

Providing students with a safe learning environment. Implementation of campus video surveillance solution for the School of Continuing Education, Chinese Culture University.



Customer:
School of Continuing
Education, Chinese
Culture University

Location:
Taipei, Taiwan

Industry segment:
Education

Application:
Campus surveillance

Axis partners:
Alpha Pricing Co. Ltd.,
Milestone Systems A/S

Mission

A traditional video recording system was used for each campus to record and retain surveillance images. When it was necessary to access the surveillance records the staff would have to visit the respective campus or division in order to view the video. Consequently, real-time remote access was not possible. Moreover, significant time and manpower costs were incurred when accessing and using the video files because the old analog system could not file and archive the videos centrally.

Solution

Use of the AXIS 2400/2400+ Video Server ensured a smooth transition from the traditional surveillance system into an integrated network video solution based on the campus' IP network infrastructure. The addition of Axis network cameras highly contributed to increasing overall security. The system comprises the compact AXIS 206 Network Cameras which are ideal for remote surveillance, and AXIS 2130 PTZ Network Cameras, which enable remote control of camera lens movement

and zooming along with integrated two-way audio function and alert input/output function. The Milestone XProtect® video management software as well as service and technical support offered by Alpha Pricing provide a comprehensive IP-Surveillance environment that covers each division and campus.

Result

The new network video solution enabled inter-division and inter-campus remote video surveillance. Moreover, it has met the requirement for real-time video access and enabled faster and more cost-effective deployment of the video surveillance network. In addition, the full follow-up maintenance services and solution flexibility and scalability have dramatically reduced costs related to capacity expansion and manpower operation. Particularly, the reliability of the Axis network video solution has been proven over three years of actual operation. The School of Continuing Education of Chinese Culture University has affirmed the original choice and

"Though the new surveillance system was initially adopted by only some of the campuses, the earliest completed part, which has been operating for three years now, has maintained its original reliability and quality. It is very impressive."

Mr. Li Zongda, Network Management Engineer of the School of Continuing Education.

no longer questions the higher price standards of Axis products in relation to local brands. Long-term amortization has reduced overall setup cost, and this fully demonstrates that the Axis network video solution was the right and the most cost-effective choice. Completion of the new surveillance system has enhanced campus surveillance, providing the faculty and students with a safer learning environment.

Pre-implementation background of Chinese Culture University

The School of Continuing Education of Chinese Culture University ("SCE") is the largest E-learning and mixed-learning institution in Taiwan. To date, it has ranked first place for five consecutive years in the Ministry of Education's education evaluation of private colleges. Each year, more than 20,000 students complete their studies at the University. Currently, SCE has 6 campuses including the Jian Guo headquarters, the Zhong Xiao division, Taichung division, Kaoshiung division, and the Children's Center and Philanthropy campus. In order to ensure a safe environment for the students, each division has successively had video surveillance systems installed. The video images are recorded and kept for future retrieval and viewing; however, according to Mr. Zongda, many problems gradually emerged with the accumulated video data.

Because the conventional analog videotapes required on-site recording, they were also kept at the individual divisions, making it difficult to manage the surveillance process and access video. For example, if the headquarters needed to view a section of video recording of the Taichung division, the personnel would have to either drive from Taipei to Taichung to view the video or have the tape mailed from Taichung to Taipei, both of which were time-consuming and costly.

Axis network video solution

To address these problems, SCE decided to migrate to a network video surveillance system. Alpha Pricing Co., Ltd. conducted a technical survey and evaluation, and SCE selected Axis network video as the most suitable solution. Mr. Zongda noted that Axis was the leading brand in video surveillance and was therefore trustworthy.

Additionally, its products feature advanced functionality and are backed by complete technical support. "For these reasons," Mr. Zongda said, "we adopted and implemented this recommendation."

SCE and Alpha Pricing then began the process of planning and implementation. Round-the-clock all-weather surveillance recording was required, and infrared cameras would be used to capture images at night. SCE decided to network existing analog infrared cameras using Axis video servers to protect existing investments.

Seamless digital and analog integration

SCE used AXIS 2400 and AXIS 2400+ Video Servers. Each Axis video server could connect to four groups of traditional analog CCTVs for the transmission of images, which were then converted to digital images. The viewers could thus access video directly via the network. In addition, SCE also deployed Axis network cameras in certain areas, to further enhance the overall system. AXIS 2130 PTZ and AXIS 206 Network Cameras were selected for that purpose. The next step was implementation. According to Li Zongda, the buildings in the individual divisions had taken this into consideration when they were built and were, therefore, able to support deployment of IP-Surveillance. The newly built stadium was deployed with priority, followed by system replacement at each successive division.

Benefits of network video solution

"Apart from easy access to video images, the digitization and networking of surveillance have had other benefits," said Li Zongda. "Because standard networking rather than conventional video coaxial cables was used after the video server, the quantity of lines reduced and costs related to line inspection and maintenance were cut as well. In addition, when it is necessary to add, remove or move cameras, re-deployment is easier. None of the benefits we enjoy now could be provided by the old analog system." When recalling the process of solution comparison between potential suppliers, SCE does not question the Axis solution. Simply stated, the correctness and cost-effectiveness of this choice have been augmented by its highly reliable performance.



Subsequent to the completion of the early and middle-stage hardware installation, surveillance software was required at the later stage. For this, SCE used the surveillance software supplied by Milestone Systems, which, in combination with the graphic management system, manages the school's entire camera network.

