Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Council & Metro Transit

Opportunity

Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Council is the planning agency that serves the region’s seven counties comprised of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington. In addition to operating an integrated network of bus and light rail transit within the city limits through subsidiary Minneapolis-St. Paul Metro Transit, the Council’s responsibilities include providing cost-effective transit and wastewater services, coordinating orderly and economic development, and assisting the communities in their growth plans.

In 2008, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Council provided a total of 95 million rides through its fixed-route transit service and its Metro Mobility program, a dial-a-ride, door-to-door transportation service for disabled citizens. With a fleet of 893 buses, Minneapolis-St. Paul Metro Transit is one of the country’s largest transit systems, facilitating roughly 95 percent of the bus trips taken annually in the Twin Cities.

Transit ridership continues to grow rapidly in the seven-county Twin Cities area. In order to keep pace with increasing demand, the Council needed to upgrade its legacy security infrastructure with a reliable, scalable and flexible IP video platform.

When it originally outfitted 240 of its buses with Verint’s® Transit video solution, Minneapolis-St. Paul Metro Transit replaced its existing legacy analog recorders. Committed to a fleet-wide modernization initiative, the transit operator is continuing to upgrade security infrastructure aboard its bus fleet.

Solution

With its sophisticated video quality, automatic system health check monitoring, camera tampering detection and proactive problem notification, Verint Transit provides both transit organizations a comprehensive view of onboard events, supporting its focus on safety and deterring crime.

In the initial phase of its fleet-wide video IP implementation, Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Council deployed Verint Transit on 87 fixed-route and 170 para-transit buses. This initiative updated the Council’s transit authority’s security infrastructure, replacing existing analog recorders with a reliable, scalable and
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“The Verint solution delivers state-of-the-art surveillance capabilities to our regional bus fleet, and in doing so helps uphold the Council’s commitment to providing best-in class safety and service to our riders”

– Peter Bell, Chair, Metropolitan Council.

flexible IP video platform.

Since then, Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Transit has implemented Verint Transit on an additional 167 buses, along with 11 new buses. In total, its initial investment, coupled with this expansion translates into Verint video security technology being deployed across more than 400 buses in the system, furthering the transit authority’s focus on passenger and driver security.

“The Verint solution delivers state-of-the-art surveillance capabilities to our regional bus fleet, and in doing so helps uphold the Council’s commitment to providing best-in class safety and service to our riders,” say Peter Bell, Chair, Metropolitan Council.

Results

Verint’s comprehensive IP video portfolio has helped resolve crime and deter on-board incidents for both transit organizations. Verint Transit provides greater situational awareness and improves emergency response time, allowing both Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Council and Metro Transit to better safeguard passengers and operators.

Verint’s ability to transmit and analyze images quickly and accurately—along with automated system health monitoring and analysis, live and recorded video viewing, policy-based video distribution and versatile investigation management capabilities—helps the organizations meet their security needs today, while offering the flexibility to expand.

Leveraging the technology, the transit authorities also have implemented a new, higher level security and surveillance capability to the Twin Cities’ bus fleets, and helped identify perpetrators, leading to arrests and prosecutions.

“[Verint] Transit has allowed us to revolutionize the way we approach and manage security by providing high quality images from multiple camera views and increased storage capabilities,” explains Dave Indrehus, Chief of Metropolitan Transit Police. “Verint’s integrated solution provides the high quality, color images that help us identify, arrest and prosecute offenders.”

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