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AX PRO Wireless Alarm System Launched in India

Hikvision India Partners with PACC 2023 to Showcase Innovative Security Solutions

Hikvision India, an IoT solution provider with video as its core competency, has partnered with the 9th edition of Project Heads, Architects and Consultants Conclave (PACC-2023) in Kochi. The company showcased its latest innovative security technologies and solutions during the event.

It has recently participated as a presenting partner for the Fire and Security Association of India's (FSAI) Project heads, Architects & Consultants Conclave (PACC) event. At the event AX PRO Series Wireless Intrusion Alarm System was launched with much fanfare in the presence of security industry leaders and dignitaries.

The newly launched AX PRO Series Wireless Intrusion Alarm System enables more reliable intrusion detection with home automation features.

While launching the latest product AX PRO Series Wireless Intrusion Alarm, Mr. Ashish P. Dhakan, MD & CEO, Prama Hikvision India said, "We are happy to launch AX PRO, an intelligent alarm system with convergent solutions. This intrusion system helps to detect security breaches instantly and reliably. It also minimizes false positives. This product can help companies, homeowners, retail store owners, and key institutes to enable highly reliable video verification solutions, secure wireless transmission, and a wide range of state-of-the-art alarm detectors."

Commenting on the success of the PACC event, Ashish P. Dhakan, MD & CEO, Prama Hikvision India said, "Hikvision has partnered with FSAI's PACC Conclave to evangelize the latest innovative security technologies among the professional community and end-users. We are here to share Hikvision's next generation technology solutions and latest innovative products with the industry leaders and technology experts. We are striving to evangelize the adaptation of the latest security technologies and solutions based on AI, Deep Learning, Big Data and Robotics. Let's join hands to make 'Surakshit Bharat' by providing the best-in-class security solutions."

Hikvision booth at FSAI's PACC event showcased the latest offering AX PRO Series Wireless Intrusion Alarm System. It also displayed walls showcasing the Command & Control Centre, Real Estate Solutions, Specialized Products, Time Lapse Solution and Packet Tracking Solution.

After the lamp lighting and inaugural session Mr. Ashish P. Dhakan delivered the keynote address on the theme 'Make in India 2.0 - An Indigenous Manufacturing Roadmap for Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

During the keynote Mr. Dhakan elaborated, "We are committed to the 'Make-in-India' 2.0 vision with a long term plan. Our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility is the largest security product manufacturing facility across the country. We are doubling the manufacturing capabilities of our manufacturing facility due to the growing demand in the market. We also are empowering the local youth by providing training and offering employment."

After the debate session Hikvision AX PRO series product was unveiled in the presence of dignitaries. The BIG7 Debate on 'SURAKSHIT BHARAT (Dream V/s. Reality)' was moderated by Pankaj Dharkar, MEP & Green Building Consultant, PD Associates and FSAI Presidential Member.

On the 2nd day, during the TECHVARTA (Breakout Session) titled - 'Emerging and Future Fire & Security Threats (Identification Management) in Hotels', Mr. Gagan Lamba, Vice President, Enterprise Business of Prama Hikvision India gave an impactful perspective on the latest security trends in hospitality security. The Hikvision presentations at the PACC event were well received. The engaging panel discussions, presentations and interactive sessions with the participants provided valuable insights.

As always, the FSAI's PACC event was aimed at bringing the Project Heads, Architects, Consultants, System Integrators, OEMs, and End-users onto a common platform. The focus of PACC was to set the stage for presentations and deliberations on TECHVARTA, Technology Evolutions, Best Practices, Implementation, Standards & Codes, Market Challenges and Growth in the Industry.

The three-day event saw impactful presentations from expert professionals as well as the event partners and insightful panel discussions under the TECHVARTA segment. This event witnessed a participation of 750 delegates. The PACC 2023 concluded on a high note as the event got an overwhelming response from the delegates.

Dear Reader

Strangely Intrusion Alarms, which is a 150 years old business in the USA and Europe never really took off in India the way burglar alarms proliferated into the banking, commercial and residential markets in those countries. CCTV and access control systems have found more acceptance with the consumers here. However, in recent years we have seen Alarm Receiving Centres (ARC) as they are known in Europe, or Central Monitoring Stations (CMS) as they are called in America beginning to come up and offer their services to consumers in India. In addition to monitoring signals from burglar and fire alarms they also now monitor feeds from video surveillance systems and notifications from access control and other building systems. As they have evolved in several ways over time, they offer much more today.

CMS's have been around for several decades, evolving from simple alarm monitoring centres to sophisticated operations that can provide a wide range of services. The history of CMS can be traced back to the early 1900s when telephone companies began to offer alarm services. In the early days, the alarm systems were simple, consisting of a bell that would sound when triggered.

As technology advanced, alarm systems became more sophisticated, and monitoring stations became more prevalent. In the 1960s and 70s, CMS began to use computers and automated systems to monitor alarms, allowing for faster and more efficient responses. The use of CCTV also became common during the 80's and 90's, allowing operators to visually monitor premises.

In the 1980s and 90s, the use of digital communications technology revolutionised the CMS industry as data networks evolved and became affordable. This allowed for the rapid transmission of alarm signals and other data, allowing operators to respond to emergencies more quickly and effectively. The integration of CCTV and access control systems into CMS operations also became more widespread during this time. However, they have only recently started finding their way into the Indian market.

Now, CMS have evolved into sophisticated operations that can offer a wide range of services beyond traditional alarm monitoring. They can provide remote video surveillance, access control management, and even virtual guard services. They are increasingly being integrated with other systems, such as building management systems, including energy management, access control systems, and fire alarm systems. This allows for better coordination and sharing of information among different systems, leading to improved security and efficiency.

Today, CMSs are increasingly being offered as cloud-based services. This allows for remote monitoring, management, and control of security systems, as well as data storage and analysis. This allows for monitoring from multiple locations and reduces the need for on-site personnel. They can be accessed via mobile devices, allowing for monitoring and control of security systems while on the go. To ensure security of data CMSs are now incorporating measures such as encryption, firewalls, and intrusion detection to protect against cyber threats.

With the advancements in technology, central monitoring stations are now more scalable and flexible, allowing them to adapt to the changing needs of the customer. We are likely to see more activity in this space in India, before consolidation begins to happen.

Till we meet next month, Stay Safe and Keep Others Safe

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SECURITY UPDATE is a focused educational publication on protection technology, products and solutions. It reaches the business community of manufacturers, distributors, dealers, installers, integrators and consultants of security, fire and safety systems. Printed monthly as a lightweight tabloid, it is easily carried and read on the move, reaching the remotest corner of India, even where the internet may not have reached!

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Jablotron launches new locking technology

Jablotron, a Czech Republic based globally renowned security alarms and automation systems manufacturer, has announced the launch of it's JA-152 SHM wireless combo shock or tilt detector in a single unit.

In shock detection mode responds to vibrations and shocks. In tilt detection mode it responds to changes in its position. Furthermore, it can detect a foreign magnetic field and prevent possible sabotage by an external / foreign source of magnetic field, making it a unique high security detector. This product is ideal for usage by banks, jewellers and other applications that require a high level of security.

It can operate in a wide temperature range of -10°C to +40°C. It is powered by a single 1.5V AA type alkaline battery which lasts for approximately 2 years as the detector draws a mere 80mA of current. Its Communication range is approximately 300 m.

Jablotron products are known for their reliability and false alarm rates. They have been successfully used in India since 1998 in thousands of installations, and are available through its exclusive Indian distributor, Kawach Protection Systems.

I-Pro to introduce "Mercury based Intrusion Detection"

I-Pro is set to release its latest Monitorcast access control software. The new version adds Mercury-based intrusion detection to Monitorcast which provides a unified solution between access control and intrusion detection without requiring third-party hardware or integrations.

Adding an intrusion detection system (IDS) to access control allows users to control physical access to certain buildings or locations, while also monitoring these places as well. An IDS mimics a burglary system by monitoring entry points such as windows, doors, and more and alerts operators during forced entry, a broken window, or similar events.

Monitorcast is a browser-based application that can be managed from location. As part of I-Pro's Video Insight VMS, it offers a user-friendly design which makes installation, training, and day-to-day navigation simple and easy compared to competing systems.

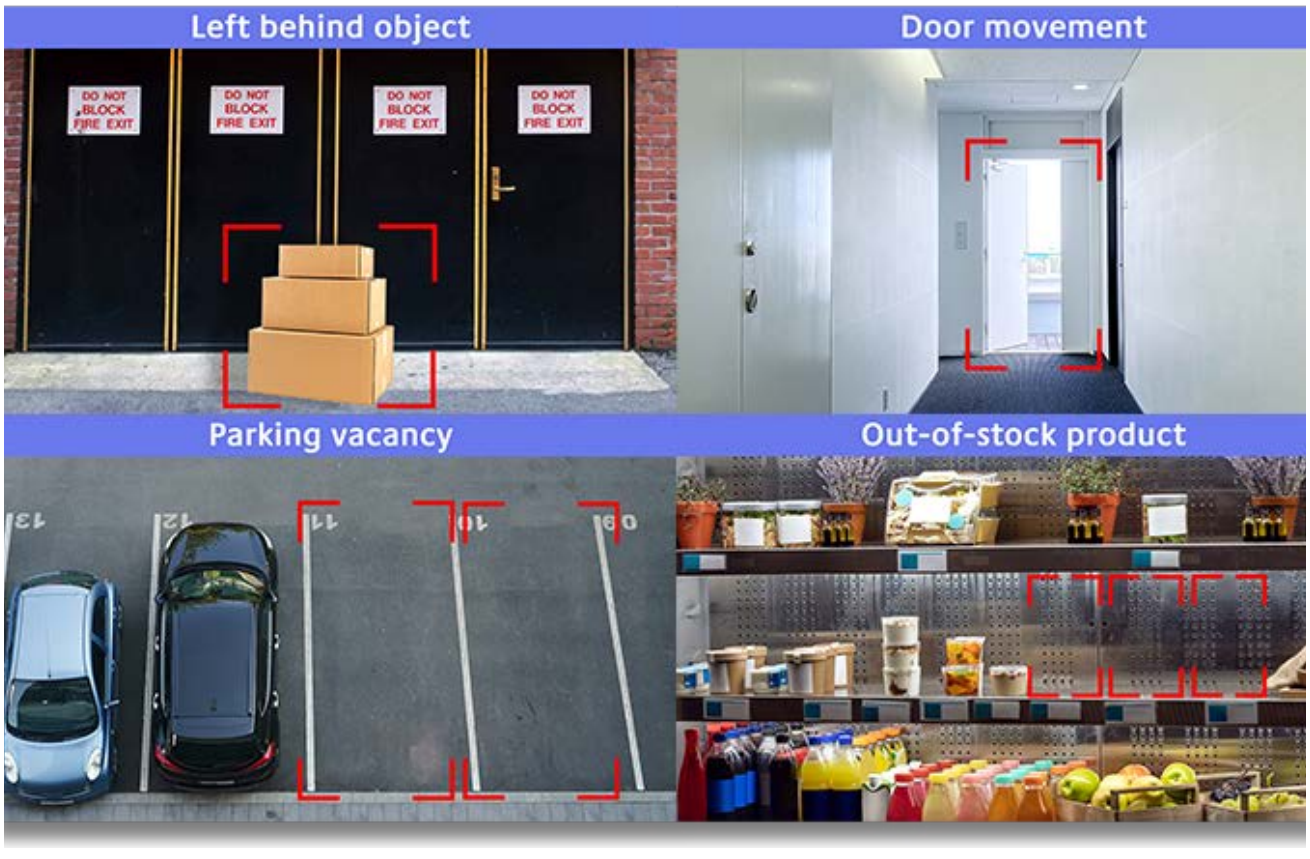
Key features include:

Active Directory Synchronisation – AD Sync allows Monitorcast to add, remove and migrate cardholders to another group in real-time. This helps users maintain a self-sustaining application that requires minimal user interaction.

Custom Server Based Rules – Mercury hardware on its own has limited flexibility when creating rules. Monitorcast adds a server-side section that extends rule creation across intelligent controllers, which Mercury does not support.

Video Insight Integration - Monitorcast is an enterprise access control application that seamlessly integrates with the Video Insight VMS. It includes a browser-based UI, rules manager, real-time reporting dashboard, and is easy to use. Free Badge Printing Software - Badge printing software is included as part of the installation which does not require additional licensing to use.

Overall, the latest release (v4.8) of Monitorcast access control software provides users with a comprehensive solution for both access control and intrusion detection, all within a single, easy-to-use platform.



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Hikvision India Introduces Eco IP Video Door Phone Series to meet evolving security and communications

Hikvision India has Introduced Eco IP Video Door Phone(VDP) DS KIS302 P Series to meet the evolving security and communications needs in the market. VDP products address a crucial part of the security, communications and convenience needs in both residential and business sectors. They have evolved over time alongside the rapid development in technologies created for better and safer living environments.

The Eco IP VDP Kit with 1 IP indoor station and 1 four-wire HD door station. It has a User-friendly control with a convenient touch screen. It offers convenient management via the Hik-Connect mobile client. It is more cost-effective. Easy installation as the doorbell requires no exclusive power supply.

The VDP market is witnessing a significant transition from analog to IP. Traditional analog systems feature relatively poor audio and image quality and limited functionality. For example, they cannot be accessed using a mobile app or networked management systems.

Although analog systems are often a more economical option, more manufacturers and installers have recommended their customers shift to IP-based VDPs for their wider range of capabilities – including higher image resolution, mobile control, remote operation, and a series of smart functions.

IP VDPs bring a new level of convenience

• Mobile control

IP VDPs let owners receive calls, play video, and open locks from anywhere through just a simple touch. For example, people often receive calls on their mobile devices for package deliveries or other services when they're not at home. IP VDPs, however, allow users to give temporary access remotely to those who need it, just using a simple mobile application. This is more convenient and much safer than manually giving out passwords or key cards.

• User-friendly interfaces

IP VDPs commonly provide a user-friendly screen with a clearly visible interface, simple touch interaction, intuitive operation, and multi-functional information display (e.g., weather, news, announcements, etc.). These easy-to-use features help get modern consumers accustomed to using IP VDPs since they operate very similarly to mobile phones.

• High image quality

Compared to purely analog solutions, IP VDPs provide excellent imaging with higher resolutions and wider field of view. Wide Dynamic Range (WDR) and night vision are also supported to help users see clearly despite challenging light conditions, such as direct sunlight or high contrast environments during the day and darkness in the evening and night time. IP VDPs provide excellent imaging with higher resolutions and wider field of view.

IP VDPs also offer opportunities for integration with other security systems, such as video and alarms. A unified control center ensures all-in-one linkage among various devices and systems and facilitates convenient device operation and management, improving security for businesses and homeowners.

Hikvision's IP VDPs serve a wide range of scenarios including apartment buildings, single-family homes, and SMB offices. In residential applications, these advanced VDPs combine a better user experience with elegant design to suit any decor, as well as a touch-friendly screen for easy operation. Users can remotely open doors and talk to visitors by simply tapping the Hik-Connect mobile app on their smartphone or tablet.

For Business applications, Hikvision's IP VDPs enhance safety levels and management efficiency with strong integration capabilities. Hikvision's All-in-One Indoor Station Series controls and manages all Hikvision access control, video security, and alarm devices through the built-in Hik-Connect app. The product series can also be converged with third-party applications to satisfy customized or personalized needs.

Bandweaver launches ZoneSentry, the latest perimeter intrusion detection system (PIDS) based on fibre optic sensing technology

The new ZoneSentry is a zonal-based Perimeter Intrusion Detection System (PIDS), based on Bandweaver's leading-edge fibre optic distributed acoustic sensing (DAS) technology.

By attaching a single fibre optic sensing cable to the external perimeter of a site or on key assets, ZoneSentry can detect and alert to the vibrations associated with intrusion events, thereby enabling rapid action to prevent damage or theft.

Available with 4 or 8 zones, the ZoneSentry system can integrate with CCTV cameras, at both a hardware or software level. When used with Bandweaver's MaxView integration software, the solution can also interface with other security systems, such as VMS (Video Management System) or PSIM (Physical Security Information Management).

The product addresses the growing demand for real-time monitoring and intruder detection at small- and medium-sized sites, as well as in residential settings. ZoneSentry is a straightforward, out-of-the-box solution that requires minimal set-up, configuration and maintenance. As a result, installation time and costs are reduced, and the system is operational much quicker than with alternative technologies.

Positioned as an entry-level solution, ZoneSentry offers real-time monitoring and detection, along perimeters of up to 8 km per unit. Furthermore, all of this is delivered at a reduced cost, when compared to microwave, radar or more complex COTDR-based Distributed Acoustic Sensor (DAS) based systems.

The unique qualities of distributed fibre optic

sensing technologies offer a number of key benefits, including:

• Completely passive, with no moving parts, power or electronics required in the field.

• Long lifetime, maintenance free cable, with greater than 30 years design life.

• Immune to electromagnetic interference.

• Intrinsically safe and ideal for oil and gas sites.

• Zone specific tuning and filtering minimises nuisance alarms.

• The cost-effective design makes it ideal for use in a range of settings, including renewable energy sites, such as solar farms, remote telecoms sites, power, utilities and substations and Oil and Gas assets, such as well heads, pumping stations and block valves.

Utilising fibre optic cable, ZoneSentry offers a cost-effective solution for small sites that combines swift installation, zone specific configuration and minimal maintenance. With the ability to integrate with CCTV cameras to provide visual verification of perimeter breaches, ZoneSentry provides operators with the confidence that even the most challenging and remote sites are effectively protected.

Vision Ingress 303 Video Intercom and Doorbell from Lockly

The Vision Ingress 303 is a revolutionary smart access control management system with intercom video doorbell that provides security, ease and convenience to manage access to single / multiple units, offices, schools or shared facilities.

It allows multiple users to receive the inbound video call push notification allowing only one person to answer in a single session with the capability to sync all videos to the cloud for storage (with O/S subscription).

It features Lockly's beloved hack proof keypad that can generate and store up to 999 access codes with specific profiles and permissions along with the fast and secure MIFARE RFID or FOB access and stores up to 999 fob keys / RFID cards and quick access 3D biometric fingerprint sensor.

Neurotechnology releases MegaMatcher 13.0 multi-biometric product line with new biometric recognition algorithms

Neurotechnology, a global provider of high-precision biometric solutions, announces the release of MegaMatcher 13.0, the latest version of the company's flagship biometric product line. MegaMatcher provides a range of products for developing multi-biometric solutions that require high accuracy, speed and scalability.

The latest release features MegaMatcher SDK, MegaMatcher Accelerator and MegaMatcher ABIS updates and improvements and adds a new tattoo algorithm that can detect, verify and identify tattoos. The MegaMatcher product line is used by organisations across a wide range of industries, including law enforcement, border control agencies, civil identification projects and commercial enterprises.

With the MegaMatcher 13.0 release, Neurotechnology presents a new set of biometric recognition algorithms that include significant improvements to accuracy and identification speed along with new algorithm enhancements and additional features. These include:

Fingerprint algorithm:

More accurate matching of children's with adults' fingerprints.

Capability to estimate if a matched fingerprint is mirrored, which can be useful in criminal cases.

Improved fingerprint quality heatmap estimation.

Fingerprint quality estimation with new features added, such as fingerprint wetness/dryness.

Facial recognition algorithm:

Improved recognition of different face poses.

Enhanced face liveness detection compliant with ISO/IEC 30107-3 presentation attack detection certified by iBeta Quality Assurance.

Redesigned face capturing based on International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) guidelines.

Conversion of hand-drawn face composite to a realistic face image.

New face anatomy attributes, such as nose size, mouth size and eye size.

Iris recognition algorithm:

Improved iris quality estimation.

Recognition with lower-quality iris scans.

Improved iris orientation estimation.

Voice recognition algorithm:

Improved single model working on 8 kHz and 16 kHz recordings.

Significantly improved speed for matching millions voiceprints per second on MegaMatcher Accelerator.

Can be used in Text-Dependent or Text-Independent manner.

New tattoo recognition algorithm:

Provides tattoo detection, verification and identification

Presents the ability to quickly and accurately identify different instances of the same tattoo from the same subject

"With this new set of biometric algorithms, our MegaMatcher 13.0 products offer greater accuracy and new functionality to serve the most challenging multi-biometric applications," said Irmantas Naujikas, Director for Neurotechnology.

Neurotechnology also offers an advanced MegaMatcher Identity Registration System. The solution provides fast, accurate and reliable biometric data capturing for government organisations and commercial enterprises. This system can be customised for various application scenarios including National ID Registration, Biometric Voter Registration (BVR), Refugee Registration and more.

Axis powered by Genetec addresses access control

Genetec has announced a new collaboration with Axis Communications.

According to the companies this collaborative solution is the industry's first enterprise-level access control offering that combines Genetec access control software with Axis network door controllers in a single easy-to-deploy all-in-one offering.

With inventory available globally and offered exclusively through the Genetec Certified network of channel partners, Axis Powered by Genetec combines the Genetec Synergis access control software with the AXIS A1210 and AXIS A1610 network door controllers.

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RecFaces introduces Id-Guard ready-to-use biometric solution for VMS

RecFaces, Dubai-based facial recognition developer for smart security, has recently introduced Id-Guard box software. It significantly expands the functionality of classic video surveillance systems, improving security by identifying people in a video stream in under a second.

With a simple step-by-step installation, the ready-to-use solution is up-and-running within 20 minutes. The ready-to-use solution allows a security department to quickly manage (add and delete) profiles and photos of visitors and employees, set up lists, events, notifications, as well as track people's movements on a map and build security reports.

Also, the solution provides ready-made certified integrations with a number of VMS systems developed by the world's market leaders in security systems, and without extra pay. Plug-ins integrate seamlessly into

any VMS interface already familiar to security operators, providing them with new full-featured biometric capabilities.

RecFaces now is the only developer of software based on facial recognition technology that makes simple and applicable biometric solutions easily integrated into existing VMS, ACS, CRM, etc. The quality of RecFaces boxed solutions has been proven by numerous installations around the world, including the MENA, APAC, and LATAM regions. Together with its global partners, RecFaces delivers solutions to security, transport, retail, financial industry and other areas providing free demos and training on the company's products.

Now RecFaces is open for partnership offers in India and is ready to provide the Indian market with high-end solutions based on recognition technology to increase efficiency in the areas of security, marketing and HR. on recognition technology to increase efficiency in the areas of security, marketing and HR.

Id-Guard Mobile APP for Android smartphone is FREE.

For more details scan the QR

Rapiscan® Systems launches the 935DX, an Orion® next generation x-ray screening technology

Rapiscan Systems, launches the 935DX, a new model within its growing line of ORION™ X-ray screening systems. The 935DX, among the largest tunnelled conveyor systems on the market, is primarily designed for screening air cargo and pallets.

By positioning its primary generator centrally under the conveyor, in combination with a proprietary, U-shaped detector line, operators obtain extremely accurate images, with the correct aspect ratio, regardless of an object's orientation or position on the conveyor belt.

Rapiscan has also designed the 935DX with no installation or service access required from above, so the system is well suited for facilities with low overhead space constraints such as those found within many air cargo facilities. All ORION Baggage and Parcel Inspection (BPI) solutions provide unparalleled image quality and reliability.

Bosch FLEXIDOME 5100i fixed cameras

The FLEXIDOME 5100i fixed cameras improve building security and operational efficiency with the new Intelligent Video Analytics Pro (IVA Pro) Buildings Pack. Based on deep learning, these video analytics support reliable intrusion detection and accurate people counting in crowded areas, especially in and around buildings.

With the new FLEXIDOME 5100i, you get high-image quality for 24/7 performance, thanks to starlight, HDR, and intelligent infrared (IR) illumination. The cameras employ an improved three-step installation concept and require no calibration for person or vehicle detection, saving installers valuable time.

The various advantages include:

• Ensure advanced intrusion detection in and around buildings, thanks to deep learning combined with high-image quality. Get 24/7 imaging performance outdoors, even in challenging lighting.

• Significantly reduce false alarms and time and expense of operators investigating the problem.

• Expand the applications of the camera with tailor-made video analytics and create new revenue streams for your business.

• Fast and easy installation and commissioning with zero calibration for detecting persons and vehicles also saves time and money.

• Reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint with remote access and maintenance.

• Keep systems and sensitive video data safe with the highest levels of security and built-in quality.

• Take advantage of IVA Pro data for alarm scripting or event-based recording, thanks to seamless integration with leading video management systems.

Dallmeier presents E version of Domera camera family

Dallmeier, a manufacturer of video security technology, introduces the "E" version of the successful, award-winning DOMERA® camera family. The cameras are particularly suitable for projects where high image quality at a low price is a priority, but where, for example, AI support for video analytics is not required.

The modular cameras of the Dallmeier "DOMERA®" series introduced in 2022 are now also available as "E-versions". The two cameras RDF5120DN (E) and RDF5140DN (E) offer the usual high image quality with 2 MP and 5 MP resolution, respectively, providing detailed images even in low light conditions.

The wide dynamic range (WDR) function ensures optimum recording of scenes with very bright and very dark areas. In addition, the camera's optional built-in 180-degree adaptive IR LED light provides clear black-and-white images with excellent contrast, even in total darkness. Combined with a list price of way beyond 700 Euros, the DOMERA® Version E models meet the tender requirements of many video security projects.

Users benefit from the many advantages of the DOMERA® family: thanks to the modular system with various mounting options, channel partners and installers cannot only cover dome camera application scenarios but also replace outdoor, box and bullet cameras. This offers many advantages, such as significantly better protection against spiders and better lighting thanks to the camera's own IR illumination.

Installers and channel partners will also be pleased with the Dallmeier remote positioning dome (RPoD), which allows the lens to be remotely adjusted in three axes. This allows technicians to easily install the camera and quickly adjust the recorded scene from anywhere if requirements or customer preferences change.

Time-consuming fine-tuning of the lens on a ladder or lift is now a thing of the past. In addition, the cameras support H.264/H.265 video compression and, thanks to ONVIF Profile S support, can be integrated into a wide range of video management systems (VMS).

The camera models are ideal for applications where a first-class video image is of primary importance, but not additional functions such as AI or audio.

GJD Clarius medium hybrid IP IR/WL LED illuminator

3xLOGIC, Inc., a provider of integrated, intelligent security solutions, announces sweeping technology updates across its extensive line of cameras. Highlights of these updated cameras include:

3xLOGIC All-in-One cameras now have increased storage options up to 1 TB in total. Other notable features of these versatile cameras:

• VISIX All-in-One Series of cameras have onboard storage and function as a standalone VIGIL Server.

• Compatible with entire VIGIL Software Suite; direct access thru VIGIL Client and View Lite II mobile app, and VIGIL Central Management for remote health monitoring.

• With VISIX Setup App (iOS/Android), installers can easily configure cameras for rapid deployment.

• 128GB and 256GB storage options, and now 512GB and 1TB SD card storage

Coming to the VIGIL CLOUD platform, de-warping of their popular Fisheye cameras (VX-6M-360-IAW). Other notable features:

• This 360° IP camera provides affordable, high-definition 100% coverage and the ability to digitally pan, tilt, and zoom (PTZ) to any location.

• 3xLOGIC Panoramic De-warping Software means users achieve real-time viewing of an entire scene from a single camera.

The popular 3xLOGIC Licence Plate Capture (LPC) cameras now work on the VIGIL CLOUD platform and offer powerful All-In-One functionality. Other camera benefits include:

• All the features needed for nearly any application: motion detection, remote focus, licence plate capture with post event review, and easy installation in a multitude of locations.

• All-In-One functionality means onboard storage, and with the purchase of appropriate licencing the camera is a standalone recording device, with redundant recording to VIGIL Server.

• Highly cost-effective application when post-event investigations require precise imaging to identify licence plates. Plates capture accuracy in low-security and low-light environments.

In addition to upgraded features for the VISIX line of cameras, 3xLOGIC will also be introducing the Next Gen 96-Channel NVR, enabling increased camera counts with fewer servers, and improved processing for higher camera counts. Also of note:

• These recording appliances are cost-effective and include the award-winning VIGIL enterprise-grade video management platform that is easy to deploy, and easy to expand.

• End users own a system that addresses today's needs with the ability to scale for tomorrow's demands.

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Amthal captures security and fire safety for Gravity Media

Amthal is working with the global media production company, Gravity Media to secure all of its sites across the UK, ensuring dedicated security, fire safety, and ultimate site protection for its team and high-profile visitors.

Gravity Media is a provider of cutting-edge, live creative and media services. Home to state-of-the-art equipment and world-class production facilities, with a 30-year pedigree, it leads the way in global sports and entertainment content creation.

Serving international clients from five Production Centres in White City (London), Soho (London), Chiswick, Farnborough, and Watford, Amthal was sourced to review on-site fire safety and security. The security specialist made recommendations to create an integrated system where monitoring of each site could be carried out remotely.

Amthal worked with Gravity Media, completing a full risk assessment of all sites, to establish system requirements, taking in details including the need for 24/7 access by authorised personnel. The expensive equipment housed at each production centre location also needed controlled access alongside visual verification to optimise security.

Utilising a specialist Paxton solution, Amthal designed and installed a layered security system, integrating CCTV, door entry, and intruder alarms to maintain an active presence for the safety of all staff and visitors. From a fire safety perspective, Amthal actively services its fire extinguishers for each site, including all necessary inspections to remain compliant with the latest standards.

Amthal Fire & Security is accredited by the Security Systems and Alarm Inspection Board (SSAIB) United Kingdom Accreditation Services (UKAS) and British Approvals for Fire Equipment (BAFE).

Orpheus theatre upgrades public address and voice evacuation system to IP-based Bosch Praesensa

The life safety system is one of the most important pieces of technology in any public building. As one of the five largest theatres in the Netherlands, Theater & Concert Orpheus takes the responsibility for the safety of its visitors very seriously in its three halls with a capacity between 242 and 1286 seats as well as the affiliated restaurant.

When it became time to replace its ageing evacuation system with one that would meet the latest safety standards, Bosch Praesensa was the obvious choice.

The requirement was to upgrade the current solution to meet the necessary regulatory requirements for public buildings and ensure it received the required EN certification.

It is in this kind of mid-to-large application that Praesensa sets a new industry benchmark. It is perfect for both centralised and decentralised network topologies as an advanced and extremely cost-efficient fully IP-based system, featuring a smart-power concept and integrated redundancy.

The main challenge for the theatre was the integration of the house PA and background music system with the voice evacuation system. The aim was for a solution that would give the theatre complete control over all of its Dante-based audio facilities from one interface.

Achieving this aim relied on Praesensa's built-in OMNEO networking architecture. OMNEO is an IP-based architectural approach connecting devices to exchange information such as audio content and device control. OMNEO can seamlessly integrate with Dante networks ensuring the voice evacuation system and the communications operate together.

One of the key parts of this project was ensuring the systems were integrated without infringing on the functions of the evacuation system.

The evacuation system needed to be able to completely take over from the house PA and background music system in the event of an emergency, but also give sufficient flexibility on the background music channels when the system is in normal operation.

With OMNEO facilitating Dante's audio, the result delivered exactly what the theatre wanted to achieve. It has given the user full flexibility on the various audio routings within the venue.

A 32-channel Dante matrix sits at the heart of the solution, allowing the user to manage the entire house system without affecting the Praesensa public address and voice evacuation system.

To add an extra level of complexity to the project, the switchover needed to be done while the venue was operational. Again, this was an area where the functionality of Praesensa proved to be advantageous.

Due to this choice, Connect AV BV, the systems integrator responsible for the project was able to install the new solution while also keeping the original solution working as a backup.

Colorado Charter school solves security issues with Mobotix

Located in Colorado Springs, CO, The Vanguard School wanted to enhance the security plan on its campuses. They needed to implement a strategy to better monitor their environment and required solutions at both school locations that would protect their campuses as well as monitor the behaviour of their students.

School safety is one of the top priorities for the Vanguard School. They wanted to ensure students, staff, and teachers were protected by making sure that all school visitors were properly identified.

In addition to monitoring all individuals entering school grounds, they needed a solution that would monitor student behaviour within school buildings. There were numerous challenges to overcome at both campuses.

The campus consists of four to twelve properties with hilly landscapes and hidden nooks that borders a highway and industrial and residential areas. The school wanted to be able to monitor the safety of students being picked up and dropped off.

There are more than 1,500 students that are picked up and dropped off between two of the campus locations. The installation of a video surveillance system would greatly enhance the security and safety of all the studets.

The Konica Minolta team initially went in to sell an assessment, but through conversations and observations, they instead suggested an intelligent video security solution: MOBOTIX Cameras. To accommodate the budget of the school, the security system was planned to be installed in two waves with the first internally followed by the external installation.

School administrators were intrigued by the versatility and concealability of the MOBOTIX cameras. Other strong selling points included the cameras' high resolution which allowed for easy pinpointing of targets and the decentralised aspect of the system. They were able to see clear images in low light to easily distinguish individuals as well as monitor the campus effectively.

Konica Minolta was able to increase the security of both campuses through this collaborative effort with The Vanguard School. By identifying and understanding the pain points, were able to effectively address all the concerns of the school.

The MOBOTIX system keeps the kids safe, so educators can focus on what they do best - teaching, thereby enhancing the overall proficiency of the school.

Jacksons Fencing specified for Westgate Ward Social Club in Ipswich, Suffolk

Built in 1920, Westgate Ward Social Club in Ipswich, Suffolk, is a multi-functional venue hosting all types of events from weddings to local community meetings, sports clubs, and even film shoots.

Although the venue space is highly popular within the community, it has also sadly become a target for anti-social behaviour. Resolve, a Centre of Excellence dedicated to combating antisocial behaviour and providing safety for communities, reveals that in 2022 anti-social behaviour reached epidemic levels. Approximately 37% of the adults surveyed reported having experienced or witnessed anti-social behaviour in their community, the highest figure in six years.

Having a secure perimeter is paramount for businesses and community buildings, however, aesthetics are as important to consider in the design and specification process.

Perimeter security can heavily influence first impressions, and affect how people view the site. As such, it is crucial that public buildings and facilities are appropriately designed and security is carefully planned from the outset.

Properly specified fencing and gates will help demonstrate how safe and secure a site is.

In turn, if it also looks stylish and well-maintained, this will create a positive first impression and display the calibre of standards and care. This club is located in the centre of a Victorian Conservation area. The car parks and sports fields adjacent to the building were surrounded by concrete slab fencing and dilapidated boundaries. This allowed anti-social behaviour to continue as the fencing and boundaries restricted the view from the Community Safety CCTV system.

While concrete is often thought to be a durable material, aesthetically it creates a visually dull environment that is uninviting and drab for visitors and the local community. It may surprise users that concrete materials are unable to withstand the test of time.

The eco-credentials of concrete are very low and gaps can be easily created over time as a result of weathering and ground shifts. This affects how robust the boundary is and creates a security and safety risk.

Then if gaps in the fence have been created, a ladder effect materialises, making it very easy to climb, while also being hazardous for guests. Angle iron posts and barbed wire strands had previously been installed above the fencing to counteract any climbing, which again can appear hostile for guests and the surrounding community.

A Suffolk Police Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO) discussed her concerns about the inadequate existing perimeter security on this site with Jacksons' Fencing. It was evident that more robust boundary protection was needed to provide essential security, increase visibility, and help expose areas that were currently CCTV blind spots. As the club is based in a Victorian Conservation area, all solutions specified needed to comply with these regulations.

Physical solutions needed to be implemented that are not only secure but also aesthetically pleasing. Combining quality materials and fixings, good design, and exceptional installation, while also considering sustainability and longevity assures a long guarantee. This specific project expertly demonstrates it's possible to have anti-climb and vandal-resistant security fences and railings that are also visually appealing.

To meet the requirements to create a secure yet welcoming environment for guests, and protect the site from vandalism, climbing, and trespassing, 48 metres of Barbican Imperial® railings and 101 metres of EuroGuard® Flatform fencing were installed.

Allowing clear visibility between the pales from the club site to the outside, the Barbican Imperial® railings feature strong, pale-through-rail construction which is ideal for safety and surveillance. The lack of visible bolts means they cannot be removed to gain access.

Instead, hidden internal panel-to-post connectors are used to eliminate any weak points in the metal railings.

The pale tops are cut to 45-degree angles and protrude through the top rail, actively deterring opportunist climbers. The Suffolk Police DOCO is committed to sustainability and longevity, as such, the products used in this regeneration project needed to be robust.

The metal railings are hot dip galvanised to protect them from rust and corrosion, and are polyester powder-coated black, providing a highly durable and long-lasting finish. As with all Jacksons' products, they come with a 25-year service life guarantee.

Around the club's sports field, 101 metres of EuroGuard® Flatform fencing was installed. This has hot dip galvanised posts and each mesh panel is Galfan® zinc alloy coated to ensure enhanced resistance to corrosion.

The fencing was also polyester powder-coated green to match the surrounding area.

French hospital takes control of employee and contractor access with eCLIQ

The Marin Hospital of Hendaye in the French Basque Country faced common challenges posed by mechanical access control. Relying on mechanical lock-and-key technology made it difficult or impossible to know who had been accessing sensitive areas like treatment rooms and medicine stores.

Another source of insecurity was the keys and passes issued to employees and contractors. These often remain in circulation beyond their approved use period, if former employees and service providers fail to return them. To provide proper security for staff and patients, the hospital needed to upgrade its access control system.

Meeting the demands of a large and complex site requires a flexible solution that can secure interior and exterior hospital doors, as well as multiple other types of openings. Also critical for The Marin Hospital of Hendaye is the ability to trace staff and external contractor movements into and between sensitive areas. An electronic access system with in-built audit trail capability was essential.

The hospital chose an eCLIQ system based on programmable electronic keys and wireless cylinders. Since 2016, their security team has gradually rolled out eCLIQ electronic access control to all care and logistics buildings, including drug stores, labs, and other sensitive or confidential areas. The wireless eCLIQ solution offers easy installation without the expense or disruption of laying dedicated cabling.

An eCLIQ solution gives managers control over important aspects of hospital security. They can issue access tailored to an individual's needs and level of authority and amend it whenever required. External service providers use an intelligent eCLIQ key which automatically expires after a pre-defined period. This is much safer than relying on a contractor to return their mechanical key every time.

Employees enjoy much greater comfort and convenience: Carrying a single eCLIQ key programmed with their permissions makes bulky key bunches a distant memory.

eCLIQ is built around precision-engineered locking cylinders and high-end microelectronics. A standard battery inside each programmable electronic key powers the cylinder or padlock on insertion and encrypts the data transfer between lock, key, and system.

The eCLIQ cylinder range can bring almost any opening into an electronic access control system. Robust, durable eCLIQ cylinder locks secure lifts, machines, mailboxes, cabinets, and more with the same control as sensitive doors.

Sovereign safe controls access to their safety deposit vault through efficient Matrix security solutions

Sovereign Safe provides deposit facilities that truly push the global standards of the safe deposit industry. With the very latest modular high compression steel vaults constructed and installed by specialist manufacturers, state-of-the-art biometric access with complete audit trail from electronic alarmed lockers, Sovereign stands unrivalled as a leader amongst any high security facility anywhere in the world.

No high street bank nor any safe deposit centre can match their credentials and the extraordinary security levels they have achieved. People across the country have been targeted for their valuables, not only on the streets but also in their homes. Challenges were to offer a complete peace of mind by delivering the highest-level of security and access permission through various levels of security check (e.g. Card and Biometric Palm Vein Reader).

Matrix solved these challenges by providing COSEC PANEL LITE, VEGA, PVR, PATH Series, and ARC DC100P. Matrix Access Control solution helps boost security along with barriers and door controllers. Offered solution is designed to address security concerns in a professional and systematic method without compromising hospitality and productivity.

It allows enrolling visitor's Fingerprint/Palm Vein Reader/RFID Card to provide the visitor with access to restricted area, as per below criteria:

• 2-Person rule: This is enforced by requiring the presence of at least two authorised persons.

• Route based access: This allows users to access the authorised route only.

• Anti-pass back: This restricts entering a secured area second time without first leaving it.

The results are: Peace of mind, seamless experience, increased productivity of staff, quick actions on exceptions, multi-layer authentication, and a boost in customer satisfaction levels.

The products used are: COSEC VEGA CAX integrated with turnstile, COSEC PVR Door Controller, COSEC PANEL LITE, COSEC PATH Series, and COSEC ARC DC100P.

imageHOLDERS instals digital kiosks at Places Leisure in their brand new Camberley flagship gym

imageHOLDERS are a trusted partner of Places Leisure gyms and leisure centres. They first worked with them at their Eastleigh flagship site, which went on to be the blueprint for most of their estates.

At their brand new flagship Camberley site, imageHOLDERS have worked with them from concept, through building site visits, to the deployment of this new range of kiosks. Places Leisure pride themselves on offering state of the art equipment and using technology to provide incredible customer care and the best user experience for members.

The challenge was to create an intuitive and efficient user journey and visitor management system for members to self-check-in to the centre. The physical space provided some challenges and required careful consideration of the layout and the design of the custom kiosk solution.

The unique space and technical requirements meant that existing digital kiosk designs produced and used throughout the other leisure centres in the Places Leisure estate were not going to work. All equipment needed to be in keeping with the interior design of the space and be accessible, safe and tidy with all cables hidden and in total be in keeping with a £20 Million state of the art facility. Another unique requirement of the site was a separate car park access control system.

Visitors using the car park were to be asked to register their registration number through a touch screen using a different system that could not be integrated with the normal membership management application.

Places Leisure needed to get as much out of the reception space as possible. The interactive kiosks needed to be countertop mounted, central to the entrance. The amount of space for the number of digital kiosks required to sit on a tabletop wasn't large. Plus, all cables needed to be safely hidden away, whilst the screens retain connectivity to power at all times. Their car park is managed by the council (municipality) and therefore runs on a separate application. They needed their digital kiosk software to run smoothly alongside the council car parking application so that members could register their car number plate to avoid getting a ticket.

The gym access control kiosk enclosure needed a QR code and barcode scanner so members could scan their app or membership card to gain access and self-check-in. The screen needed to be interactive and intuitive so members could find and book classes easily.

They also needed digital kiosks as a sales tool, to use as a visual aid for sales staff, complete with the option to take payment and take a photo of new members. In addition to the self-check-in kiosks, there was a requirement to create a sales area where prospective members could sit with a centre representative and either individually or in groups, be presented with membership options and be enrolled.

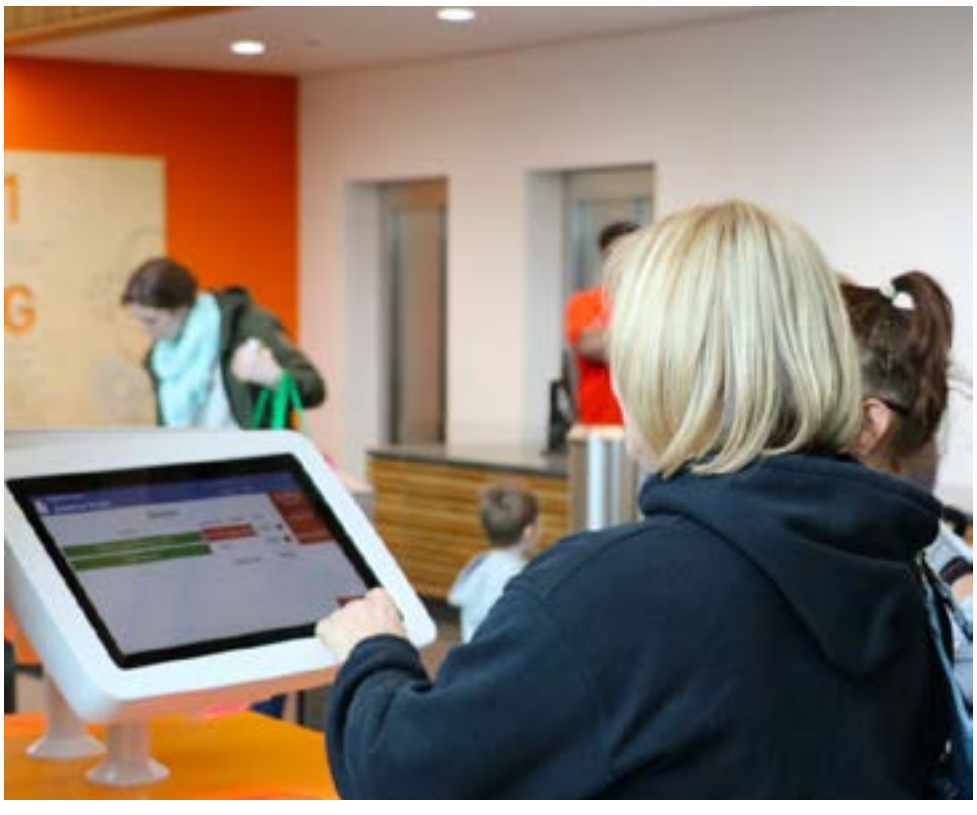
imageHOLDERS took on the challenge of mounting the self-service kiosks onto a single counter which was cut into a unique dog-leg shape to maximise and fit into the available space. The counter was designed to be at the maximum size possible and the best option to work within the space.

To solve the challenge of requiring two different check-in solutions for a member access control system and car park check-in, we designed a dual-screen interactive kiosk enclosure solution, which housed both a 12□ and 10□ tablet. This overcame the issue of running two different systems (Places Leisure and the Council car park) alongside each other. This allowed for separate power and data networks all to be displayed on a single digital kiosk station. Within the counter, all cables and connectivity were hidden to leave a sleek and modern finish.

The self-check-in gym kiosks were designed with barcode scanners fully integrated into the enclosure. This allows for members to check-in and gain access to the premises with either their membership card or a QR code on the Places Leisure app.

The entire counter with integrated kiosks was designed, built and installed by imageHOLDERS. In the sales area, we designed and produced two bespoke counter height tables which had a specific 'Chicago Concrete' finish to seamlessly blend into the surroundings. The interactive gym kiosks are completely cohesive with the interior design.

Integrated into the tables is a Loxo 15, housing a panel PC on a fully adjustable mount allowing the screen to be positioned to the best effect. Providing the perfect display for staff to be able to show new members information on the screen and work as a sales visual aid. The enclosure neatly integrates a scanner, camera and payment device to allow a full-function digital kiosk solution for signing up new members.



Reasons why even the smallest offices need a Fire Safety Plan

Fire safety should be a priority in and outside of the workplace, even if your home or office is small. Fires are indiscriminate and destructive, and there's an argument to be made that startups are more at risk. That's because they're less likely to have a fire safety plan.

Fire safety plans can save you and your employees' lives, and there's no better reason than that to create one. But if you're unconvinced, here are seven more reasons you need a safety plan.

Fire Safety Plans Include Anti-Fire Equipment

Maybe you don't see a point in creating a fire safety plan because you work from a very small office with few staff. If you stop to consider how many house fires happen (346,000 per year or 26 percent of all reported fires), then it's clear to see that it only takes one person to cause a fire.

But when it does happen, you can minimize the damage by taking advantage of fire and life safety services. These include installing sprinklers, fire extinguishers and loud fire alarms.

Fire safety should be taken seriously by your staff, as a single mistake could cost them their lives. When you have fire and life safety equipment in your office, it can be used to minimize the damage and evacuate safely. You could even extinguish a little fire yourself with an extinguisher.

People Naturally Panic During a Fire

It's completely natural to panic when our homes or offices are on fire, and that reaction should be taken into account. Even the most bare-bones fire safety plan can give employees direction on where to go or what to do. Without a safety plan, it's every man and woman for themselves.

When this happens, people get hurt. Trampling, tripping and pushing are common in poorly planned evacuations. However, a fire safety plan can help you get everyone out safely.

With that said, a fire safety plan doesn't guarantee everyone will cooperate. Employers should appoint a leader to rally everyone together when things get chaotic. Preferably, this leader will be a respected manager that has a background in fire safety or health and safety management.

Most People Don't Know What to do During a Fire

High-pressure or dangerous situations can cause otherwise rational people to make mistakes, but mistakes are guaranteed when no one knows what they're doing. You could have a team of 10 people and still end up with a lot of injured employees and thousands of dollars in damages.

When a teammate discovers a fire, they should activate the fire alarm, alert other staff and assist others if possible. When other team members hear the alarm, they should shut down their equipment (if possible), leave the building via the stairwell, and close all doors behind them. These steps are crucial whether you work in a large office building or a small stand-alone office. If your team doesn't know what to do during a fire, you need to educate them immediately.

Everyone Knows Their Role

You may have a map and some direction on what to do during a first, but that won't mean they're aware of who leads and who follows. As stated, appointing a leader is essential, but you shouldn't stop there. All fire safety plans designate roles for each team member and manager.

In a scenario with 10 total employees, two should be leaders, and two should bring up the rear (to check if someone needs help). Everyone should have a previously designated partner that looks after them. If you've hired a person with disabilities, they may need extra help or attention. People with epilepsy, for example, should be monitored in case the stress triggers a seizure. If someone doesn't have a role, they should evacuate following their leader's instructions.

Fire Drills Can Instill Best Practices

Fire safety procedures must include guidelines and floor plans, which should be communicated to every employee and occupant. Employees should know what information is needed when calling for emergency services. Finally, occupants should be trained in general fire safety. These steps aren't difficult to execute once, even twice, but the best plans will include fire drills that keep workplace procedures fresh in their mind. Drills should be planned and unplanned.

Your first fire drill won't be smooth, and unplanned drills come with the possibility of injury. With that said, fire drills are worth it because they instill fire safety best practices and prepare staff for the real deal. A one-a-month fire drill will instill confidence in your staff to evacuate successfully. Managers must perform regular maintenance that focuses on fire safety procedures. For example, they should check if emergency exits and fire extinguishers are accessible, that fire doors are correctly installed and that appropriate emergency lighting is found in the building.

Fire extinguishers and smoke and fire alarms must be inspected every month to ensure they're operational. They should be installed based on Fire Code and the National Fire Protection Association's placement guide. Tripping up on this step will affect your evacuation plans.

Hochiki Europe launches new training facility for fire industry professionals

Hochiki Europe has launched a refurbished training room and online courses aimed at helping fire industry professionals 'train for life'. Unveiled in January, Hochiki Europe has opened its new training facility, as well as launched new online courses to allow customers to 'upskill for life'.

The new art classroom is located at Hochiki Europe's head office in Gillingham and is a 'key asset' in the organisation's vision to provide training in the life safety industry. The training centre aims to cater for businesses and system partners who want to ensure their employees 'stay at the forefront' of fire safety, allowing companies to send individuals or whole teams to attend life safety courses at the educational facility.

A range of application-led educational content can be delivered via online modules and practical face-to-face sessions, either at customer premises or in the classroom. All the resources and course content has been compiled by Hochiki's team of 'highly experienced' training facilitators, who also deliver the face-to-face courses. Remote product and systems training is also possible via the training centre's 'large' interactive screen which includes an integrated webcam.

Within the classroom, engineers will learn at individual workstations which feature working versions of Hochiki's life safety system, Latitude, along with two loops of devices. The product boards at each station have also been designed to be able to be swapped out, depending on the course the student is attending – for example fire detection, emergency lighting or hybrid wireless.

Rescue Service outlines most common fire safety breaches

The State Fire and Rescue Service (VUGD) of Latvia has concluded a report on fire safety in residential apartment buildings for 2022. According to a statement released March 1, the most frequent violation is unchecked wiring.

VUGD conducted fire-safety tests in 1,341 residential homes in 2022, 24.4% more than in 2021. Over the past four years, on average around a thousand fire-safety checks have been carried out at residential homes, mostly multi-apartment buildings.

The VUGD has identified the five most common infringements of fire safety requirements. The first of them is untested wiring found in 36%, or 487, of inspected residential homes.

VUGD noted that human habits and the number of electrical appliances used at the same time have changed over the years, but wiring in large parts of the buildings has not changed for long, which increases the risk of short-circuiting.

The electrical wiring test provided by certified specialists shall be carried out every 10 years.

20.8% or 279 residential houses have stored materials and objects in unauthorized places (stairways, attic, electrical transmission rooms or cabinets).

The VUGD noted that the attic, cellar, and balcony of the household must not be overstuffed. In the event of a fire, overstuffed spaces can contribute to the spread of the fire, as well as delay the work of fire rescuers by making it difficult to move.

In 13% or 178 buildings, objects are placed under stairs and landings, arbitrary construction is detected, and doors on escape routes are not easily opened from the inside without delay and obstruction.

According to the VUGD, escape routes are intended for the rapid and unencumbered escape of persons from buildings and facilities in the event of a fire and other hazards, and must therefore be freely accessible. Any bar-

rier may hinder movement and thus threaten people's health and life.

10.7% or 144 multi-apartment buildings have not developed a fire safety instruction for shared rooms and areas, but in 12% or 164 cases, owners and tenants are not instructed about fire safety.

Last year, 26% of all fires took place in the residential sector. The observations of fire rescuers at the scene suggest that in the residential sector, 61% of the fires are caused by careless handling of fire.

The second most frequent reason for fires is incorrect electrical equipment use or short-circuit, which has caused 20.8% of fires in the residential sector, while 13.2% of fires have been caused by incorrect use of heating devices or their damage.

"At least a third of the fires in housing can be prevented if fire safety requirements are met, while prevention requires careful and correct action by citizens when smoking, using an open flame, preparing food, or lighting candles," said Deputy Chief of VUGD Mārtiš Baltmanis.

Make fire safety a priority with maintenance, ventilation

Frequent instances of LPG cylinder explosion getting reported in the Hyderabad city once again puts the spotlight on the need for proper handling of cooking gas cylinders at houses, offices and eateries. In the last few months, cases of LPG cylinder explosion where people were killed or injured were reported in various parts of the city.

"Basic safety precautions should be adhered to avoid the fire accidents resulting from LPG cylinders. Most important thing to ensure is that the cylinders and stoves are regularly checked for any damages," said Regional Fire Officer, V Pappaiah.

Most of these mishaps occur during the morning hours when people get out of bed and without checking for possible leakages, ignite the lighter to light the stove. At times fire starts when one switches on the lights in the kitchen or a room nearest to it. Most of the time, due to damage to the regulator, supply lines or the rubber pipe connecting the cylinder to the stove, the leakage happens. The gas accumulates in the room if it is not properly ventilated and when someone ignites a stove or match stick fire starts, he said.

Rodents in the kitchen play a disastrous role in the fire caused by the LPG cylinders.

"Rodents damage the rubber pipe and the gas starts leaking slowly. The pipe is to be regularly checked for damage and replaced at short intervals," explained Pappaiah. Well ventilated kitchen helps in exhaustion of the gas in case of leakage else it clouds in the house leading to a disaster, he added.

In case of a fire accident the people should not panic, and leave the house immediately. In case of LPG cylinder catching fire, the fire can be put off using a wet gunny bag or a blanket. However, only those trained in fire fighting techniques are advised to do it.

Aico AudioLINK+ improves home life safety

AudioLINK+ is now faster, quieter, and more reliable than ever before. The second iteration of Aico's award-winning AudioLINK technology makes it easy to access real-time data from alarms via the free AudioLINK+ app.

AudioLINK+ extracts the same data as AudioLINK, but does this quicker and quieter than before to reduce disturbance and does not affect any other functionality of alarms. With the average time to take a report tak ng between 4-7 seconds, AudioLINK+ technology makes getting real-time data from Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms more efficient – saving time, money and lives.

The AudioLINK+ App is backwards compatible, meaning AudioLINK alarms currently installed do not need to be replaced to utilise the new technology and will work with the new version of the app. However, users will need to update to the latest version of the app to download reports from any AudioLINK+ alarms installed within their properties.

The App generates a simple to read colour-coded report, giving information on a range of alarm data, including alarm activations, sensor status, alarm testing information, battery and backup cell status, recorded Carbon Monoxide (CO) levels within CO alarms, and advice on dust contamination levels within the 3000 series alarms.

All of this information can be emailed directly from the phone or tablet, to one or multiple addresses, being sent as a PDF report for the property or exported as a .csv file for simple integration with housing management and maintenance systems. Additional information can be added to the report to help link it to a specific alarm and to communicate important and helpful information.

Honeywell Notifier inspire fire alarm with self-test detectors

Honeywell, a global leader in fire and life safety, today launched the first fire alarm system with UL-approved self-testing smoke detectors that can be tested automatically, changing the way fire and life safety systems are installed, tested and maintained.

The NOTIFIER INSPIRETM fire alarm system with Self-Test detectors is designed to help create a safer building environment by increasing facility managers' awareness of system needs while equipping service providers with digital self-testing tools that streamline maintenance and support regulatory compliance and system uptime.

NOTIFIER INSPIRE is an all-in-one fire system that delivers reliable protection, scalability, efficient monitoring, as well as flexible and timely reporting. It helps enhance fire technician efficiency as it is designed to scale based on the buildings' needs, minimises the need for equipment changes, and provides secure connectivity.

"Honeywell is integrating intelligence across all aspects of fire and life safety systems," said Jurgen Van Goethem, global president, Fire, Honeywell. "By digitalizing the most essential system in the building, we're creating efficiencies during commissioning and maintenance, we're further improving system reliability and we're improving the end-user experience. We're also working to change building owners' mindsets to think about fire and life safety systems not just as a necessary system to be able to occupy the building, but as a system with a wealth of data that going forward, we can tap into to ultimately better protect lives. This will help move the industry toward the creation of safer and more compliant buildings."

NOTIFIER INSPIRE series with Self-Test smoke detectors are securely enabled through Honeywell's Connected Life Safety Services (CLSS) cloud-based platform. CLSS provides real-time visibility into the fire system to installers, service technicians and facility managers, and allows technicians to diagnose and troubleshoot problems ahead of time, improving first-time fix rates and reducing time spent on-site.

NOTIFIER INSPIRE features modularity for easy expansion and upgrades, creating a system that grows with a building. The system reduces the amount of equipment needed, further decreasing potential maintenance, replacement parts and overall inventory management. Its modern and intuitive touchscreen display helps minimise human error while providing a stylish aesthetic. It can help enhance technician efficiency by minimising disruption, maximising remote productivity and supporting compliance.

NOTIFIER Self-Test eliminates many of the physical barriers during test and maintenance such as locked rooms, high ceilings and other hard-to-access spaces – areas that may go untested, which can ultimately put buildings at risk. The detectors introduce small amounts of heat and smoke into their own detection chambers, testing both the photo and thermal sensors as well as verifying that smoke entry points are free of obstruction.

Most importantly, a single technician can initiate the test at the NOTIFIER INSPIRE panel for the entire building, minimising disturbances in working spaces and eliminating the need to access difficult-to-reach areas like elevator shafts. The inspection report is digitised, delivered electronically via the CLSS application within minutes, a task that previously took as much as one hour, and creates a complete end-to-end electronic audit trail to support full compliance.

The latest trends in digitalized traffic management and AIoT – Hikvision's responses to new survey results

Tech talk

A recent ITS International Magazine & Hikvision survey shed new light on how traffic authorities are hoping to use AIoT solutions to tackle congestion, reduce emissions, and provide better and safer road-user experiences. To get a more in-depth understanding of the survey findings – and to see how Hikvision can help authorities harness technology for better traffic management outcomes. Juan Sádaba, ITS Business Development Manager at Hikvision Spain shares the insights from the survey report.

There are a myriad of applications and opportunities for AI in traffic management, especially related to deployment of low-emissions zones, congestion management schemes, and traffic violation management. To support more efficient traffic management operations, Hikvision builds AIoT solutions, such as cameras with LPR (License Plate Recognition), vehicle speeding detection, vehicle classification and a range of other capabilities. These AI-powered features are built into the cameras themselves, making them true AIoT devices. This reduces operators' infrastructure and licensing requirements and costs vs. centralised servers that host the AI capabilities.

This is totally in line with what we are seeing and what our customers are saying. The way to simplify and accelerate the process of deploying AIoT solutions, in my view, is to implement open architectures and platforms that can be integrated seamlessly with other traffic management systems. To support this, Hikvision provides solutions with open APIs that can be easily integrated into traffic management environments via a software developer kit (SDK).

Likewise, other manufacturers can choose to integrate their technologies into HikCentral, our centralised management platform, which allows customers to run and manage their entire traffic management environment and all connected devices centrally. Finally, but equally importantly, partners and customers can develop their own value-added applications for our AIoT solutions with Hikvision Embedded Open Platform 2.0 (HEOP) to further increase their AI capabilities.

Multi-dimensional perception is about integrating video cameras with other sensing capabilities, like radar, sonar, and smoke detection, which will help forge more powerful traffic management systems. Hikvision are leaders in this regard, ploughing around 10% of our annual revenues back into R&D to drive the next wave of AIoT technology innovations.

As part of our innovation strategy, we are building smart cameras that combine video, audio, radar, thermal imaging, and humidity detection, and we are also building cameras with multiple AI features in a single device. One example is our early-warning traffic solution, which combines smart video and radar technology to "see" objects in the road long before they are visible to drivers, even in very low-visibility weather conditions. If there are dangers around a curve or farther down the road, or blind spots caused by intersections, drivers are notified in real time via roadside digital signage, giving them plenty of time to brake. This minimises the danger and ensures they arrive safely at their destination.Bicycle lanes, pedestrian areas, and emissions control scenarios

We fully understand the pressing need for solutions that improve road safety – including cycle and pedestrian safety – as well as for solutions that help authorities reduce emissions and meet their environmental targets. To this end, our AIoT solutions can protect both cycle lanes and pedestrian areas, generating an alarm when a vehicle enters these types of zones. Using cameras equipped with accurate, highly reliable license plate recognition algorithms, traffic police can also conduct 'forensic' searches for vehicles of interest, which can also help to improve public safety.

In terms of controlling emissions, our solutions can apply complex vehicle access rules for restricted areas and automate access and charging for optimal scheme efficiency. As an added benefit, we also offer 'stand-alone' cameras that can help cities without fixed fiber networks and energy networks accelerate their Low Emissions Zone projects. All of these innovations are helping cities to meet the EU's 2023 deadline for Low Emissions Zone rollouts.

We are excited about what's coming next in terms of AI and traffic management. In spite of our numerous innovations in the field of imaging and video-related technologies, we are now highly focused on developing the next generation of multi-dimensional perception solutions, and artificial intelligence algorithms for our customers' traffic management. We are also exploring as-yet untapped bands in the electromagnetic spectrum, covering X-rays, infrared rays, millimetre waves, sound waves, and many more to assess their potential applications in future traffic management technologies.

The breadth and depth of our R&D will help traffic authorities to build safer and smart traffic systems that contribute to a better quality of life in our cities.

Middleware for multi-camera video surveillance

Enable third-party application systems quickly to incorporate the visual data, as part of their solutions. Each and every user has a unique set of platforms that they need to efficiently run their business. In the security and surveillance field, increasing interest in visual sensor networks drives the development of multi-camera applications in private and public areas.

Thus, middleware is needed to facilitate video data sharing connections between software platforms. It works like video plumbing, as it connects two ends of software platforms together so video data and databases can be easily passed between the 'pipe' for various applications.

How does middleware for video surveillance work?

First, the middleware should work as a software platform to receive and collect video from multi-cameras. Thus, those features are required for the middleware to work with video that can help users easily add various video sources into the application.

The middleware platform should support many protocols, such as ONVIF, GB/T28181, GA/T1400 etc. The more protocols it supports, the more cameras it can access. Taking ONVIF protocol as an example, nearly 80% of famous overseas video surveillance manufacturers in the world all support the standard protocol ONVIF, if the middleware system supports ONVIF, which means it can communicate with above 80% cameras and receive the video from them with no problem.

And, also the middleware platform can be set up to work with an RTSP,HLS,HTTP-FLV, WebSocket video source with an URL – for example, a synthetic video source, like VLC stream server, which makes the integration process simple and easy.

Second, after collecting the video, middleware should allow the integrating application to manage video archives from multi-cameras in geographically distributed locations, and realise video management functions, such as video monitoring, local or network or cloud-based storage options, intuitive E-map display, gathering information on remote objects alarms, quick and convenient search and playback etc.

After realising video management performance, the middleware becomes video management middleware. And, it should contain a ready video management mechanism available via REST API, while integrating application defines management policy.

Third, the middleware should easily integrate with third-party applications, so that video data sharing connections between software platforms can be put through, and the third-party application can easily incorporate video, as part of their own video solution.

In order to realise this, the video management middleware is better designed as an SDK. That is every piece of functionality implemented in middleware is available via programming interface, and the functionality is said to be implemented.

And what's more, standardised media stream formats, such as HTML5 are better to provide for the convenient interaction with third-party applications, particularly in media interchange. So that it will be easy to push the standard video data to many third-party industry application platforms, and make video playback possible on most of popular browsers, and mobile devices.

When you are giving that information to a third party application system, it will be able to acquire the video data and sync information to perform other tasks via middleware.

What are the benefits the video management middleware brings?

Enable third party application systems quickly to incorporate the visual data as part of their solutions. As the easy integration features the video management middleware brings, the third parties don't need to put more energy on aggregating video sources from multi-cameras and waste more cost on developing.

All they need is to enjoy the visual data via convenience and quick integration from the video management middleware, and then focus more energy on application-level development, while saving developing costs.

With the progress of security technology, some old security infrastructures need to be upgraded as well, such as community security project, school security projects. If replacing all the front-end cameras, it will cost a lot. The most economical and efficient way is to add new functional cameras at the most important monitoring spot, while still keeping some old cameras.

Thus, the video management middleware is needed. Users only need to install middleware software on the computer. By the video management middleware, users can collect and manage the video resources from various brands' front-end video devices without replacing the original monitoring equipment and deployment, thus making full use of old devices and greatly reducing the cost of video integration and application.

Biometrics -the future of Border-control

Border security has become an increasingly important issue in today's world. With the rise of globalisation, the movement of people and goods across international borders has become easier than ever. By 2037, 8.2 billion air travellers are expected worldwide according to IATA. However, with this increased mobility comes an increased risk of security threats, including terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration.

To address this challenge, governments and border crossing operators need to implement effective Entry/Exit solutions by deploying near walk-through border processes to reduce waiting times, passenger identity verification, ID fraud detection, passenger eligibility check and Entry-Exit authorization.

The need for border security solutions is multifaceted. One of the primary reasons is to prevent the entry of individuals who pose a threat to national security. Terrorists and criminals often try to cross borders undetected to carry out attacks or engage in illegal activities. Border security measures can help to identify and apprehend these individuals before they can cause harm.

Another critical aspect of border security is the prevention of illegal immigration. While many people enter a country legally, there are those who do not, often using illegal means to cross borders. Illegal immigration can create a range of problems, including strain on resources, increased crime, and a negative impact on the economy. In order to keep ahead of criminals and other potential dangers and safeguard the security of a country's borders, agencies must progressively adopt new solutions. Conventional patrols and CCTV systems are no longer sufficient forms of protection.

Furthermore, border security solutions are also necessary to combat drug trafficking. Criminal organisations often use cross-border routes to smuggle drugs into countries, with devastating consequences for individuals and communities. Effective border security measures can help to intercept and seize drugs, preventing them from reaching their intended destinations.

There are several different border security solutions that countries can employ. One such solution is physical barriers, such as walls or fences, which can prevent individuals from crossing borders illegally. Additionally, border patrol agents can use technology, such as surveillance cameras, to monitor border areas and identify potential threats.

In recent years, technological advancements have played an increasingly important role in border security. Advanced biometric systems, such as facial recognition and fingerprint scanning, can help to quickly identify individuals and determine their status. This technology can help to prevent unauthorised entry and can also speed up the processing of legitimate travellers.

For example a comprehensive National Entry-Exit System can process all types of traveler data consistently throughout the country by centrally managing the specific process to be performed at land, air and sea borders and by having a real time view on all movements across the country. These National Entry-Exit Systems come with flexible designs, can be adapted to each country's border workflows, processes, regulations, and privacy policies. Also, their system interfaces easily with national and international systems, including API/PNR, biometric identification systems and Registered Traveler Programs to form a comprehensive tool to manage a country's borders.

Border Control encounter solutions, on the other hand, can help meet the challenges of streamlining guards' operations at air, sea and land borders, and reduce waiting times while offering a user-friendly interaction.

Border environments are always specific. With the capacity to adapt the process based on the passenger profile, and through the use of biometrics, governments are in a position to move from a document-centric approach to a person-centric one, greatly improving the level of confidence and fraud detection at borders

Credits Alok Tiwari - VP & BU Head - Public Security & Identity, India

User experience, convenience are drivers for access control in workplaces

Brivo, a provider of cloud-based access control and smart building technologies, has published the 2023 Top Security Trends Report which identifies user experience and convenience as rapidly emerging drivers behind the adoption of new physical security solutions.

Brivo's sixth annual trends report is based on responses from 677 security professionals across the world working in over two dozen sectors. They pointed to growing expectations for frictionless access into workplaces, as more Millennial and Gen Z cohorts enter the workplace, and a general rise in convenience as a major consideration in physical security.

Key findings that speak to this trend include:

• 84% of security professionals think user experience is either extremely important or very important to access control.

• 65% pointed to user convenience as a benefit of mobile access control, speaking to the growing popularity of mobile devices as an access credential over a traditional plastic FOB.

• Tenant and workplace experience apps are growing in popularity, ranking as the fifth most popular security system integration this year – according to the respondents. These apps give more control to employees over their office space via mobile-derived services.

• Security professionals listed remote door management, instantaneous credential management and outsourcing oversight responsibilities as applications for cloud-based security that make their lives easier – highlighting the appreciation that security professionals have for convenience in their own work.

Responses elsewhere in the report show that data collection and system integrations are business imperatives today. Security professionals continue to integrate security systems with cross-functional areas but more are using access data to understand access trends and space usage (45%), find and prioritize unusual activity (42%), and give value to other departments like supply chain, process, and HR (42%).

This year's report also reveals that today's security professionals are bullish on the potential of biometric access solutions. Sixty percent want to add biometrics to their buildings in the next three years and, again, 60% predict that facial recognition will have the biggest impact in access control technology over the next three years.

"The key takeaway from our 2023 Trends Report is that user experience and convenience are vital considerations for security professionals today, and this trend shows no sign of slowing as more cohorts of Generation Z enter the workplace with expectations for technology-enabled frictionless access," said Steve Van Till, founder and CEO of Brivo.

"Cloud-based access control collects the most valuable data for security professionals to make better informed business decisions. The integration of access control with other security and proptech platforms will be essential in meeting stakeholder expectations on convenience and delivering the next generation of access solutions."

Other interesting findings from Brivo's report include:

• Respondents reported a surge in access control integrations. Integrations of identity and access management solutions are most common as more organizations pursue streamlined operations by connecting physical and digital security systems for added protection.

• A lack of budget (39%) was most commonly cited as the reason for not adopting cloud-based access control solutions.

• More organizations are looking to centralize their security – with 38% saying their organizations are partly centralized today, up from 31% in 2022's report.

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http://www.seconexpo.com/2020/eng/main.asp

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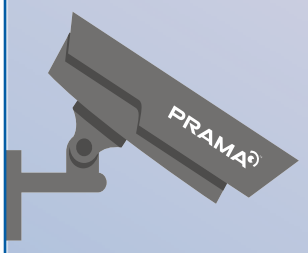

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