

daVinci College secures campus with Axis network cameras. Network video system provides monitoring flexibility and ensures low management expenses.



Organization:
daVinci College

Location:
Dordrecht,
The Netherlands

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
School security

Axis partners:
Venéco Automatisering
Telecommunicatie
Beveiliging, Milestone

Mission

The daVinci College in Dordrecht is an institute for secondary vocational education with about 6,800 students. In order to increase their security and reduce aggression and criminality, the educational institute was looking for an effective and flexible solution to secure the school campus. They also had to find an easier method to trace perpetrators of theft or vandalism afterwards.

Solution

The daVinci College selected a complete camera installation with fifty Axis network cameras. The Axis camera solution and Milestone XProtect® video management software were implemented by Axis' partner Venéco. The cameras monitor all hallways, public areas and computer rooms 24 hours a day. Additionally, the installation is the ideal chance for students studying 'Security' to become acquainted with the newest technologies in the field of security in a controlled environment.

Result

Thanks to the cameras, the educational institute is always able to review images of incidents or theft. Consequently, daVinci has already been able to catch perpetrators or confront them with their offense thanks to stored video footage. In addition, the cameras have a preventative and deterring effect on thieves, graffiti artists and vandals.

Security and learning objective in one

With 15 locations in the region of South Holland, daVinci College offers vocational education within the sectors of engineering, economics, and care and wellbeing. One of the fields of study offered by the College is to become a security officer. Students are taught how to monitor security in shopping centers and businesses, as well as ways to prevent unsafe situations or damage. Piet van Ooijen Knook, Head of Security at daVinci College, said, "I noticed in my previous job as Security lecturer that we could combine purpose and necessity. After a few efforts and certifications, the school managed to obtain a security license. This made it possible

"The purchase of our Axis network cameras has made it possible for us to have eyes on the campus on site. Logging in is sufficient. As a result, we have made our school demonstrably more secure. We also saved a lot of money because we can monitor alarm notifications ourselves so that the police do not have to be called out."

Piet van Ooijen Knook, Head of Security at daVinci College.

for the lecturers themselves to account for the security of the nine buildings in Dordrecht. In other words, they get acquainted with all kinds of practical situations at their own school." The security measures adopted by the school include, for instance, the security officers at the entry doors and reception halls, the entry passes (key-cards), a burglary installation and network cameras. Security at the daVinci College always serves two purposes: ensuring proactive school security and acting as a supportive tool for the security training program.

Flexibility and low expenses

The daVinci College selected Axis network cameras for their flexibility and cost-effectiveness. "The choice of a network camera instead of a traditional analog camera was quickly made. Due to the fact that you don't need an expensive coaxial cable, you are more flexible and save money. You can connect these cameras directly to the network at any desired location; the software recognizes the camera and an image is produced."

The total installation was completed by Axis partner Venéco. John Houtman, Sales Director of Venéco said, "The most important question is always: what exactly do you want to see and accomplish with which camera? With this question in the back of our mind, we reviewed the locations in the region. Eventually, this resulted in a number of cameras, a server, and Milestone XProtect® video management software. AXIS 223M Network Cameras are placed above the entry doors for face recognition. It is always possible to see who has been inside during and after the opening hours of the school. Fixed cameras are positioned in the large computer rooms and hallways which keep an eye on computers or safes. Since some of these cameras are wireless, they can be easily moved when security is more important at another location. AXIS 233D Dome Network Cameras are installed in the courtyards outside. These cameras can pan, tilt and zoom, making it possible to get a large overview and to zoom in on the area in question in case an alarm goes off."

Houtman: "We recommended Milestone XProtect® video management software because of its flexibility. It makes

it easy to manage the cameras even when they are over 30 miles from here, when they are spread across multiple locations and when there is a large number of them. The user-friendliness makes it easier for authorized persons to view the scenes."

In addition, Houtman highlighted the importance of IT knowledge for camera installations. "For a while now, camera security has not just been the domain of the security department. As a result of advanced technology and the integration of cameras into an existing IT network, the IT department is now also often involved. Both departments can ensure optimal use, set-up and management of the system."

The control room as nerve center

The images of the fifty network cameras in and around the school arrive at the central control room. There is no student watching a wall of TV-screens all day but instead a flat-screen TV is suspended on the wall. A menu makes it possible to select a specific camera and the security officer in training can monitor on-site by moving a joystick. Van Ooijen Knook said: "We have a full overview of the cameras and, at the same time, students are learning to handle the newest technology available for security applications. They have to deal with real threats and dangers but in a controlled environment. When a student reacts to a notification, I can watch along via the camera."

Results and future

"The cameras have absolutely proven their worth for us. An alarm follow-up by the police is not necessary since we often take action quickly on our own in case of an alarm. We were, for instance, able to catch a thief in the barber's room. The number of drug dealers around the school has also declined dramatically in collaboration with the police." Thanks to the flexibility of the Axis network cameras, daVinci College can react quickly when video surveillance is necessary somewhere. The only requirement is a network. "A number of moves are coming up and security is important in case of moves or at a new location. We can watch everything closely with our cameras," van Ooijen Knook concluded.



"The cameras are used to monitor the scenes but no actual image is stored. Image recording and storing are only triggered when there are alarm notifications or when the administrator manually sets up a search request or recording request. The possibility of storing images is important. In case of incidents, we can look back at images and hand these over to the police."