

Axis enables more efficient school management. Network cameras allow a small faculty team to manage the facility.



Organization:
Tokai University Fukuoka
Junior College

Location:
Fukuoka, Japan

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
Monitoring of computer
training rooms

Mission

Although Tokai University Fukuoka Junior College opened in 1990, its origins date back to its predecessor – Fukuoka General Education Department of the School of Engineering at Tokai University, which was established in 1966. Comprehensive education is provided in accordance with the characteristics of each of its 280 students in two departments, namely the Department of Information Processing and the Department of International Studies. Over 200 computers are installed at the college for data processing studies, and the college has been looking for the most efficient way for a small team of faculty members to manage them.

Solution

More than 20 AXIS 207 Network Cameras, mainly AXIS 207M wide-angle megapixel cameras, have been installed in a number of computer training rooms to monitor their use.

A unique UNIX server has been set up by faculty members of the Department of Information Processing. This system not only monitors the area, but also saves images on the server and integrates them to the groupware system.

Result

Computer training rooms are open to students, and can be used freely, but faculty members are not always there when it is being used, so it was impossible to know what was going on all the time. The installation of cameras enables the status of each computer room to be easily confirmed from the faculty member's office, and provides a useful way of understanding the situation. These cameras also offer security advantages.

"The Axis network camera's interface is easy to use, so the system has been remarkably straightforward to set up."

Associate Prof. Yahiro, Tokai University Fukuoka Junior College.

Information utilization and management

Cameras are installed in the library as well as the computer rooms. Even when the librarian is not present, visitors can be confirmed from the pictures taken. The number of visitors is counted and recorded as data, and classroom usage is analyzed using the built-in motion detection functionality.

Images taken by each camera are available on the intranet, and the status of each area within the college can be confirmed at will. On pages accessible by faculty members, how the camera images are displayed can be rearranged per user to show the most appropriate camera images in a more prominent position. In addition, when the camera detects any motion in the image, the system automatically rotates the image to the top on the web page to notify someone is in the lab.

Images from some of the outdoor cameras are available to students via their PCs or mobile phones. These can be used to check weather conditions around the campus before leaving home, as many students commute from other prefectures.



Making use of wireless cameras at events

Cameras are also used to direct visitors to available venues while confirming the degree of traffic on the screen by setting them up at each venue for events likely to attract many visitors, such as open campus days. Most Axis network cameras installed at the college are wireless models which are simple to set up and data can be transferred via the onsite wireless LAN. Accordingly, cameras can be installed wherever and whenever they are needed.

Thinking of ways to put the network cameras to more innovative use

"I think that IP is yet to be fully utilized at educational organizations. As a specialist educational organization, we are considering more advanced uses for these network cameras," says Associate Prof. Yahiro, Tokai University Fukuoka Junior College. "We have a focus on e-learning, and are designated as such under a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology project. Integral to this approach, we are considering whether it is possible to deliver classes over the Internet and how we can simply set up a videoconferencing system using such network cameras."

Axis network cameras enables anyone to simply view images on their browser without the need for any other specific software, and has benefits for various applications in terms of the minimal restriction it imposes on clients. An even wider range of options can be considered in the future.



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