A Major U.S. Airport

Opportunity

A major airport in the United States, one of the world’s busiest, offers daily flights to points throughout North America and is also a major gateway to Europe and Asia. Located about a dozen miles from the downtown of a major U.S. city, the airport emphasizes customer service and satisfaction, and features top-quality facilities. The airport is also an important hub of financial and economic vitality — and a leader in safety and security.

Security is a complex and multi-faceted function in the modern airport environment. Multiple technology systems are required to secure the vast premises. Technology requirements include video surveillance equipment that is integrated with other security and safety systems. Security personnel must be able to respond in real-time to anything that happens in the diverse and geographically dispersed environment. To be useful to airport personnel, video surveillance systems utilize many cameras to put additional “eyes” on what’s happening anywhere in the airport. Airport security personnel also need a video management system that can present video information, along with other data from a variety of systems, in a simple, easy-to-use format to empower situation awareness and enable rapid response.

Solution

The major U.S. airport held a competitive bid in search of a solution that could deliver on its complex security and video management needs. In the end, the airport chose Verint® PSIM™ — a Physical Security Information Management platform — along with Verint Enterprise Video Management Software™ (VMS). During the competitive bid process, Verint’s technology was tested thoroughly and, once proven in the airport’s environment, was chosen as part of the final contract.

The Verint Video and Situation Intelligence system, which was implemented throughout 2013 and replaced a legacy Pelco Endura system, now provides the major U.S. airport with enhanced situation awareness and integrates a variety of the airport’s security, safety and building management systems – including access control, analytics, command and dispatch. The Verint system is integrated with Lenel and MDI access control systems, as well as an Integraph CAD (computer-aided design) solution. The Verint platform helps to promote an effective, more proactive approach to security and emergency management at the airport, which serves as a model for how Verint’s solutions can be applied to facilities throughout the transportation industry.

The Verint platform is a powerful, reliable and highly scalable security solution that combines cutting-edge IP video technologies. Verint VMS records and archives video data continuously for viewing incidents in real time from any location. Optimized management of surveillance data includes capture, monitoring, analytics and archiving combined into a highly effective IP video solution.

To promote greater situational awareness and provide more Actionable Intelligence® at the airport, Verint’s PSIM platform accommodates vast amounts of data from a variety of systems.
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"Technology innovations such as the Verint platform are paving the way for the transition and creating new capabilities beyond what was possible with yesterday’s analog systems."

and routes the exact needed information to the right people at the right time throughout the airport. The overall system includes upwards of 2,000 camera inputs and more than 5,000 sensors integrated into the PSIM system. An intuitive three-dimensional (3D), multi-layer user interface simplifies operation, and systemic procedures and standards ensure efficient organizational control and management. Efficient deployment of equipment and resources reduces operational costs.

The 2,000+ cameras — including several hundred pan-tilt-zoom models — are placed strategically to view critical areas of the airport. The Verint Enterprise VMS platform helps ensure the effective operation and uptime of the system by providing uninterrupted access to live and recorded video. Powerful analytics tools like “tracking” help to identify any suspicious person and track them throughout the airport in real-time and disseminate alerts through the Verint VMS for immediate response. Additionally, integration with the airports state-of-the-art video walls delivers an automated view of all relevant alerts in and around the airport grounds.

Verint won the job based on its industry-leading reputation and the technical superiority of its products. The advanced 3D capabilities of our PSIM in particular were a factor in the airport choosing Verint.

Results

One of the county’s busiest airports now has a cutting-edge surveillance and information management platform that will provide a high level of safety, security and disaster preparedness. The airport uses the system for general security surveillance, both on a regular and as-needed basis, and taps into the system for investigative purposes when needed. More than 150 people have been trained to use the system, representing various departments including aviation security, security operations, information technology (IT), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the FBI and local police departments.

Combining real-time video with information from a range of other systems provides a valuable tool for security personnel tasked with keeping the environment safe for airport and airline staffs, tenant businesses, travelers and customers. Presenting the abundance of data from a variety of systems in an easy-to-use format transforms data into information that ensures safety and boosts effective and efficient airport operation.

“Airports across the country are poised to make the long-delayed transition from analog to IP-based video systems,” said Steve Weller, senior vice president and general manager, Verint Video and Situation Intelligence Solutions. “Technology innovations such as the Verint platform are paving the way for the transition and creating new capabilities beyond what was possible with yesterday’s analog systems. Transitioning to IP video enables incorporation of live and recorded video into the information stream of a modern airport, and the impact of the transition will transform how airports are managed and secured.”

Data from systems such as access control, radar, analytics, command and dispatch are critical to include in any comprehensive security management platform, as are building management and other airport systems. Centralizing control of various systems, integrated with video cameras, provides a useful tool for security and management. This Verint installation at one of the world’s busiest airports demonstrates the value of IP video management software combined with PSIM capabilities as airports around the world are embracing vast new possibilities driven by technology innovation.