



GTSI Physical Security Solution Makes the Grade on College Campus

Ensuring the security of its 19,000 students, faculty, and all buildings and facilities is a point of pride for a large university located outside a major east coast city.

While undergoing expansion, the university became concerned that extending the existing security system into the new buildings was not a cost-justifiable option. Not only had a tremendous number of hours and money been invested in managing the system and adding digital video recorders, it also was very difficult to find replacement parts for obsolete system components. The university concluded that the best approach for expanding its security system was to rip out the old analog system and replace it with an IP-based video surveillance system built on the existing campus network infrastructure.

A single platform campus-wide digital security system

A contractor recommended that the university contact GTSI for a proposal. GTSI met with the university's staff, reviewed documents, and conducted a thorough site analysis of the existing video system's fiber infrastructure and the campus's Ethernet network.

Based on its assessment, GTSI provided an alternative site design to the university's original plan to remove their current analog cameras and replace them with IP-based cameras. GTSI, instead, recommended

that the university integrate the IP-based digital cameras only at the new locations and place encoders on the existing analog cameras, which would allow them to generate digital video signals. In this proposed architecture, the video would ride along the university's existing Ethernet network and there would be full support for remote monitoring and fast access to the server/storage system.

The university accepted the recommended site design, and GTSI assembled a team comprised of its project managers and engineers, along with staff from a subcontractor, to execute the tasks to create the campus-wide single-platform digital security system. This involved managing the removal of the university's legacy cameras from the dedicated fiber network, which freed it up for other uses, and integrating both the analog and IP-based cameras into the campus's already redundant Ethernet network. Then, digital encoders were installed on the newly relocated analog cameras.

Design, engineering, and technology expertise extend the value of existing system

With this GTSI solution, university staff can logon from anywhere on the campus network and access

live feeds from the cameras. If there is an incident inside or outside the buildings, officers can see what is happening in real time and accurately position resources for a fast, appropriate response. The solution also enables selected personnel to login offsite through the university's virtual private network.

GTSI also helped the university attain a higher level of security by collocating cameras with the blue light phones that are strategically located throughout the campus. Now, when the phones are in use, the cameras automatically pan the area and zoom in on the phone.

By taking advantage of the university's existing security system and recommending innovative approaches for integrating new video, networking, and storage technology with legacy systems, GTSI delivered a highly efficient security system at a cost below the originally proposed budget.