La Nucía Town Council

Video surveillance applications working for the public authorities

Mission

In response to the accelerating growth which La Nucía has experienced over the last few years, the town council facilities have expanded to meet the needs of its citizens. The opening of new premises is a logical consequence of this, but brings with it the problem of meeting the expenses of recruiting staff to handle the daily management of these new buildings.

Solution

In its search for a solution to these needs, the IT department of La Nucía town council proposed the introduction of an IP video surveillance system, one with the clear objective of not only performing surveillance and control functions but also of allowing the council to save costs by using the installation to manage the work of its own staff at the council; it would show where and when staff were needed at all times, as well as what work was being done in each room of the many buildings involved in the project.

The main reason which tipped the balance in favor of the IP system was that it would share infrastructure with the Council's computer network, which, besides saving on cabling costs, would allow the system to be maintained by the IT department itself.

In addition, the La Nucía Local Police, who were aware of the project, added a number of minimum requirements for the system so that it would also be able to serve as an extra instrument in improving municipal security.

Bottom picture: Bernabé Cano, Mayor of La Nucia Town Council

Top: Council housing. Bottom: Social center hall.

"The system has been running for six months, and the benefits we have seen in the Council, from both the financial and security points of view, have convinced us of the success of the project. We are in fact continuing to install these products, as it saves the Authority a lot of money." Bernabé Cano, Mayor of La Nucía.

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Result

The local company "Nucisys," dedicated to all things concerning information systems, designed the final solution, combining the scalability, image quality and stability of Axis network cameras with the portability and mobility provided by 3G Sentinel technology.

The assessment is that the result so far has been superb, placing La Nucía at the forefront of town councils as far as technical infrastructures are concerned. This is a matter of pride both for the installers and the rest of the Council staff. In addition, the public are receiving an indirect benefit in the speeding up of their dealings with the authority. The idea has been applauded by other town councils in the area, and some of them intend to emulate La Nucía by incorporating this type of innovative solution.

Information on the system

The solution consists of a video surveillance system for each of the Council buildings, with a control station for each of them, interconnected with one another by fiber optic cable, VLAN or wireless technology to form a single system.

With regard to the mobility aspect of 3G Sentinel, staff not tied to a fixed workplace, such as the Chief Inspector of the Municipal Police, benefit greatly from a tool which enables them to obtain the information they need on what is happening in the municipal premises regardless of where they are. At the present time, the system is installed in four buildings, the youth center, the social center the local police station and the Council itself, with three more buildings currently being added.

One of the showcase buildings is the Youth Center, covering an area of 3000 square meters and the largest center for young people in the community of Valencia. This is where the first pilot project was operated; the original installation was of 8 cameras, which has now been increased to 15. It accommodates various activities: painting and sculpture exhibitions; computer, Internet or language classes; painting workshops; dance, etc. With regard to the holding of exhibitions, the incorporation of this video system has substantially reinforced security in protecting the works of art against possible theft or vandalism.

At the social center, the camera installation is not used for the surveillance of individuals but rather of the premises as a whole, at an organizational level, centering on management of the center staff. The local police installation is used to identify and monitor staff and record people visiting the premises.

The management of groups of users with access to the system falls into three different categories:

> The control point operators in each building, who are the first-level check that the system is working correctly

> Town council staff who submit requests for access to the images for employment purposes.

> The local police users who, as the body responsible for security at the Council, are eligible to use these installations.

Declaration by the Installer

"I can say from my professional experience that Axis network cameras are unrivalled in terms of stability and image quality." Nucisys Technical Director.

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