delcosecurity

INTEGRATED SECURITY SYSTEMS

APPLICATION NOTE — CORRECTIONS FACILITIES

Summary

Prison populations are growing, and costs are more tightly controlled. This translates to asking guards, who provide dangerous, difficult, and meaningful services to do more.

Security of corrections personnel and the security of inmates is of paramount importance whether the facility is a federal maximum security facility or a youth detention centre.

The correctional facility's technical security infrastructure must provide staff immediate visibility of all activities; all building management functions (e.g. access control, utilities control, fire control). It must track the location and safety of key staff.

The focus of the security infrastructure is the command and control post which monitors video and status from all security and utilities subsystems, and provides remote control of these subsystems for both normal operation of the facility, and in response to emergency incidents. Immediate access to video, audio and status information permits quicker and more accurate assessment of situations, and rapid response through remote control mitigates injury and damage during incidents.

With information comes control. With total visibility provided by seeing inputs from multiple sources on one CRT screen, guards get a complete picture of what is happening, and can act quickly in response. With this control, comes reduced stress, improved job satisfaction, resulting in less staff turnover.

Market Need

The command and control post needs to receive status information from and issue commands to the following subsystems:

Cell door controls
Perimeter intrusion detection
Guard watch tours
Personal duress (active and passive systems)
Fire controls
Utility controls (HVAC, lighting, power, water, telephone, cable TV)
Video surveillance and recording

Prison operations and security depends upon communications. In addition to the monitoring and control of the above subsystems, the integrated security framework needs to include the following communications subsystems:

Annunciation
Paging
mobile phones
Intercom
Nurse Call

A command and control post supported by a comprehensive integrated security system bringing together all the above controls, video and communications, reduces labour costs and reduces security risks.

Passionately focused on your success

APEX
The Summit of Security

The APEX Solution

APEX integrated security has been installed in over 30 federal and provincial correctional facilities. At the APEX command and control post, guards can view and control cell doors, initiate paging and annunciation, initiate and receive intercom calls. The guard may select, view, and record surveillance video images from all the CCTV cameras inside and outside the buildings.

The APEX security solution may support one building, or may monitor and control multiple buildings in an institution.

Human machine interface

APEX is intuitive and simple to use. Guards interact with the system using one or two large colour graphics CRT's with touchscreens. The CRT's display colour graphic maps of the facility with alarm conditions and messages shown on the maps. Guards control doors, utilities, cameras etc. by pointing to the appropriate icons displayed on the CRT.

CCTV and video surveillance

Video from all cameras may be recorded onto digital video recorders at a pre-determined schedule and under operator control. Video is also displayed on-demand, and in response to alarms on the operator's graphics displays.

Video recordings are made of all cell door operations. In addition, upon receipt of an alarm, for example from a "man-down" duress system, or a perimeter intrusion, or a fire alarm, the video from the cameras closest to the alarm point is automatically displayed at the command/control post and is recorded on digital video recorders.
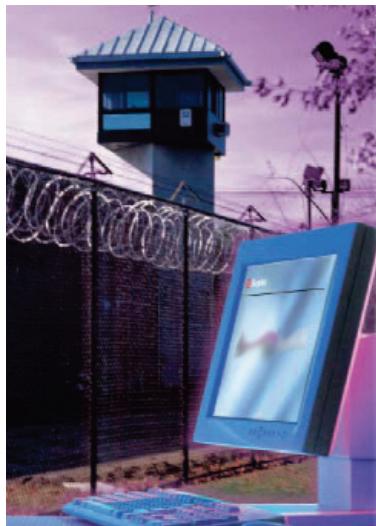
Digital video technology provides rapid access to recorded video. In post incident reviews, the guard may call up a selected alarm, and view the video associated with that alarm. No longer does he need to search by "time of day", or scan a video tape to find the segment of interest.

Digital video may also be transmitted and viewed over great distances with no loss of picture quality using internet IP technology.

Secondary Control Post

A redundant, backup control post can be installed to counter the threat of a security breach or damage of the main control center. At the secondary control post, all functions of the primary console can be disabled, and command and control can continue at the secondary center.

Access Control

The APEX system monitors and controls the door access system used to control access to the different areas and zones in the buildings. Once the schedules, and permissions have been established, and identity tokens (e.g. proximity cards or keyring fobs) have been given to accredited personnel, access to controlled rooms is managed automatically by the system without the need for interaction from the control center guards. Every transaction in the access control system is logged, time-stamped and recorded. The guards, may view these logs at anytime.

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