project involved the installation of Hot-Spot equipment in the territory to create Wi-Fi zones accessible by users through authentication credentials issued by the city; the connection is very high speed, and the installation of the infrastructure had no negative impact on the local landscape.

19 Axis dome network cameras were installed in strategic locations and aimed at providing complete video coverage of the town. The cameras are equipped with the latest technology and features available on the market today, including a powerful 35x optical zoom which can enlarge a particularly small and distant object, with no loss in image quality. This combined with progressive scan technology and a fast and accurate PTZ function, made the Axis product the ideal solution to meet the Municipality's requirements.

In addition to the monitoring of parks and squares, one of the requirements of the municipality was to protect students and schools: "It is important for parents to have a good support from the municipality, the tranquility of knowing that children are supervised across the path that leads them to school," said in common agreement the Mayor and Giorgio Sgarro of Safe Network. All schools, from kindergarten to high school, are kept under the watchful and protective eye of Axis network cameras. For example, if the security operator notices someone suspicious stopping in front of the school, the police can intervene immediately.

To manage the video, Safe Network selected AXIS Camera Station video management software, which offers easy installation and setup with automatic camera discovery and multi-configuration of cameras. It also allows integrated management of all the cameras from a single monitor, so that the operators can have a total overview of all the sensitive areas under video surveillance. If they want to focus on a specific event, the software provides control of the dome cameras using a simple joystick. They can then direct the cameras to various points of interest and move quickly back to full-screen viewing of images transmitted from a single camera. In addition, to ensure early intervention where necessary and track possible incidents, a monitoring and recording station was also installed at the local operations center. The server records all the recent events 24/7, so that all camera images can be easily reviewed.

"This initiative is born from the need I felt, as a parent who is acting as First Citizen, to act, to do something that can help families, but especially our children," said Lucio Barani, Mayor of Villafranca in Lunigiana, who was very satisfied with the choices made.

"Axis has been a very reliable partner to us for years and we use their expertise to deliver reliable, flexible and convenient video surveillance systems. The excellence achieved in the implementation of the video surveillance system for the municipality of Villafranca is the result of this positive cooperation," said Georgio Sgarro, CEO of Safe Network Ltd.