

Migration from analog to an IP-based HDTV video system. Axis network cameras improve hotel security and employee productivity.



Organization:
Hotel Belair

Location:
Castelldefels
(Barcelona), Spain

Industry segment:
Hotel/Tourism

Application:
Safety and security

Axis partners:
Quinteiva IT Services,
Milestone

Mission

The Belair is a designer hotel targeted at business guests. This beachfront building was built in the 1960s and completely remodeled in 2003. It offers many IT-based services, with first-rate infrastructures and equipment. It originally had an analog video surveillance system consisting of 16 black and white cameras, a multiplexer and VHS tape recording. The system eventually broke down, which presented the perfect opportunity to migrate to a new video surveillance system.

Solution

The hotel management opted for a proposal from Quinteiva IT Services, an Axis partner, who recommended installing a state-of-the-art IP video surveillance system providing high definition images (HDTV).

Result

As soon as the new IP video system was implemented, hotel management noticed a drastic reduction in security incidents and an increase in employee productivity; aware of the presence of the cameras, they worked harder to fulfill their professional duties.

"We are very happy with the new IP video system, which provides us with excellent performance and a return on investment that has been faster than expected. The truth is that, once installed, it has not given us any problems. The quality of Axis products is satisfactory."

Ana Agut, Manager of the Belair Hotel.

The Belair is a designer hotel targeted at business guests who require both technological amenities and the chance to rest. It provides optimum conditions for a peaceful stay close to Barcelona, as well as for conferences and business meetings. Its minimalist decor and relaxed atmosphere are coupled with a long list of free services available to its guests. Many of these services are IT-based, with first-rate infrastructures and equipment. Managed by the Soteras Group, the hotel has 44 guest rooms, a suite and two conference rooms. During its remodeling in 2003, new infrastructures were added, such as a solar panel system and new Category 7 wiring, providing speeds of up to 10Gb/s.

When the time came to update the video surveillance system, they heeded the advice of the Quinteiva IT services company, an Axis partner. They suggested a state-of-the-art system to complement the rest of the hotel's equipment, which also includes a Wi-Fi connection based on Cisco System access points, an entertainment system with movies on demand, and a Business Center equipped with the latest in computer equipment and the most recent versions of software applications.

From the very beginning, Quinteiva recommended IP video cameras from Axis Communications, since they perfectly tolerate the climate conditions found on the Barcelona coast.

The camera models selected were AXIS P3344 for indoor areas, and AXIS P3344-VE for outdoor spaces. Both are network video cameras fed by Power over Ethernet, with H.264 compression format, providing up to 30 images per second with 1280x800 pixel resolution (HDTV 720p).

The system consists of 22 cameras: 19 in common areas inside the hotel and 3 controlling the main and rear doors and the pool area. The system is complemented by PoE switches and a universal power supply, and is managed with Milestone XProtect® Corporate software (Quinteiva IT Services is also an Advanced Certified Partner of Milestone). The storage system is based on RAID 10-configured SATA disks with a 2TB capacity, which enables image recording at maximum resolution and fps for up to 30 days, in compliance with the Spanish Information Protection Agency's regulations.

As soon as the new IP video system was implemented, hotel management noticed a drastic reduction in the number of security incidents, which generally consisted of petty theft and vandalism in the facilities. In this sense, they expressed great satisfaction with its capacity to provide better protection for customers, employees and hotel property.

Management has also observed an increase in employee productivity, as they are aware of the presence of the cameras and work harder to fulfill their professional duties. The hotel has also detected energy savings, as better use is now made of equipment, especially lighting.

Other IP video applications include facility control and maintenance tasks, customer service quality control and new employee training.



Quinteiva
information technology services

