

Networked security is easy as ABC.

Mississippi high school improves safety and security with Axis video servers.



Organization:
Canton High School

Location:
Canton, Mississippi, USA

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
Campus safety
and security

Axis partner:
CameraWATCH

Mission

Canton High School in Canton, Miss., wanted a security system that would help prevent crisis situations and would create a safer, more productive environment for teachers and students. In addition, the school needed to find a solution that could be installed, operated and maintained without becoming a major financial drain on the school's budget.

Solution

CameraWATCH, a company specializing in security systems for schools, installed 24 analog cameras and several Axis video servers around the school, allowing the principal, teachers and police officers to view live images of school grounds via the Internet.

CameraWATCH employees also observe school grounds from the company's real-time remote monitoring station during off-hours, eliminating the need for a nighttime security guard.

Result

With the network video system in place, fights and crime in the school have become nearly non-existent, and teachers and students alike have a strengthened sense of safety and security on campus.

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Jim Walker, Vice President, CameraWATCH

Adding up for security

Canton High School, located in a suburban town of Jackson, Miss., would not be considered a high-crime school. However, with national research showing that school crime has become increasingly violent in recent years, the administration at Canton High School wanted to do everything it could to prevent a crisis situation and protect its students and teachers.

"Studies prove that crimes and violent acts generally occur when students are crowded together such as between classes or at lunchtime," said Jim Walker, Vice President of CameraWATCH. "Students typically think that no one is watching them when they are in a crowd, and most of the time, they are right. The best way to prevent crime on campus is to let students know someone is monitoring their behavior."

CameraWATCH was hired to design and install a security system that would enable the principal, teachers and security officials to monitor the school from anywhere on the campus and from remote locations. With the new network video system in place, most areas of Canton High School, such as hallways, classrooms and entrances, can be viewed and monitored at one time. Speakers were even installed near some of the cameras so that the administration can speak to students, letting them know they are being watched.

In addition, the new camera and Axis video server system is helping Canton High School save money on security. CameraWATCH's remote monitoring station uses the Internet to view real-time images of the school during off hours, eliminating the need for full-time security officers on campus. If there is a problem, the company can notify the police directly or can startle intruders by speaking to them through the speaker system.

Cameras equal safety

Since Canton High School has installed the network video system, students and faculty alike say they feel much safer now than they did before the system was in place. In fact, one Canton High School senior has claimed that fights are nearly non-existent now because students who fight are not able to later deny their involvement.

"Now you can't get into a fight and say that you weren't in it because the cameras saw you there," she said. "It's better that they have the cameras – I feel personally more safe to be here."



"The biggest benefit of using Axis video servers is the ability to view images in real time over the Internet," said Mr. Walker. "It's better than having a security guard at the school because a security guard can only see what is around him, and we can see all areas of the school at one time. The network video system also allows us to e-mail pictures to the police so that in case there is a problem, they know exactly what to look for."