

A matter of time.

In just three months, the city of Três Lagoas, in Brazil, experienced a reduction in crime rates thanks to the installation of an Axis video surveillance system.



Organization:
Mato Grosso do Sul
Military Police and Três
Lagoas city government

Location:
Três Lagoas, Brazil

Industry segment:
City surveillance

Application:
Safety and security

Axis partners:
Netware, Digifort

Mission

Emerging economies face a common challenge. Development and progress bring corporate investment and new businesses, which create jobs, but can also lead to increased crime. This was the situation in Três Lagoas following the city's transformation from an economy focused on livestock ranching in the early 2000s, into a new industrial center. Unfortunately, the resulting influx of workers also saw a rise in drug trafficking and homicides.

Solution

In order to increase public safety, the Military Police Video Surveillance Operations Center was launched, in partnership with the municipal government. AXIS Q6042-E Network Camera, an advanced PTZ dome camera for outdoor use, offering fast pan/tilt performance and a wide coverage area, has been installed in 29 locations throughout the city.

In addition, six AXIS P1354-E Network Cameras were installed, mostly in the downtown area, where the majority of robbery, theft and vandalism incidents were occurring. The images are managed using software from Digifort, an Axis partner, in a design that was developed and implemented by the integrator Netware.

Result

The installed cameras have made a major contribution in the fight against violence and have increased the public's sense of safety. The Video Surveillance Operations Center allows police to move in quickly when the system detects suspicious situations or people. The presence of the cameras, which was widely reported in the region, also inhibits criminal activity.

“Video surveillance is a powerful tool, and it’s especially important to prevent crimes and deter criminals. That led to choosing Axis cameras, since their quality and price offer a number of advantages.”

Lieutenant Colonel Wilson Sérgio Monari, Mato Grosso do Sul Military Police.

Influx of new residents

When several new factories were built, Três Lagoas saw an inflow of new residents. As it is near São Paulo, the city is now third in the state in terms of industrial investment, and may soon rise to second place. One concern was that this might lead to population pressure and damage to the environment and so innovative and cutting-edge technology would need to be implemented to enhance public safety.

Netware, an integrator working in partnership with Axis, has extensive experience with implementing video surveillance systems. In this project it tackled two major issues: “We had a big challenge in deploying the entire wireless network infrastructure and Axis cameras, equipping the main access points into Três Lagoas with 24-hour video surveillance with real-time high-definition images. We also delivered a new 190 Emergency Center for the Mato Grosso do Sul Military Police, with a call center and “next-generation” call recording system,” says Ricardo Jeronymo, director of Netware.

Lt. Col. Wilson Sérgio Monari said that the biggest challenges were unfamiliarity with the system and shortage of staff, which hindered the project from moving forward. But after getting in touch with companies such as Netware, Digifort, and Axis, these concerns were addressed and their plans became clearer. In addition to installing cameras, an entire wireless infrastructure was created to transmit the images captured by the cameras.

The city didn’t just invest in security technologies; it also put more police on the streets, after they had gone through a training course. This new squad of public safety personnel, combined with a modern and bold project, resulted in a substantial drop in crime rates.

According to Col. Monari, within three months of installing the cameras, the city saw a 33.8% drop in the number of robberies, a 10.4% drop in the number of thefts, and a 50% drop in the number of murders.

In the downtown area, where most of the cameras are located, the robbery rate fell 65%, and thefts dropped 37%. Here the cameras helped reduce incidents of vandalism, which had been common, and also helped fight against drug dealing. In one operation, for example, the Federal Police, in cooperation with the Mato Grosso do Sul Military Police and the Federal Highway Police, seized and then later burned nearly 6 tons of drugs, showing the commitment of the police forces to fighting drug trafficking in Três Lagoas.

“We were very pleased to exceed the client’s expectations,” added Ricardo Jeronymo, from Netware. “Unquestionably, much of this success is due to the work and expertise of our staff, and the exceptional partnership with manufacturers such as Axis, who offer innovative technology and a globally recognized level of performance.”

