

Panduit safeguards perimeters remotely with Axis network cameras.

Global physical infrastructure solutions provider monitors PTZ cameras worldwide from Unified Operations Center.



Organization:
Panduit Corp.

Location:
Tinley Park, Illinois, USA

Industry segment:
Industrial/
manufacturing

Application:
Perimeter security

Axis partner:
IPVision, Inc.

Mission

When Panduit built its new world headquarters just outside of Chicago in 2010 the company decided to utilize its Unified Physical InfrastructureSM (UPI) approach to converge core business systems – including security, power, and communications. As part of this effort, Panduit wanted to install pan/tilt/zoom (PTZ) cameras at the company's seven domestic manufacturing and warehousing sites, as well as select facilities around the globe, and manage them all remotely from its world headquarters.

Solution

IPVision, a national integrator of intelligent physical security solutions and an Axis partner, recommended Axis PTZ network cameras because they could easily converge with the company's other network-based security, safety and environmental control systems. The PTZ cameras use intelligent video analytics to provide perimeter security for all Panduit global facilities as well as its unique lobby exhibit in the new world headquarters.

Combining its Security and Network Operations Centers into a single Unified Operations Center (UOC), Panduit archives video locally at each building, while centrally managing the cameras from headquarters' UOC.

Result

Panduit security staff views event-based video streamed to world headquarters and controls the Axis PTZ cameras remotely to investigate whether a situation requires intervention. If an alarm is triggered because a distracted employee holds a door ajar too long, security can observe the situation remotely until it's resolved instead of putting local personnel on high alert.

"To update our security system to match our Unified Physical Infrastructure strategy, we needed to deploy the appropriate network technology. The Axis PTZ cameras complement our strong security policies and help us stay proactive in safeguarding our employees and property."

Jeffrey Woodward, Senior Manager of Global Environment, Health, Safety and Security for Panduit Corporation.

Globally deployed, centrally managed

Before erecting its new world headquarters, each Panduit facility operated its own independent analog surveillance system. "To update our security system to match our Unified Physical Infrastructure strategy, we needed to deploy the appropriate network technology," explains Jeff Woodward, senior manager of Global EHS and Security for Panduit.

By installing AXIS 233D PTZ Network Cameras in its facilities worldwide, Panduit could leverage its robust wide area network to globally monitor, control and manage those cameras from one central point. "Instead of sending security staff to physically investigate every alarm, we use the video cameras to remotely monitor the situation and then investigate the triggering event if necessary," shares Woodward. He estimates a 16 month ROI on the surveillance equipment just from that labor savings alone.

A majority of the Axis network cameras are deployed on building exteriors, overlooking expansive parking lots. With video analytics, they create a virtual trip line around property perimeters. "If an object of a certain size breaks that perimeter," explains Ben Green of IPVision, "the Axis PTZ network cameras are strategically placed to alert security staff, send a video stream to HQ, and also automatically track that object."

Once the video stream is sent to HQ, security personnel can remotely zoom, pan and tilt the cameras to closely observe the scene. "Adding intelligence to the video allows us to selectively push video to the Unified Operations Center, which limits how much video we need to aggregate on a regular basis," says Woodward.

Protect network cameras from environmental extremes

Though AXIS 233D network cameras are designed for exterior use, IPVision turned to Dotworkz Dome enclosures to ensure optimum performance under conditions ranging from harsh Chicago winters to Costa Rica's tropical humidity. A variety of models with built-in heaters and blowers operate in temperatures ranging from -40°F to 150°F.

The enclosures also step down the voltage of the AC power coming into the device to the 25-30 watts AC required by the Axis PTZ cameras. "Panduit runs fiber to the edge of the buildings to avoid electro-magnetic interference and protect against lightning strikes," explains Ben Green. "The Dotworkz enclosures allow us to install a media converter between the fiber cable and the Ethernet cable we use to power the Axis cameras."

Tying network cameras into other security systems

IPVision also tied the PTZ cameras into Panduit's access control system to help the company monitor other security breaches such as doors held open longer than usual. "If an employee is just casually standing in a doorway and exceeds the time we've programmed for a door contact to remain open, it's not a real security threat," states Woodward. "That's the advantage of having cameras there so we can remotely investigate and document the reason for the alarm."

Panduit also uses the Axis PTZ cameras to remotely monitor visitors to the Customer Experience exhibit in the HQ lobby. The self-guided tour showcases an audio-visual display of the company's solutions and capabilities, as well as a behind-the-glass view of Panduit's data center and Unified Operations Center. "We want to maintain an open and welcoming atmosphere on our first floor, but we also want to make sure people are staying within our security policies," says Woodward.



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