



Challenge

Monitor key areas across town to reduce incidents of criminal mischief and vandalism and boost community safety.

Solution

All police officers and the Chief of Police manage the surveillance system from their desktops using the Avigilon Control Center with High-Definition Stream Management™ (HDSM). The Pittsboro Police Department (PPD) installed an Avigilon HD 180° panoramic dome camera at the town's main intersection to monitor vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The PPD also deployed several Avigilon analog video encoders to improve image quality and manageability of existing analog cameras, which cover the parking lot, entrances, exits, and other high-traffic areas in Scamahorn Park. An Avigilon Network Video Recorder (NVR) stores 30 days of continuous video footage. PPD officers also use ACC Mobile to monitor the cameras remotely from their Android phones.

Benefits

The PPD can investigate incidents much quicker than before, freeing up police officers to focus on other aspects of community safety. Acting as an extra pair of eyes, the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system saves the PPD the annual cost of another full-time officer, while the initial investment was notably less than other solutions because fewer cameras were required for greater coverage. The PPD has achieved higher identification success and conviction rates because officers can identify suspects and incidents with greater accuracy and are more likely to recoup costs for the time and materials needed to clean up vandalism or repair damaged property.

- Recoup costs of property damage

- Saves on recurring staff costs

- Higher conviction rates

Market: Law enforcement

Location: USA

Partner: AllThingsIT

Featured Products



ACC Software



2 MP HD Camera



HD 180° Panoramic Dome Camera



Network Video Recorder



Analog Video Encoder

Pittsboro Police Department in Indiana Prevents Criminal Mischief and Vandalism with Avigilon High-Definition Surveillance System

The Pittsboro Police Department is dedicated to enhancing quality of life and maintaining Pittsboro, Indiana as a safe place for its 3,000 residents to live and work. Like police departments around the world, the PPD tackles a variety of security issues each day ranging from misdemeanors to theft and assault. A growing concern for the town is the rise in youth vandalism and criminal mischief – a threat that is escalating in municipalities across the globe. To address this risk head-on, the PPD deployed the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system to monitor key areas across town to reduce misbehavior and boost community safety.



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From Analog to High-Definition

Scamahorn Park lies at the town’s center and is a popular destination for residents and visitors alike. “We have had a few incidents of vandalism and even assault in the past that we were unable to successfully investigate because of the lack of coverage and poor image quality of our previous analog-based surveillance system,” explained Lieutenant Scott King of the Pittsboro Police Department. Working with the SafeSmallTowns.com initiative of AllThingsIT, the concept of an integrated wireless civic surveillance system based on the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system was approved by Pittsboro’s town council. “After a demonstration of the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system, the PPD quickly realized that no other vendor could offer the quality and manageability that Avigilon does,” said Andrew Thomas, president at AllThingsIT. “As an added bonus, the town saved considerably by installing the Avigilon HD cameras using its own resources.”

A Wireless Surveillance Solution

All police officers and the Chief of Police manage the surveillance system from their desktops using the Avigilon Control Center with HDSM. The PPD installed an Avigilon HD 180° HD panoramic dome camera at the town’s main intersection to monitor vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The PPD also deployed several Avigilon analog video encoders to improve image quality and manageability of its existing analog cameras to cover the parking lot, entrances, exits, and other high-traffic areas in Scamahorn Park. An Avigilon Network Video Recorder (NVR) stores 30 days of continuous video footage. “The Avigilon high-definition surveillance system runs very smoothly on our wireless network – we have had no bandwidth issues whatsoever,” noted Lieutenant King.

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Flexibility with ACC Mobile

PPD officers use ACC Mobile to monitor the cameras remotely from their Android phones. “We can be out of state, check our phone when we have a minute and call the on duty officer if we see suspicious activity,” explained Lieutenant King. “ACC Mobile gives us the flexibility to look at the system whenever and wherever we are – a major advantage over our previous system, which was very difficult to monitor even onsite.”



Search Made Easy with ACC

According to Lieutenant King, a key selling feature of the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system is the Avigilon Control Center software itself, which is easy to navigate for even a non-technical user. “Avigilon Control Center is extremely user-friendly because all of the capabilities are laid out well and are very intuitive in nature,” explained Lieutenant King. “All we have to do is click and go.” Lieutenant King is also impressed with the advanced search functionality of the Avigilon Control Center software, which enables him to zoom into specific areas on a still or live image with excellent clarity.

The PPD has noticed a marked reduction in the amount of time it takes to investigate an incident. “Searching footage – even on our smartphones – is ten times faster and easier than it was before,” stated Lieutenant King. “The data we need is easily accessible right from our desktops.” By keying in the date and time of an incident, PPD officers can access the exact information they are looking for in minutes. “The time savings Avigilon has delivered are huge,” Lieutenant King added.



Time Means Money

By speeding up investigations, PPD officers now have more time to focus on other aspects of community safety. “Like police departments across the country, we are understaffed, so the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system acts like another officer patrolling our streets,” explained Lieutenant King. “The Avigilon high-definition surveillance system was half the cost of one police officer’s annual salary, including training, so the cost savings are significant.”

The initial investment of the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system was also less than competing solutions, in part because greater coverage was achieved with fewer cameras. “The Avigilon HD 180° panoramic dome camera, for instance, replaces the need for four separate cameras at each corner of the intersection, resulting in significant savings,” said Lieutenant King.

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More Convictions

The Avigilon high-definition surveillance system has also helped boost the PPD’s identification success rate and ultimately, conviction rate. “We can now identify suspects and incidents with far greater accuracy,” asserted Lieutenant King, who noted that having identifiable evidence makes it much easier for the Court to successfully prosecute offenders. “And when offenders are convicted, they are required to reimburse the town for the time and materials needed to clean up the vandalism or repair damaged property.”

Investing in Small Town Community

The PPD plans to expand the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system to other key areas across the town, including the large truck stop at the interstate exit, where criminal activity occasionally occurs. “Our maintenance department is also considering installing Avigilon HD cameras at their new recycling plant for safety and security purposes,” concluded Lieutenant King. “Offering better image quality and functionality than any other solution, the Avigilon high-definition surveillance system has proven to be a great investment, helping us maintain a safe, ‘small town’ community feel for everyone.”