Digital surveillance expert enhances intelligent school with Axis network cameras.

Fu Tat Computer Company equips Hong Kong-based international school with advanced surveillance tools to boost efficiency and effectiveness.

Organization:
International School

Location:
Hong Kong, China

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
Campus security surveillance

Axis partner:
Fu Tat Computer Company

Mission

Axis partner Fu Tat Computer Company is one of Hong Kong's preeminent experts in digital surveillance solutions. One of its clients, a Hong Kong-based international school, needed to boost campus security to accommodate a massive growth in students and buildings. The school had outgrown its initial campus security resources (originally designed to accommodate only 81 students). A solution to this challenge became imperative, in order to maintain sufficient personal and property safety.

Over the years, the school's student body had grown to over 1,600 students, with new buildings constructed, and an improved security solution had to be devised. The new system needed to be cost-effective and efficient, without compromising the level of security that students, parents and faculty expect.

Solution

The school sought the expertise of Fu Tat, which suggested an IP-Surveillance system to bolster the effectiveness of the security team personnel.

This would allow the school to scale its security needs while optimizing the number of security personnel on site. To otherwise attempt to increase security simply by hiring more security staff would become exorbitantly expensive, highly complex and inefficient as even more people crowd around the school grounds.

Fu Tat designed an IP video surveillance solution, initially installing fixed Axis network cameras around the campus, which allow the school's security personnel to maximize their operational capacity.

Fu Tat trained the school's security team in using the surveillance system and continued to help the school expand the solution over a period of years. The school now has almost 70 Axis network cameras on campus, including high-resolution fixed and pan/tilt/zoom (PTZ) network cameras.

"The quality, reliability and broad offering of video management functions that Axis offers are central to our success with this solution."

Eric Chan, sales manager at Fu Tat Computer Company

Result

"We continued to expand the Axis network video surveillance solution in line with the school's growth," said Eric Chan, sales manager at Fu Tat Computer Company. "The quality, reliability and broad offering of video management functions that Axis offers are central to our success with this solution. The other option for the school was to continuously expand its security team, which would have been costly and time-consuming. Instead, we are empowering the existing team with the best security monitoring technology on the market. The Axis solution fit the bill perfectly."

Remote accessibility

With a large student number and a geographically expanding area to monitor, the school's security staff needed a high level of operational efficiency in using the Axis solution. Fortunately, the Axis network cameras allow the team to conveniently monitor the large campus through remote access functionality.

The Axis network cameras connect to any IP network, including the Internet, and facilitate authorized personnel to operate them across the school. "Once the cameras were in place, all we had to do was plug in the network cables to get the system up and running," explained Mr. Chan of Fu Tat. "Security team members on the ground are supported by other team members who can rapidly and simultaneously monitor all classrooms, corridors and recreation areas from one or more locations, and immediately advise the ground personnel of any concerns for further physical investigation."

Scalability

In addition to allowing the school to move confidently ahead with its expansion plans, the Axis network cameras also offer significantly higher scalability. Compared with a traditional CCTV system, adding a new network camera does not require the complexity or cost of extra cable support because the new camera simply connects to the existing IP infrastructure.

This streamlines expansion, allowing for easy and rapid scalability and minimal hassle. Extending the system merely involves installing more cameras.

"When the school opened a new theatre, as part of its expansion, we simply installed more Axis cameras and the security team was able to monitor the new location as easily as before," said Mr. Chan. "Axis allows us to continue supporting our client with the best video solutions because all the Axis products are designed with scalability in mind."

Low Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)

Besides quickly boosting security capacity, the Axis solution is also helping the school minimize costs in the long run. The school did not have to incur the high costs of hiring and training new security members and, because of strict adherence to industry standards, the Axis network cameras are more cost-effective to deploy and run than other video surveillance systems. Using standard PC server hardware for video recording and storage rather than proprietary equipment (such as DVRs) radically reduces management and equipment costs, particularly for larger systems where storage and servers are a significant portion of the total solution cost. Additionally, by using IP-based networks, other IT investments can be optimized.

"We have helped our client to create a truly 'intelligent' school," said Mr. Chan. "Now, the school administration does not have to worry about personal or property safety, and can focus on giving students a great education, while the security team and the Axis network cameras take care of the campus."

F.T.S. Fu Tat Computer Company
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