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Home security: Homeowners get 'smart' to ensure a secure lifestyle



Smart technology has revolutionised how modern homeowners live, connecting users with various devices designed to entertain, save time and save pennies on their ever-rising energy bills.

In recent years, much has changed in smart home technology and residential security systems too. More than ever, the use of smart security devices has connected users to their home security systems, with areas such as the front door becoming a focal point for innovative hardware products.

Smart lever sets and smart pull handles have followed in the footsteps of former smartphone technology for example and are now capable of housing fingerprint recognition features improving security and ease of access for users.

Comparably, the introduction of video camera remote function smart locks and face detection locking systems has taken residential security systems one step further, providing the most bespoke home security options.

The smart home and residential security space video and water categories are driving new behaviours like using the latest video AI to reduce false alarms. Video doorbells are popular but the indoor motion viewer has opened the eyes of many dealers.

Security dealers are seeing new interest from insurance providers that are offering policy discounts to holders with water-leak detection devices in their homes. Some are requesting certain features around water-leak detection before the company will even write a policy.

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Dear Reader

With the increasing proliferation of consumer and commercial drones and the advancements in their capabilities the threats to civilian and government assets have evolved significantly and rapidly in recent times. Today, even personal privacy cannot be guaranteed, as drones equipped with cameras can invade people's privacy by recording or taking pictures of individuals without their consent. Drones have smuggled drugs across borders and into prisons; disrupted countless sporting events; and even attempted to assassinate Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro.

The potential use of drones in a terrorist incident or attack against a critical infrastructure and soft targets is a growing concern for law enforcement as the availability of drone technology becomes more widespread globally. As drones become less expensive and their potential applications continue to expand, it is expected that countries will witness an increase and evolution of this threat. Recent examples include terrorist groups using drones in surveillance activities and delivering chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive materials in conflict zones, and an environmental group which repurposed a hobby drone to enter the secure airspace of a nuclear site and crash into a building highlighted the current reality of the threat posed by the illicit use of drones.

In India drones are being used for smuggling drugs, contraband, and arms in the border areas of Punjab; 53 such incidents were detected in the last three years, the Lok Sabha was recently informed by the MoS for Home Affairs.

The Home Ministry has established the Anti Rogue Drone Technology Committee (ARDTC) under the supervision of the DG BSF with a mandate to evaluate the technology available to counter rogue drones and certify its effectiveness in dealing with rogue drones. Counter-drone technologies can assist border control agencies in monitoring and intercepting unauthorised drone activities. Also, as governments implement drone regulations, counter-drone technologies are necessary for enforcing these rules and ensuring that drones are used responsibly.

Counter-drone technologies play a crucial role in maintaining security, privacy, and safety in an increasingly drone-filled world. As drones continue to evolve and become more accessible, the development and deployment of effective counter-drone solutions will remain a top priority for governments, law enforcement agencies, and organisations concerned with protecting critical assets and public safety.

Drone and anti-drone systems are a constant technological cat and mouse game, similar to virus and antivirus software. We are likely to see this scenario continue as the market for both sides grows rapidly in future. Keeping track of this head-to-head contest has become imperative for all stakeholders.

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

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Camden Door Controls CV-7600 Card Readers

Camden Door Controls has re-launched its CV-7600 card readers in response to growing market demand for a more secure alternative to standard proximity credentials that can be easily cloned. CV-7600 readers support MIFARE DESFire EV1 & EV2 encryption technology credentials, making them virtually clone-proof and highly secure.

The CV-7600 mobile-ready readers combine Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) and contactless smart card technologies and can be used with any access control systems with either Wiegand or bi-directional OSDP.

An easily downloaded app instantly turns any Android or Apple iOS smartphone into the user's mobile access credential – with no subscription fee! CV-7600 readers

have a field configurable reception range from one to thirty feet and are backed by Camden's no-hassle three-year warranty.



New KitLock by Codelocks delivers simple, short-term access control for public storage facilities



Codelocks has introduced public functionality to its KL10 KitLock by Codelocks. The mechanical lock now provides multiple users with keyless access to shared storage at public facilities like gyms, leisure centres, spas, retail stores, offices, and shared workspaces.

The KL10, a durable and compact mechanical lock, is designed for easy use and is accessible via a four-digit code. Originally released with Private Function, the new KL10 Public Function now allows multiple occupancy facilities to offer simple short-term storage to multiple users.

To operate the lock, the user simply enters a personal four-digit code to lock it. The same code is entered

once again to unlock it and then the lock remains open ready for the next user to set a fresh code.

The lock has a black powder-coated finish for a simple and stylish look and an easy grip outer on the handle for effortless opening. In the case of a forgotten code, the code can be retrieved using a code-finding key. This simple mechanical lock allows for up to 10,000 unique combinations.

Codelocks' KL10 Public Function mechanical locks are straightforward to install or retrofit and codes can be reset while the lock is still on the door.

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Cominfo EasyGate SPT and SPD



Security solutions don't have to be ordinary, let alone unattractive. Cominfo's EasyGate product line is now even sleeker and more chic, with improved security features for even stronger protection against unauthorised access.

Cominfo presented new versions of their EasyGates earlier in 2023. The SPT and SPD EasyGate models now set the standards even higher, both design- and security-wise. Frameless integration of card collector and lane light navigation makes the design of the speed gates sleek

and elegant, with no visual disturbance whatsoever. Hidden lock covers and narrower profile of Passage Light and S-beam sensor covers further enhance the chic appearance of the design-conscious speed gates.

Lowered edge of the glass wing contributes to stronger security and prevents unauthorised access. Customers can opt for flag-shaped glass wings for their speed gates, to further enhance security and access control.

With regard to the Art of Security philosophy, Cominfo excels at

making their speed gates blend with surroundings seamlessly, often taking the visual experience to another level. Design of their speed gates is modular — clients can choose the front shape of the cabinet, material of the side panels, various surface finishes, and many other features. Cominfo is able to truly customise their EasyGates; even cladding them in marble, for the sake of matching them perfectly with the interior.

As appearance- and design-conscious as Cominfo is, their speed gates are primarily controlled access solutions — reliable and well-secured. All EasyGate models are equipped with technology preventing unauthorised access, be it tailgating, cross-over, jump-over, and climb-under attempts. Robust construction, high-quality components and indus-

try-leading Magnetic Direct Drive motor guarantees exceptional longevity and little to no maintenance. The motor itself withstands 25 million cycles before failure.

Not only can Cominfo integrate any access control technology into their speed gates, they do so without disturbing the elegant sleek design. Anything goes — be it checking in with a wave of a hand, or an elevator coming automatically to take you to your floor once you pass the speed gate.

EasyGates won't let you down in high-traffic areas, such as busy airports, train stations, public buildings, large office spaces, and cultural venues. Sustainability is another trendy expression and more than just a buzzword for Cominfo.

Connect ONE® cloud-hosted platform expands access control and simplifies management and enrollment of Farpointe's Conekt® BLE mobile credentials



Connected Technologies LLC, maker of the award-winning Connect ONE® cloud management platform, has collaborated with Farpointe Data Inc., San Jose, California, to streamline the management of Conekt® Mobile Access Credentials.

Connect ONE simplifies intrusion, access control, video surveillance, critical environmental monitoring, and energy management systems, with one platform and interface. Conekt consists of a line of mobile-ready readers and mobile access credentials, with mobile credentials carried in Farpointe's Conekt Wallet App.

The Conekt Wallet App supports iPhone and Android mobile devices and uses Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) to communicate the Conekt mobile credentials with Conekt mobile-ready readers. When activated within the app, Conekt mobile cre-

dentials allow users to identify themselves at designated access points with the existing standard electronic access control system.

This latest integration expands Connect ONE's smartphone access control, which includes ScanPass® Mobile Credential (barcode-based without readers) and Bluetooth-reader-based Conekt, allowing for seamless user enrollment. Bluetooth readers may be used with traditional proximity cards and fobs as well.

Dealer/integrators who purchase Conekt mobile credentials and readers from their physical access control system manufacturers can use the supplied mass importation spreadsheet to seamlessly import mobile credentials into Connect ONE. The import simplifies enrollment since administrators have an easy dropdown selection to assign a mobile credential to a new user.

Once a credential is assigned, the associated card number is automatically programmed into the access control system and Connect ONE sends an email or SMS message to the user with instructions on how to obtain the Wallet App and activate their credential.

Dedrone tracker launched for AI-driven command



Dedrone has announced its launch of the newest version of DedroneTracker.AI, Version 6.0.

The updates are said to be based on feedback from law enforcement officials, security professionals and military operators in the field, to represent a 'leap forward' in AI enabled autonomous threat detection and classification capabilities wanted by the firm's customers.

The Tracker is also said to include a list of US government CsUAS pre-configured integrations, enabling a government user to field a "System-Of-Systems" capability with the device as the Single Pane of Glass for

The Wallet App is a single-purpose app for their credential. No login is required and it does not include any other functions to eliminate possible confusion. Credentials are purchased at a one-time cost, with no recurring fees.

complex CsUAS systems.

Version 6.0 also features a bi-directional integration between the DedroneTracker.AI platform and the Aerial Armor software platform, said to represent the first step in complete integration between Dedrone and the recently purchased Aerial Armor.

By taking inputs from multiple sensors including radio frequency (RF), radar, video and acoustics, it is designed to confirm drone presence and determine precise location of drone and pilot. Based on behaviour, imagery, historical flight data, and other inputs, the AI engine aims to offer the operator a single queue of risk-prioritised targets through autonomous background interrogation of unauthorised drones while 'simultaneously' tracking multiple friendly drones.

The new version of the software is also said to allow the operation of mitigation tools directly from the same interface.

IDIS and SensoGuard introduce perimeter security with threat detection



A new generation of AI-enhanced perimeter threat detection solutions is available to systems integrators and end-users with the integration of IDIS Solution Suite (ISS) video management software (VMS) and SensoGuard seismic detection technology.

The integration combines SensoGuard's CCS software and seismic and magnetic sensors, with IDIS's VMS including IDIS Deep Learning Analytics (IDLA) functions such as object detection and classification, and line-cross detection.

The integrated solution, said to be ideal for risk-critical applications and

sites with sensitive or extensive boundaries, aims to support busy security control room teams by helping to ensure continuous, automated detection and classification of potential intrusion threats.

IDIS' camera range also provides users a choice of HD and ultra HD models.

Video pop-up alerts are designed to be triggered immediately when an event-of-interest is detected, with the added option of sending notifications to managers working remotely or on the move, using the IDIS Mobile Plus app.

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3xLOGIC X-Series Cameras



3xLOGIC has announced the availability of its X-Series edge based deep learning analytics cameras. X-Series cameras combine state-of-the-art hardware with advanced analytics to deliver real time, accurate and actionable data, transforming how surveillance systems can be deployed and utilised.

X-Series cameras have analytics that enable them to perform advanced data processing directly at the edge, right on the camera itself. They use object, people, perimeter and vehicle identification algorithms to provide accurate detection and tracking in dense, complex and busy environments. Using vast volumes of representative data, the cameras continuously analyse movements and behaviour, while using predictive analysis to constantly track each object.

3xLOGIC's analytics technology utilises appearance-based models, as opposed to established motion-based solutions that depend solely on changes in pixels over time to indicate movement. This decreases the opportunity for false positives as a result of elements such as illumination changes or foliage, as the trackers identify and ignore them because they do not look like objects of interest. This level of filtering is particularly effective for improving accuracy or detecting complex behaviours, and once an object begins tracking, a unique identification code is assigned that stays

with the object in the field of view.

X-Series cameras can be deployed both indoors and outdoors and allow valuable business intelligence to be gained. Core applications include retail, commercial and office premises, education, hospitality, warehousing and distribution, healthcare and critical infrastructure.

3xLOGIC's deep learning analytics provide information about dwell time, entry and exit, appearance and disappearance, abandoned and removed objects, traffic direction and tailgating, as well as people movement and counting.

X-Series cameras form an integral part of 3xLOGIC's VIGIL video management system, allowing users to harness the full potential of their surveillance ecosystem. For example, person, object and vehicle detection capabilities can be integrated into VIGIL CLOUD, so that only actionable detection and notifications are delivered. Meanwhile, VIGIL Server provides support for use cases such as perimeter protection, business intelligence and alarm notifications.

Integration with VIGIL TRENDS makes security management easier and more efficient by turning data into meaningful information – collating, deciphering, and presenting it in a way that makes sense by showing present and historical data in a business context.

Light Socket Security Camera

This light bulb security camera from Actman can be plugged in like a light bulb. With the help of this camera, you will capture excellent pictures at any time of day or night. The good thing about this light socket security camera is that you can connect it to any light bulb socket. On the other side, you can access it through an application made by technical professionals to securely monitor it while still being reasonably priced and high-quality.

Another feature of this security camera is its high-resolution camera.

You can operate it without cables with minimal effort. The best light socket security camera is a significant advancement where you feel more at ease when you are away from home. Most surprisingly, it is a very easy-to-install gadget packed with many unique features.

As an outdoor light socket security camera, it can also be used. It has features like full-color night vision, 1080-pixel video resolution, and 360-degree rotation. This light socket-powered security camera also includes alarm features and

motion-tracking functions. It is a high-resolution camera that can be connected wirelessly to the home network. It can also be connected to any AC outlet with an adaptor supplied.

This security camera is 6" in height and 2.7" in width. So due to its small size, it's unobtrusive. Consequently, the camera gives you a complete 360-degree view to ensure that it captures everything around it.

It comes with a Wi-Fi connection, and you can keep an eye on all the activity all the time through your mobile. You just have to download the app on your Android mobile or iOS. Then you must connect the camera to your Wi-Fi and access the recorded videos.



It also enables you full-color infrared night vision with which you can watch the high-quality video even in completely dark environments. Remember that this security camera is a high-resolution camera that gets the entire color spectrum with a high-quality recording of the photos.

Blink Outdoor: the affordable outdoor Camera



Blink offers dependable security cameras at an affordable price range. Its cameras include mobile alerts and a bit of local storage via the Sync Module 2 without monthly fees, helping the brand and the Blink Outdoor take credit for being the most affordable outdoor camera option.

Cameras by Blink weren't feature-rich but were good value for DIY video security. They were easy to install, had motion detection with customizable zones, and recorded with infrared vision at night.

How much storage did Blink provide for free? Each Sync Module 2 can connect with up to 10 Blink cameras, and while it doesn't have any sort of built-in video storage, you can plug in a USB flash drive up to 256 GB to use as storage. Given the Blink cameras' video resolution, 256GB should be enough to store months of motion and sound event videos.

As you compare outdoor security cameras, keep these important factors in mind:

Power Source: Outdoor security cameras vary in terms of power sources. The main choices were plug-in power, battery power, and solar power. Cordless outdoor cameras are general-

ly powered by long-lasting rechargeable batteries. Arlo, a manufacturer, offers solar-powered cameras. If a camera uses mains power, it is also likely to have a power cable. The best outdoor cams with cables have protected cords to help defeat vandals plus they have battery backup.

Continuous Video Recording: Some outdoor security cameras only record audio and video when triggered by trespassers. Others can record continuously. Continuous video recording is sometimes advertised as CVR.

Resolution: Resolution on leading cameras ranges from 720p to 4K. The most common is 1080p, which means video that is 1080 pixels tall and 1920 pixels wide.

Recording Cost: Cameras usually have smartphone or desktop apps. Apps let us view live camera footage for free. However, generally, a paid plan is needed in order to save video clips or record continuously. One exception is the Blink XT, a budget security camera brand. Blink offers very minimal cloud storage for free. Many paid plans for home security combine video storage with professional monitoring. Professional monitoring alerts emergency dispatchers of potential trouble. This way, they can send notifications to the police even when one can't physically call 911. Most alarm monitoring companies can also dispatch firefighters and paramedics.

Two-Way Voice: Best outdoor security cameras also capture exceptionally clear audio. Ideally, they all have echo cancellation and other advanced audio features. Some also have two-way voice capabilities, which lets the user speak to potential intruders/criminals or stay in touch with family

members around the property.

Doorbell Video Camera: A wide-angle doorbell camera is usually found guarding doorsteps and providing us with a long-range view. A smart-motion detector that ignores running squirrels and swaying trees and alerts us of a person's presence, even if they don't ring the bell. A

smartphone app lets us use two-way talk and gives the impression that we were at home, no matter where we were. Additionally, some doorbell security cameras, such as the Nest video doorbell, recognise familiar faces via face recognition feature and play pre-recorded messages for expected visitors.

Garmin Dash Cam 67W



The Garmin Dash Cam 67W is a compact but feature-packed dash cam that is the current flagship of the range, and as well as recording video it has voice control, GPS and a range of safety systems. These include forward collision and lane departure warnings, plug a 'go' alert to signal when the traffic ahead sets off, and alerts about upcoming red light and speed cameras.

It also has an optional parking mode that monitors when your vehicle is parked and switched off. As with other Garmin dash cams, up to four can be fitted to the same vehicle with their video feeds synchronised using the Garmin Drive app.

The camera records to a microSD card (not included) and has a display and buttons on the rear, so can be set up and used without the smartphone app, adding to its simplicity.

A key feature of the Dash Cam 67W is how it blends together top-notch dash cam features with a compact design. The 1440p resolution is beyond Full HD and comes with HDR (high dynamic range) for improved clarity in tricky lighting conditions. There's also audio recording if you need it, but is generally switched off in the interests of passenger privacy; it can be switched on or off by saying "Okay Garmin, switch audio recording on/off". On that note, the voice recognition works really well and is a convenient way to save video or photos. Video is automatically saved when a collision is detected.

The Garmin's safety features work well and make good use of the display, providing it can easily be seen by the

driver. It turns red to warn of a forward collision, yellow when you drift out of your lane, and sounds an alert when you fail to notice the vehicle ahead has set off. These can each be switched off if you don't want them.

About the size of a small matchbox, we think the Dash Cam 67W is a great size. It is compact enough to be hidden behind the central rear-view mirror, while packing a good set of features and hardware credentials. The black plastic finish is subtle and well-made, and we'd feel comfortable leaving the camera permanently installed in a car without worrying about someone trying to steal it.

The windscreen mount is tiny, consisting of a coin-sized magnet that sticks to the screen with adhesive, then snaps magnetically to a small arm that attaches to the camera with an adjustable ball-and-socket joint. It's a smart but simple system that takes up very little space and makes it easy to adjust, remove and replace the camera in just a couple of seconds. A second adhesive magnet is included, making it easy to switch the Garmin between two vehicles.

There is very little to say here, and that's a great thing. The Garmin works precisely how you would hope, recording high-quality video and serving up useful alerts if you have them switched on. Voice control is responsive and set-up is very quick and easy.

The lens is very wide, at 180 degrees, creating some fish-eye distortion, but we still feel the footage is accurate, clear and would certainly be useful as evidence in a collision.

Wyze Cam Outdoor v2 - Best with Local Video Storage



Wyze Cam Outdoor v2 has a slew of value-adding features, like its six-month battery life, its use of PIR motion detection, and its ability to listen for smoke and CO alarms.

The favorite feature has to be its support for local storage. Like most cameras from Wyze, the Wyze Cam Outdoor has an expandable local storage via a microSD card. It supports microSD cards up to 32 GB, and simply plugging one into the camera activates continuous recording. Even though the camera is small, it's quite capable of protecting homes because of that.

The Wyze Cam v2 is just a part of the larger Wyze family of security cameras. And technically, almost every Wyze camera model can work as an outdoor camera. The base model, the Wyze Cam v3, is IP65 weatherproof. Just give it an outdoor-ready power cord and it'll work outdoors.

The same is true for the more AI-heavy Wyze Cam v3 Pro, which has the same body as the Wyze Cam v3 but an upgraded 2K image resolution and faster AI detection. Together, these other Wyze cameras can help the battery-powered Wyze Cam Outdoor make your home more secure.

Another thing that sets Wyze apart from the competition is that it can be monitored professionally, just like a home security system.

Here's how it works: When the monitored camera is triggered, its AI will kick in to determine if a person triggered the motion sensor or something else. If it's not a person, it will only notify you. If it's a person, the camera will send footage to the monitoring center. There, an agent will verify the alarm. If it's a real alarm, they'll try to get in touch with you and at the same time call the police if necessary.

Lorex industrial quality outdoor cameras



115-foot range in the dark. Resolution on some Lorex camera models is "ultra-high" at 4K.

Various Lorex models have two-way voice systems, geofencing, and other special features. A feature rarely seen elsewhere is sensitivity to off-screen audio. Noise from off-screen activity can trigger alerts. With Lorex video can be recorded continuously or choose audio-triggered and motion-triggered alerts only.

Monitoring Lorex cameras is also easy. One can access video on a regular computer or smartphone, connected to a DVR, and/or use a widescreen LCD monitor. Lorex cameras use either mains power or battery power. Generally, the battery needs to be changed every four months.

Lorex Technology has a good selection of industrial-quality outdoor security cameras in its portfolio. Compared with leading home security cams, Lorex Wi-Fi and IP cameras are more durable and high-performing. They are virtually vandal proof and have long depths of field with color night vision.

For instance, the 1080 HD outdoor wireless security camera has a

Amthal fires up security at Katherine Warrington School



Amthal has come to the rescue of Katherine Warrington School, taking over the support and remote monitoring of fire safety and security services for the benefit of staff, pupils and visitors.

Based in Harpenden, Katherine Warrington School is a brand-new secondary school that opened in 2019 and welcomed its first cohort of 180 year-seven students in September of that year, before moving into a completed main building in the summer of 2020.

Following a storm that damaged the school's fire alarm system, the school consulted with Amthal to rectify the situation. Amthal recommended a specialist Honeywell Gent solution to restore the system to full functionality.

Amthal continued to monitor the site remotely, working with the management team to service and support security, which included updating the intruder alarm system and access control. Each is now supported to the highest possible standards to create a safe learning environment enabling "every student to make outstanding progress, whatever their starting point."

Dean Inns, Katherine Warrington School's Business Manager, said: "Our school fosters a learning culture that rewards effort, inspires learning and engenders a shared belief amongst all members of our school that they

are equipped to thrive in a changing world. It is also developing as a hub for the local area to enjoy and share in our exceptional facilities."

Dean Inns adds, "To achieve this, we must offer a safe and secure learning environment for our staff, pupils and the wider community. This is where Amthal really came into its own, quickly responding when the storm damaged our life safety systems and continuing to work with us to enhance our security. Our continued collaboration reflects our dedication to maintaining a secure and conducive learning environment."

Amthal's team works closely with Katherine Warrington School and continues to monitor security and fire safety on site. Conducting continuous risk assessments, providing bespoke recommendations and delivering training to staff to ensure the seamless integration and maximum utilisation of all safety and security systems in place.

Paul Rosenthal, Amthal Sales Director, stated: "Amthal's expertise in delivering integrated solutions in education settings played a crucial role in securing the project. We were able to identify requirements quickly and efficiently, working around learning environments. The fire safety system, working with our partners at Honeywell Gent ensures early detection capability and enables a prompt response in case of emergencies."

HID helps in automating the access control management at Żabka

Enhancing enterprise security is high on the list of priorities for businesses across sectors. Within the retail industry, there is an additional focus on enabling new ways of working through management tools. Integrated solutions and applications help to create a robust security landscape and ensure a future-ready posture as organisations look to address emerging risks and create better experiences for next-gen employees.

Physical access control (i.e., the readers on the door and the credentials that individuals present to them for authentication) is not only one of the first interactions employees have with security technology but is also the first line of defence in security programs.

The balance of a good user experience and strong security is critical, though striking that balance has been a challenge historically as security teams are tasked with prioritising safety and protection. Innovative companies who want to go beyond traditional access control have found the balance of a frictionless user experience and strong security in mobile access solutions.

When implementing security for its new headquarters in Poznań, Poland, Żabka returned to its pioneering roots, requiring a highly secure, automated solution that enabled the integration of custom applications and simplified the use of other building-wide office functionalities.

Żabka's vision included seamless access starting at building entrances with employees using their mobile phones to 'badge' into the building. From there, the same mobile credential would unlock turnstiles, authenticate floor access in elevators, track time and attendance and release documents at shared printers.

Most importantly, user data would need to be secured via encryption and authentication through appropriate access keys with the introduction of new users being completely under Żabka's control.

The implementation of an ecosystem with multiple capabilities — including a migration from plastic cards to mobile identities, surveillance tools, access management, and physical security components to underpin the entire solution — also necessitated collaboration between

partners who shared Żabka's spirit of modernisation and vision for a seamless user experience.

The project team included HID Global who managed the transition from traditional plastic credentials to mobile identities, with Zonifero to develop a custom mobile app, and Cynergy to complete the installation of hardware and embedded components.



Żabka's comprehensive ecosystem utilises digital access control processes and integrated surveillance tools with a security management platform enabling Żabka to migrate completely to the use of mobile identities. The move to HID Mobile Access has changed the experience of employees, visitors, HR, and security administrators by accelerating and automating access control management for the entire building.

Mobile identities, contactless employee onboarding, touchless visitor management, time and attendance, and integration with the security system of the entire building are now aggregated and facilitated within the smartphone app.

The ability to manage the access control system from anywhere with no physical contact was especially valuable. Launched amid the pandemic, the new infrastructure enables Żabka employees to maintain social distancing and limit contact through automatic and remote activation of access.

Security administrators remotely managed a pool of allocated mobile identities and individual access to users' devices, thereby solving the problem of storing physical cards, facilitating credential transfers, issuing new credentials in the case of lost or damaged ones, and deactivating cards in the event they were lost or stolen.

New Dublin stadium ensures life safety with end to end security



The new Aviva Stadium at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, was developed by engineers Kentz Ireland Ltd on behalf of the Irish Rugby Football Union and the Football Association of Ireland. It has a capacity for 50,000 spectators who are able to enjoy a safe and secure experience with minimum intrusion and inconvenience. Johnson Controls was selected to provide a solution for the venue that integrates fire and life systems with CCTV, access control and intruder alarms, linked by the stadium's IT infrastructure.

"Ensuring our guests have a pleasant visit without intrusion is of paramount importance to us and through Johnson Controls, we are confident that our visitors will have a safe and enjoyable experience," says Chris Gallagher, Design Technical Services Coordinator of Aviva Stadium.

The complete project encompassed a host of challenges which involved integrating several different technologies together. Johnson Controls was responsible for the end-to-end delivery, maintenance and support of the stadium's life safety and security systems. This included fire detection, CCTV, access control, intruder alarms, gas extinguishers and disabled WC alarms.

Each of these systems has been seamlessly integrated with the stadium's Local Area Network (LAN) and IT infrastructure. This enables security operators or gardaí to monitor and control each component from centralised workstations across

the site, streamlining this process and helping to improve the efficiency and response time of operators to potential incidents.

The stadium, Ireland's first UEFA Elite football ground, has a purpose-built, hi-tech communications nerve centre. Johnson Controls life safety and security systems allow for continuous monitoring of all aspects of the stadium, both inside and outside the ground. 192 CCTV cameras have been installed at 'pinch points' around the stadium, ensuring operators and police can quickly identify potential problems or flashpoints from within the stadium's control room.

Using Johnson Controls consolidated single-screen overview of all systems, operators can control multiple alarm input and outputs when combined with audio and video verification of each protected zone within the stadium, this delivers an additional layer of protection. The Tyco Expert Graphics (TXG) system provides users with a graphical overview of fire detection, extinguisher and disabled call management systems and is also configured to automatically respond to events, even when the operator is away from the workstation.

As the home of Irish international rugby and football, The Aviva Stadium prides itself in providing state-of-the-art facilities, not only for spectators but also for players, the media and events personnel.

Anviz FaceDeep 3 in scheduled buses of MME in Doha Qatar



The Ministry Of Municipality And Environment (MME) in Doha Qatar has nearly 100 scheduled buses for transferring employees and officials. In recent years, transportation costs are increasing, and managers need to ensure only employees can get on the designated buses. It is also a good plan to maintain employees' health under COVID-19.

However, although the bus driver is easy to manage, and the time of buses is simple to schedule, it is not enough to reduce the cost and check bus passengers.

Especially when many passengers are pouring into the buses in the morning and evening, it puts forward high requirements and strict standards for management and service.

About 80+ Anviz FaceDeep 3 4G are used on the regular buses after the officials of MME discussed and compared them. They like the Flexible 4G communication between the CrossChex and terminals on the buses. The FaceDeep3 Series features dual cameras for highly precise facial recognition capabilities, with the platform able to identify a user in just 0.3 seconds, and can process 50 people in a minute.

With the assistance of AI NPU,

non-living body recognition such as videos and photos can be accurately excluded, and people wearing masks can be accurately identified. It is easy to work consistently in some places without internet or wifi as its 4G capability.

Recognize and clock in with the face in seconds, after the face of MME'S employee is aligned with the camera of the FaceDeep 3 on the bus, even if they are wearing the masks.

Further, every employee will have designated buses, and strangers have no chance to get on. Thus, there is no need to check the passengers for bus drivers.

Information about the employee taking the bus will be sent to CrossChex Standard via 4G. Managers could collect data on which employees take which bus at what time. Therefore, managers could better schedule the shuttle lines as they get the data on bus occupancy and save costs by improving bus utilisation.

The CrossChex Cloud is hosted in the cloud, requires no upkeep, and has a pricing structure that doesn't raise costs each time a new employee is added to the team.

Hikvision Surveillance cameras secure the perimeter at car dealership

Car theft is a concern for many people, so imagine if one person was responsible for a whole load of them. Car dealer P. Christensen in Denmark knows this headache from personal experience, suffering a number of thefts from their fenced area. It was time to ramp up security, so they turned to Telesikring, the largest private-owned security company in Denmark, for a perimeter detection solution.

Telesikring upgraded security with a solution using Hikvision surveillance cameras. Despite existing secu-

rity measures like electric fences and burglar alarms, the car dealership was still experiencing thefts. Thieves were managing to come up with increasingly imaginative ways to beat the system – like crawling over fences and even digging underneath them.

They stole all sorts of items, including wheels and catalysts from the cars and vans exhibited at the site. These represent quite some value, and the cost of these losses was mounting up. They needed a solution which could work for them in all sorts of



weather conditions and in the dead of night – the most vulnerable time. The premises have some quite remote outlying areas, which were also particularly at risk.

The car dealership is now monitored using a perimeter detection solution made up of both conventional and thermal cameras. These cameras are connected to a Milestone VMS with analysis software. In turn, this has a direct connection to the Jutland Control Center, a local Alarm Receiving Center that monitors the property 24/7.

Now it's not possible to enter the property outside of opening hours – day or night, without this being registered by the control center. The information they receive from the analysis software enables them to make an informed decision on their response, for example sending a guard patrol. Thermal cameras were chosen because of their reliability in all weather con-

ditions. This solution specifically used the Thermal Network Bullet Camera (DS-2TD2136-10).

Once the thermal camera detects a break-in, it sends an alarm to the ARC and the operator there can use the low-light clarity delivered by the DarkFighter cameras (DS-2CD4B-26FWD-IZS) also present to verify the alarm. These cameras provide excellent images even in the lowest of light levels, making the ideal for remote verification.

Henrik Finn Sanderlund, Quality Manager at P. Christensen, says: "Yes, we are very satisfied! Since the deployment of the system, this has effectively prevented burglary and theft. The solution was deployed on a Thursday and on Friday the solution caught the first break in, effectively preventing it." Managers at P. Christensen can now rest at night, safe in the knowledge that security innovation is keeping an eye on the property.

Huntsville, AR school district secures state-of-the-art activity centre with Paxton's Net2 access control solution



As an integral part of the Huntsville School District's future sports complex, the new activity centre serves as the hub for student activities across the district. Located on a remote site that's home to the Huntsville Eagles Sports Complex, it is the future location that will house the district's football and track stadium, baseball facilities, activity centre, and other buildings that will be used to host activities and high school graduations.

Safety was the top priority when considering an access control solu-

tion. Having used Paxton's Net2 since 2015 on other school buildings elsewhere, the district had a pretty good idea of what style and method of access control they wanted. Their main goal was to secure the premises while channelling people in and out of various activity centre areas.

The district installed Paxton's Net2 access control solution, which is a user-friendly and flexible networked access control system. It is designed to make the management of any site straightforward and that's exactly what the district found when

they installed and configured the system. Net2 allowed the district granular control over its security, especially when it came to access control.

They can manage who has access to certain doors at specific times. For instance, they can limit access to contractors who work from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to where they have no access on weekends or evenings. With the addition of PaxLock, the wireless, electronic battery-powered door

handles have also been beneficial. The activity centre contains specific areas where installing a traditional hardwired system is not convenient or feasible. PaxLock makes securing those areas easy.

Net2 and PaxLock have allowed the Huntsville School District to customise access control to suit their specific needs – making the activity centre a safe and secure place for their students and staff.

Contd... from page 1

Home security: Homeowners get 'smart'.....

There are larger-than-ever rebates for energy-efficient smart home devices that give security dealers the opportunity to offer connected thermostats as part of a security system.

The latest technologies play an outsized role in two categories: control and access.

Voice-controlled assistants are now a near-ubiquitous way to interact with home security devices. Additionally, wireless options like near-field communication and smart home solutions like Apple Home make it simpler to use security devices like smart locks with just the tap of a phone or watch, a substantial departure from physical keys.

Similarly, advanced mobile app solutions make managing and monitoring smart locks remotely simple and improves accessibility for people who lead busy lives. Enabling the shift to wirelessly controlled locks and other IoT devices are ever-improving wireless networking technologies.

Homes equipped with powerful routers and expansive mesh networks make it possible to connect disparate IoT security devices around large homes and have them work seamlessly together. This cohesion provides homeowners with better convenience, efficiency, and peace of mind.

The latest technologies in home security play an outsized role in two categories: control and access. Voice-controlled assistants are now a near-ubiquitous way to interact with home security devices. Additionally, wireless options like near-field communication and smart home solutions like Apple Home make it simpler to use security devices like smart locks with just the tap of a phone or watch, a substantial departure from physical keys.

The advancement in smart home technologies and residential systems

is accelerating at a rapid rate. The tendency towards broader integration is on the rise, paving the way for better interaction among devices from varied manufacturers.

This level of interoperability fosters advanced automation within homes. AI's role within smart home ecosystems is also anticipated to become more pivotal, offering heightened personalisation, predictive capabilities, and intuitive user experiences.

This technological evolution offers a multitude of opportunities for monitoring providers like NMC. We are perpetually honing our systems and making notable investments in staff training to remain at the forefront of these trends. We have the capacity to delve into new service offerings such as remote management and smart home device supervision, thereby uncovering additional avenues for revenue generation.

Locks are becoming smarter, and newer applications such as controlling water leaks are opening new possibilities for growth in the smart home market. Saving money on energy bills is also a new motivator for homeowners to embrace smart home technologies. Artificial intelligence (AI) is gaining greater prominence. Growth in the smart home market is providing new opportunities for dealers/integrators, including more ways to earn recurring monthly revenue (RMR).

Although in India the concept of home security via technology is largely limited to having cameras and in some cases motion detectors, the technological advances is now persuading security integrators to introduce newer technologies which are sure to attract homeowners desirous of ensuring that even when they are away from home, they are control of their home security.

A comprehensive guide to the Fire Extinguisher Business: Responsibilities, Liability, and Importance



The fire extinguisher business plays a critical role in fire safety and prevention. This guide will delve into the responsibilities of fire extinguisher businesses, their potential liabilities, and the vital importance of their services. A fire extinguisher business is a type of company or service provider that specializes in various aspects of fire safety equipment, particularly fire extinguishers. These businesses are dedicated to ensuring that individuals, organizations, and establishments are equipped with the necessary fire extinguishing equipment and services to protect lives and property in the event of a fire emergency.

What is a fire extinguisher business?

A fire extinguisher business encompasses a range of essential functions and services in the realm of fire safety. These businesses are responsible for selling various types and sizes of fire extinguishers, providing installation services to strategically place extinguishers, conducting regular inspections to ensure compliance and functionality, offering maintenance and servicing to restore faulty extinguishers, performing hydrostatic testing for structural integrity, recharging used extinguishers, and delivering valuable training on fire extinguisher usage. They also help clients navigate complex fire safety regulations, ensuring compliance with local codes.

Some fire extinguisher businesses even offer emergency response services, including rapid extinguisher refilling or replacement when needed. Furthermore, they provide expert consultation on comprehensive fire safety measures, extending beyond extinguishers, such as fire suppression systems and emergency evacuation plans. In essence, these businesses

are instrumental in promoting fire prevention, safety, and emergency preparedness for a diverse clientele, including restaurants, businesses, and homeowners.

Fire Extinguisher Sales: Fire extinguisher businesses sell a variety of fire extinguishers designed to combat different types of fires, such as Class A (ordinary combustibles like wood and paper), Class B (flammable liquids), Class C (electrical fires), Class D (flammable metals), and Class K (cooking oil and grease fires). They may offer a range of extinguisher sizes and types to meet the specific needs of their customers.

Installation: These businesses are responsible for installing fire extinguishers in strategic locations, ensuring they comply with local fire safety regulations and standards.

Inspection and Maintenance: Regular inspections and maintenance services are provided to ensure that fire extinguishers are in proper working condition. This includes checking for any damage, verifying pressure levels, and ensuring that the extinguishers are ready for use in case of an emergency.

Refilling and Recharging: Fire extinguisher businesses offer services to refill or recharge extinguishers after use or when they are due for maintenance. This ensures that the extinguishers are fully operational when needed.

Training and Education: Many fire extinguisher businesses provide training programs to educate individuals and employees on how to use fire extinguishers effectively and safely. This training can be essential in emergency situations.

Compliance with Regulations:

Staying up-to-date with local, state, and national fire safety regulations and codes is a crucial part of the fire extinguisher business to ensure that their products and services meet legal requirements.

Emergency Services: Some fire extinguisher businesses also offer emergency response services, which may include on-site firefighting teams equipped with advanced fire suppression equipment.

What liabilities does a fire extinguisher business have?

Product Liability: Fire extinguisher businesses may be held liable if the extinguishers they sell or service are defective or fail to work properly during a fire emergency. Regular maintenance and quality assurance are key to minimizing this risk.

Non-compliance with Regulations: Failure to adhere to local fire safety regulations can result in legal consequences and liability in case of accidents or fires.

Inadequate Training: If a fire extinguisher business provides inadequate training to customers or employees, they could be held liable for injuries or property damage resulting

from improper use.

What is the Importance of the Fire Extinguisher Business?

Fire Prevention: Fire extinguisher businesses play a vital role in preventing fires. Well-maintained and strategically placed fire extinguishers can stop small fires from spreading.

Safety: Their services and products are essential for ensuring the safety of individuals and protecting property from fire damage.

Legal Compliance: Businesses must meet fire safety regulations and fire extinguisher businesses help them stay compliant, avoiding legal issues.

Peace of Mind: Knowing that fire extinguishers are available and functional provides peace of mind to property owners and occupants.

The fire extinguisher business is a cornerstone of fire safety. Their responsibilities encompass not only providing and maintaining fire extinguishing equipment but also educating and ensuring compliance with fire safety regulations. While they may face liability risks, their role in fire prevention and safety is of paramount importance to individuals and communities alike.

False fire alarms costing the UK economy 'almost £700 million every year'



of alarms resulted in total evacuation of businesses and one in every four caused significant disruption to the business, with on average, almost 30% of those unplanned fire incidents costing £1000 or more in disruptions. This research, Hochiki said, indicates that when the statistics are broadened out to cover the whole of the UK, false alarms are having a 'multimillion-pound impact' on the economy.

Research has revealed that the cost of avoidable fire alarms, such as false alarms, are costing SMEs in the UK £696 million every year. The figure comes from research conducted by Red Fox, a technology and B2B independent research company, commissioned by Hochiki Europe to understand the impact of false fire alarms on UK businesses.

Over 300 SME businesses were asked how much they estimate an evacuation caused by an alarm not caused by an actual fire, cost of their organisation and if it had a significant impact.

Nine out of ten of these types

Businesses across a wide range of industries were said to have been interviewed, including the hospitality, leisure and travel sectors, retail and ecommerce businesses, financial and insurance arenas, healthcare, manufacturing, public sector and not for profit as well as education. When asked to think about the immediate and obvious financial impact, owners and senior management revealed that these unplanned alarms had far reaching consequences in lost productivity.

Factors included interrupted meetings (33%), staff settling back down to work i.e., chatting and getting drinks etc. (32%). For the manu-

facturing and IT sector over a quarter said the time it takes to get production processes started up again and security systems checks completed as the biggest interruption, whilst in the food and drink sector 10% said preparation processes needing to be restarted with anecdotal evidence also sighting the resulting food waste as impact that goes beyond financial ramifications.

Other emergency systems were also reported to be impacted from some of these false alarms.

64% of respondents believe that most alarms experienced in the past 12 months are false alarms, which seems to be reflected in what respondents said caused the alarms. Aside from the drills, and kitchen incidents, dust and smoke from building works and maintenance caused 20% of false

alarms followed by equipment failures at 18%, with 12% cited as other causes or not known.

With false alarms being over half of the reasons why an alarm is triggered, Hochiki believes this suggests that buildings are possibly not fitted with fire detection devices or systems that include multi-sensors, which are proven to significantly reduce false alarms triggered by factors that are not a genuine fire.

Whilst half of respondents said seeing the alarm in action reassured them that the system works, the research showed that 56% of business owners or managers said that excessive false alarms meant that staff don't take the alarms seriously enough, leading to alarm fatigue and complacency from staff.

The environmental & safety concerns of Fire Fighting Foam

Firefighting foam, a staple in the arsenal of emergency responders, has long been hailed as one of the greatest innovations in the battle against blazes. It smothers flames, cools the fire, and prevents re-ignition.

However, like most other things that seem too good to be true, there's a darker side to this unsung hero of the firefighting world. The environmental and safety concerns surrounding firefighting foam are shocking, and they demand our attention.

Imagine a massive fire at an oil refinery. Flames leap high into the air, and thick black smoke billows into the sky. Enter firefighting foam. Within minutes, the foam blankets the fire, cutting off its oxygen supply and reducing the heat. The blaze is tamed, and disaster is averted. It's a scene that's played out countless

times, and each time, the foam is hailed as a lifesaver.

But what happens after the fire is out? That's where the story takes a grim turn, with countless stories of irreparable destruction caused by AFFF exposure in the environment, and equally devastating consequences when it comes to people's health, which have since prompted countless fire fighting foam lawsuits.

Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) is a common type of firefighting foam. It's particularly effective against fuel fires, which is why it's widely used at airports, military bases, and industrial sites. However, AFFF contains chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

These chemicals are incredibly

persistent, earning them the nickname "forever chemicals."

PFAS are not just an environmental concern; they're a health concern too. Studies have linked them to a range of health issues, from cancer to hormone disruption, and because they don't break down easily, they accumulate in the environment and in our bodies.

In Oscoda, Michigan, the use of AFFF at the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base has led to widespread PFAS contamination. The chemicals have been found in the groundwater, surface water, and even in the foam that occasionally washes up on the shores of nearby Lake Van Etten.

Residents have since been advised not to eat fish from the lake, and many rely on bottled water due to concerns about their wells. The situation in Oscoda is a stark example of the long-lasting impact of PFAS and the challenges of addressing such contamination.

Beyond human concerns, the natural world is also under siege from PFAS contamination. Aquatic ecosystems, especially, bear the brunt of this chemical assault. PFAS-tainted waterways have reported fish exhibiting liver damage, altered blood chemistry, and hindered reproductive capabilities.

In the early 2000s, researchers found that fish in the Mississippi River near the Twin Cities had unusually high levels of PFAS. This was linked to discharges from a 3M manufacturing facility.

Elevated PFAS levels in fish can lead to various health issues, including liver damage and reproductive problems. As a result, the Minnesota Department of Health has issued fish consumption advisories for certain species in affected areas. Similar impact can be seen on Greenland's polar bears, and the handful of bald eagles

still around in New Jersey.

This makes the increasing use of PFAS in fire suppression systems a major threat to the micro and macro ecosystem, something that needs to be put an end to right away, in order to prevent it from spiraling into a problem of catastrophic proportions.

The mounting concerns over firefighting foam have catalyzed a search for safer alternatives. Many fire departments are transitioning to fluorine-free foams, sidestepping the problematic PFAS chemicals.

These alternatives, derived from natural sources or less harmful synthetic compounds, have shown promise in various fire scenarios. However, their efficacy in combating large-scale fuel fires remains a topic of debate among experts.

Yet, merely adopting new foams isn't a panacea. The legacy of PFAS, with its stubborn persistence, lingers in our environment. Remediation efforts are essential. Cleaning up sites contaminated by decades of PFAS use is both a technical and logistical challenge.

Moreover, there are calls for stricter regulations, ensuring that new products introduced don't pose similar threats in the future. Collaboration between industries, researchers, and policymakers will be pivotal in charting a safer path forward.

Firefighting foam, for all its life-saving prowess, has left a toxic legacy in its wake. The environmental and safety concerns surrounding it are a stark reminder that sometimes, the solutions to our problems can create new challenges of their own.

With awareness, innovation, and community action, however, we can address these challenges and ensure that both people and the planet are protected, and solve some of our most pressing issues, without ignoring the externalities of our solutions.



Enhancing airport security through access control & facial biometrics



The role of airports revolves around being energetic focal points for travel and trade, with a daily influx of millions of passengers. Amid this unceasing movement of people, the need to implement rigorous security measures takes on a pivotal role.

These systems ensure that only approved personnel can enter restricted areas.

- **Surveillance and Monitoring:** Closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras and security personnel monitor access points in real time. Constant surveillance helps security officials detect and respond to any suspicious activities promptly.

- **Visitor Management:** Airports frequently have visitors, including vendors and contractors. An efficient

ometrics offers a touchless solution, enhancing safety.

- **Deterrence and Prevention:** The mere presence of facial biometric technology can act as a deterrent to potential wrongdoers. Knowing that the facial biometric technology will swiftly confirm their identity, individuals with malicious intent are discouraged from attempting unauthorised access.

As airports continue to evolve into complex connectivity ecosystems, security measures must grow, too. Access control remains a cornerstone of airport security, effectively safeguarding sensitive areas from potential threats. The introduction of facial biometrics marks a transformative shift, bringing unprecedented accuracy, efficiency, and safety to airport environments.

The technology behind Biometric Building Access Controls

Universities must protect both data and students from theft and unauthorized entry, and biometric building access controls play a key role in this effort. Educational institutions are using biometrics to protect facilities such as residence halls and research facilities that store highly sensitive information. Biometric devices include fingerprint readers and iris or palm scanners.

In addition, universities are shifting physical security responsibility from public safety and law enforcement teams to IT departments. That shift has been happening for several years, according to Tom Mechler, regional marketing manager for access control in North America at Bosch Security Systems.

While universities may have been hesitant to use biometric access controls one or two years ago, that's now

building entry cards still exist, organizations are combining them with biometrics as part of a dual-authentication approach. Universities must move beyond the standalone physical access card because bad actors can clone them, he says.

As someone approaches a video camera at a checkpoint on campus, face recognition prompts the doors to open. Biometric systems let users implement rules such as unlocking doors if they identify a particular person arriving. A system can send a quick alert notification to students or campus security that someone is at the door. Biometrics can help identify people that might be dangerous or individuals that have been expelled from campus.

Biometrics also remove the human delay in identifying people, Montgomery says.



Access control stands at the forefront of airport security strategies, acting as the first line of defence against potential threats. Here, Alcatraz AI explains how in recent years, facial biometrics has emerged as a cutting-edge technology, and can now offer unparalleled accuracy and efficiency in creating secure and safe airport environments.

Access control refers to the management of who can enter specific areas within an airport. This essential security measure prevents unauthorised individuals from accessing sensitive zones, such as secure terminals, runways, control towers, and baggage handling areas. By implementing strict access control protocols, airports minimise the risk of unauthorised access, tampering, theft, and potential acts of terrorism.

Critical elements of effective access control

- **Physical Barriers:** Physical barriers like fences, gates, and turnstiles restrict access to authorised personnel only. These visible deterrents play a crucial role in preventing unauthorised entry.

- **Identification Systems:** Access cards, PINs, and biometrics are identification methods used to verify the identity of individuals seeking access.

visitor management system ensures these individuals are accurately identified, verified, and granted appropriate access.

Facial biometrics use unique facial features to verify individuals' identities. This innovative approach has gained significant traction due to its accuracy, speed, and non-intrusive nature.

And, according to Alcatraz AI facial biometrics stands out as one of the best technologies to bolster airport security for the following reasons:

- **Incredible Accuracy:** Each person's facial features are distinct, making facial biometrics one of the most accurate identification methods. Advanced algorithms analyse specific points on a person's face, such as the distance between the eyes, nose shape, cheekbones, and jawline, to create a unique biometric template.

- **Speed and Efficiency:** Facial biometrics systems work swiftly, making them ideal for high-traffic areas like airports. Employees or Vendors can be identified within seconds, reducing waiting times and improving operational efficiency.

- **Contactless Identification:** In a post-pandemic world, minimising physical contact is crucial. Facial bi-



changing, according to Bruce Montgomery, state, local and education market leader for Honeywell. "We're seeing a lot more adoption into the K-12 and university higher ed space because it's just so much more efficient," he says.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought a movement toward frictionless technology. That was an opportunity to employ face recognition, Montgomery says. Although physical

Some devices use a hand-waving technology that allows organizations such as universities to get 50 people through a turnstile per minute.

Meanwhile, Bosch fingerprint readers perform 3D scans and verification of four fingers in under one second and can identify as many as 100,000 users, according to the company.

Cameras have typically collected

face recognition data and stored it on servers, but today, devices such as Honeywell's 70 Series video surveillance cameras incorporate face recognition chips that process data at the edge, Montgomery says.

Instead of a hefty, robust machine to process video at some data or network center, now it can be done with a small laptop. Performing processing at the edge in cameras reduces total cost of ownership by 30 percent. The more cameras you put in, the more network infrastructure you'll need. Having edge processing means a significant cost savings.

A mapping process in biometrics allows universities to store a geometric map of biometric data rather than an actual image. They don't store a picture of your face or a picture of your finger. They map it. Campus IT then discards the images and stores the maps.

That does two things: That's a lot less storage, but, more importantly,

your face or your finger cannot be re-created from the map.

As students enter residence halls, their badges get scanned along with biometrics such as their faces or palms. A campus network collects data points and vectors that turn into a mathematical equation rather than a face.

Each individual's face is a separate mathematical equation, and it's stored in that manner. It can't be re-engineered into a face. You just have a bunch of ones and zeros.

Users can also use the face and fingerprint recognition capabilities on their mobile phones to unlock doors, Mechler says.

The building access control system has what's called a mobile credential feature. And it allows someone to use their phone as a credential. Typically, it will be a Bluetooth reader or near-field reader in the reader.

AI-backed mobile security video surveillance solutions allow for a proactive approach

Last year, there was a 71% increase in physical attacks on critical U.S. infrastructure, according to a U.S. government report. Whether it's manufacturing, processing, or energy production, operational continuity is paramount. Yet, the alarming increase in the number of physical attacks that target these facilities – which could include theft or damage to expensive equipment – is putting uptime in jeopardy.

When it comes to protecting these facilities from an attack, a range of options from CCTV systems to 24-hour security guards are often deployed. However, CCTV security installations have typically focused on "inside the perimeter" protection and often lack the teeth needed to be a deterrent.

That is changing with new mobile security trailers, loaded with advanced artificial intelligence (AI) monitoring capabilities which can greatly expand the scope of on-site security. Plus, these smart systems are also proving to add operational efficiencies.

On top of the surge in criminal activities targeting industrial operations is the nationwide shortage of law enforcement. This has the potential to increase response times and puts additional pressure on facilities to fortify their security practices.

As a solution to this issue, the introduction of mobile security trailers presents a timely opportunity to

proactively detect potential security threats before they escalate into more severe situations.

Mobile security trailers, which have become common in retail parking lots in recent years, are now increasingly the go-to equipment for industrial operations as well. Made up of a trailer armed with high-definition cameras attached to an extendable mast and powered by solar panels, these systems can be quickly deployed and set up in minutes. They can also be repositioned as threat profiles change.

Mobile security trailers are not new, but sophisticated data analytics is changing how these intelligent systems operate and is enabling a more efficient approach to securing a facility.

The current trend in the industrial sector is reminiscent of the retail industry's surveillance and monitoring practices. While it has been a customary practice to install numerous cameras inside stores, businesses are now equally keen on monitoring the activities of individuals in the parking lot perimeter or access points before they even enter the premises.

The latest AI-enabled technology provides an opportunity for businesses to have real-time, continuous monitoring of their projects, people, assets, and environment. This may include identifying whether or not someone is brandishing a weapon which is now possible with advanced AI systems.

These systems can also alert vehicles, people and motorcycles as well as spot smoke and fire – which are always a concern at an industrial facility.

For industrial operations, stopping a potential attack, theft or property damage is a real concern, yet it is the potential loss of uptime or business continuity that keeps operators pushing out more security trailers onto their properties.

As an example, there was a recent incident with an industrial equipment operator who had a remote facility with some of their assets situated on it. When thieves came in attempting to steal some electronics valued at several hundred thousand dollars, advanced analytics detected the intruder before he entered the property, then the virtual-guard monitoring team took over, coordinating with the on-site customer team to proactively apprehend the bad actor, preventing the crime and potential losses.

No small amount, but after discussing the impact of the potential theft, the operator estimated that the 6-figure loss would have paled in comparison to the lost production of the rig which was set to begin work the following week.

The electronics would have had to be re-ordered, manufactured and then shipped from overseas. That's about a four-to-five-month turnaround. If those electronics had been stolen, the entire rig would have been out of work, and the operator would not be able to fulfill his contract.

The way in which security monitoring trailers are rolled out is in stark contrast to that of traditional CCTV which was built and designed to be fixed installations that often blended into the surroundings.

Deterrence is the primary defense against potential security threats. Traditional CCTV cameras often function as passive observers, but with the introduction of mobile security trailers, the situation is different. These trailers are highly visible, sending a clear message that they are actively monitoring the area. The aim is to make people aware of their presence, ensuring that potential wrongdoers are discouraged from conducting any illicit activities.

Popular deterrent features include motion-activated strobe lights and talk-down speakers that can announce that police or security has been alerted to someone's presence. At the same time, those on-trailer features take action, and an alert gets sent to a central monitoring center where trained professionals take over for AI. They can then quickly review the incident and determine actionable next steps in real time. Those next steps are typically

customized for each facility and may include contacting security guards, local police, or customer representatives.

Beyond just security, the AI systems on the advanced monitoring trailers can also provide operational efficiencies. For example, it could be as simple as alleviating congestion from multiple deliveries that occur at the same time. It can also be heat mapping of activities to amend operational workflows.

There are some job sites that simply need an extra set of eyes out there looking out for environmental exposures, spills or failures on a piece of equipment. These advanced systems are not limited to just anti-theft or anti-vandalism. They are truly a second set of eyes and ears out there. PPE compliance can also be managed by security monitoring trailers.

In addition, mobile monitoring trailers offer another notable advantage: the ability to swiftly exchange them in case of maintenance issues. For companies with strategically positioned nationwide operational facilities, quick replacement of trailers with high-end commercial-grade cameras and software infrastructure is possible. To ensure maximum uptime, some security monitoring trailer operators are also now conducting a daily virtual "pulse check" on each system within its extensive fleet across the country to guarantee uninterrupted operation.

This can include determining whether a unit is charging adequately if the batteries are working optimally, and if the cameras and the system are working and free of visual obstructions. If a system is not working properly, that's a potential failure point that needs to be proactively managed.

Another common failure point is connectivity. Trailers should be able to connect with more than just a single cellular service. This is a good reason to find a security monitoring trailer provider that can use multiple carriers as well as low-earth orbiting satellites and point-to-point connections for redundancies. This also allows users to log in from anywhere and check in on the facility through a secured portal.

There is a consistent demand for security equipment both during times of prosperity and adversity. During busy times, companies seek to acquire surveillance systems to manage multiple projects and alleviate the burden on their staff.

However, during tough times, incidents of theft and equipment loss tend to increase, making security measures all the more essential. Hence, the issue of security is a persistent concern that cannot be overlooked, regardless of market conditions

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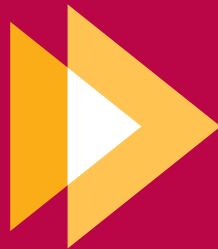
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INDUSTRY EVENTS



USA

11-13 September 2023
Global Security Exchange
(GSX) Kay Bailey Hutchison
Convention Center in Dallas
Texas
USA
<https://www.gsx.org/>



UK

12-15 September 2023
DSEI 2023
ExCeL London
London
United Kingdom
<https://www.dsei.co.uk/>



UK

26-27 September 2023
International Security Expo 2023
OLYMPIA
London United Kingdom
<https://www.internationalsecurityexpo.com/>



SAUDI ARABIA

03-05 October 2023
Intersec Saudi Arabia
Jeddah Center for Forums
& Events
Riyadh Saudi Arabia
<https://intersec-ksa.ae.messefrankfurt.com/ksa/en.html>



UK

12 October 2023
Consec 2023
Twickenham Stadium
Twickenham
United Kingdom
<https://www.securityconsultants.org.uk/events/consec>



CANADA

25-26 October 2023
Security Canada Central
Toronto Congress Centre
Toronto
Canada
<https://securitycanada.com/attend/central/>



EGYPT

29-31 October 2023
Egypt Energy 2023
Egypt International
Exhibition Centre
Egypt
<https://www.egypt-energy.com/en/home.html>



USA

14-16 November 2023
ISC East
Javits Center,
NYC
<https://www.discoverisc.com/east/en-us.html>



SINGAPORE

15-17 November 2023
Fire & Disaster Asia 2023
Marina Bay Sands,
Singapore
<https://architecturebuildingservices.com.sg/events/firedisasterasia/>



RUSSIA

28-30 November 2023
Sfitec 2023
ExpoForum Convention and Exhibition
Centre, Russian Federation,
Saint Petersburg Russia
<https://www.clocate.com/conference/Sfitec-2019/15316/>



INDIA

07-09 December 2023
IFSEC India
Pragati Maidan,
New Delhi
India
<https://ifsecindia.com>



BANGLADESH

07-09 December 2023
6th International Safety & Security
Expo Bangladesh 2023
International Convention City
Bashundhara, Dhaka Bangladesh
<https://www.cems-safetysecurity.com/>



DUBAI

16-18 January 2024
Intersec 2024
Dubai International Convention
& Exhibition Centre
Dubai UAE
<https://intersec.ae.messefrankfurt.com/dubai/en.html>



INDIA

PACC 2024
February 22-25, 2024
ITC Royal Bengal
Kolkata
India
<https://fsai.in/>



KOREA

20-22 March 2024
Secon 2024
Korea International Exhibition
Centre - Kintex
Seoul Korea
<http://www.seconexpo.com/2020/eng/main.asp>



RUSSIA

16-18 April 2024
Securika Moscow 2024
Crocus Expo International
Exhibition Centre
Moscow Russia
<https://securika-moscow.ru/Home?culture=en-GB>



SOUTH AFRICA

28-30 May 2024
Securex South Africa
Gallagher Convention
Centre
Midrand
South Africa
<https://securex.co.za/>



INDIA

04-05 July 2024
9th International Police
Expo 2024
Pragati Maidan
New Delhi India
www.internationalpoliceexpo.com



INDIA

04-05 July 2024
8th India Homeland
Security Expo
Pragati Maidan
New Delhi India
www.homelandsecurityexpo.in



GERMANY

17-20 September 2024
Security Essen 2024
Messe Essen,
Norbertstrasse 2, Essen
Germany
https://www.security-essen.de/impetus_provider/



UK

02-04 December 2024
IFSEC International
ExCeL London,
London, United Kingdom
<https://www.ifsecglobal.com/ifsec-international-security-event/>

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