

SUCCESS STORY

www.basler-ipcam.com

Coming Home – Feeling Safe

Basler IP Fixed Dome Cameras Secure Apartment Blocks in Denmark

A large Danish residential management company trusts Basler's IP Fixed Dome Cameras for video surveillance of a number of newly renovated apartment blocks in Copenhagen. The new network cameras were installed in entrance halls, at garbage disposal areas, and in parking areas to prevent vandalism and break-ins.

Customer

- Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
- Industry: Facility Management
- Year of Realization: 2010

Application

The residential complex in Copenhagen houses a large number of newly renovated apartments. In the course of renovation, a new video surveillance system was installed to enhance the level of security within and near the buildings.

The largest residential management company in Vestegnen, an area west of Denmark's capital Copenhagen, is responsible for administration of the buildings. Its 250 employees manage more than 10,000 homes in the greater Copenhagen area.

Video surveillance was intended to cover the entrance areas of 18 building blocks, a number of garbage disposal areas, and parking areas.



Solutions and Benefits

High Image Quality for Entrance Hall Surveillance

Each building block accommodates a number of flats. The entrance halls of each building block were designed to present a flavor of what the rest of the building has to offer. Large windows with expensive aluminum frames allow natural light to flood in – but they are also a potential target for property damage.

The demands on the video surveillance cameras are high. They must be able to secure the surveillance area while being aimed in the direction of the windows. The resulting backlighting requires cameras that can compensate for the difficult lighting conditions.

During the night, the lighting situation is even more challenging. With no natural light and with artificial light only available when someone switches on the entrance hall lights, the cameras must operate under low-light and “no-light” conditions.

The solution for these requirements was found after extensive testing conducted with the best megapixel cameras from the leading manufacturers. A Basler IP camera model was selected because its high quality Sony CCD sensor delivered the best image quality given the challenging lighting conditions, both during the day and at night. During the tests, the Basler IP Camera was the only camera that made face detection possible.

Another aspect to consider was that the cameras should not intimidate people by being too prominent. So the residential management decided to use 160 Basler BIP-DI300c-dn IP Cameras, which feature a fixed dome housing and true day/night functionality. Two cameras were used in each of the 80 entrance halls.



Day/Night Functionality and MPEG-4 Compression

Basler day/night IP cameras use an automatically retractable IR-cut filter that is placed in front of the sensor in day mode and removed in night mode. With the filter in front of the sensor, the cameras can properly represent colors using the visible light available during the daytime. At night, the filter is retracted and the cameras produce high-quality black and white images when there is only infrared light available. These characteristics, along with a superior backlight compensation function, made the Basler BIP-DI300c-dn camera ideal for entrance hall surveillance, even with minimal lighting.

When planning the video surveillance system, bandwidth consumption and storage costs were an important concern. Although five servers with an overall capacity of 40 TB are used for file storage, the amount of raw data delivered by 160 cameras is huge, especially because the video data is retained for 20 days. Therefore, the images captured by the Basler BIP-DI300c-dn cameras at the residential complex are only recorded to a server if motion is detected in the image. By defining an AOI (area of interest) that leaves out irrelevant image areas, e.g., the ceiling of the entrance halls, a frame rate of 11 frames per second is achieved using MPEG-4 compression. MPEG-4 is a very efficient compression format and significantly reduces the amount of data that must be transmitted via the network and stored on the servers.

Vandal-Resistant Dome Housings for Outdoor Surveillance

For outdoor surveillance of the garbage disposal areas and parking lots, a high level of image detail is required for face and license plate recognition. The cameras' resolution of 1.3 megapixels and their vandal-resistant dome housings designed for operating temperatures from -35° C to +50° C (-31° F to +122° F) are ideal for this outdoor surveillance task.

User-Friendly Operation and Support

System control and video image evaluation is realized with Netavis Observer Video Management Software (VMS). The Observer software supports important camera features such as encoding with different compression formats and an AOI (area of interest) function. The VMS is used to record the video streams from any cameras that show motion in the image and to change the camera settings.

Support for the Basler IP Cameras and the Netavis Observer Video Management Software is provided by Scanview A/S, a Danish security equipment distributor. Scanview has installed more than 200 security surveillance systems in Denmark.

Technologies Used

- 160 BIP-DI300c-dn Basler IP Fixed Dome Cameras
- Video Management Software (VMS): Netavis Observer



Basler AG

Germany, Headquarters

Tel. +49 4102 463 500

Fax +49 4102 463 599

bc.sales.europe@baslerweb.com

www.basler-ipcam.com

USA

Tel. +1 610 280 0171

Fax +1 610 280 7608

bc.sales.usa@baslerweb.com

Asia

Tel. +65 6425 0472

Fax +65 6425 0473

ip.sales.asia@baslerweb.com