COEX beefs up security with Axis video encoders.

Switching to a networked integrated monitoring system with Axis video encoders.

Organization:
COEX

Location:
Samseong–dong,
Gangnam–gu, Seoul,
South Korea

Application:
Video monitoring

Axis partner:
CCS Korea

Mission

COEX is the ideal place for global business exchange, with its state-of-the-art facilities and convenient amenities. It is also working hard to establish itself as Asia's premier venue for trade fairs, tourism, and cultural events. Until recently, COEX management had difficulty monitoring the vast exhibition spaces and related facilities with their analog type systems. The management team wanted to switch some of their obsolete equipment to digital for better image quality, ease of installation, and maneuverability.

Solution

To monitor the far-flung spaces more effectively, COEX needed solutions that could upgrade its security capabilities. In particular, it had to do something about its aging analog monitoring equipment. To address these issues, COEX adopted Axis video encoders, which are capable of turning legacy analog CCTVs into an IP-based digital imaging surveillance system. After installing the digital networked solution, the monitoring crew was able to check images on the web in real-time.

The system also made it easier for management to add cameras to the network, making it the ideal solution for any company wishing to switch to 100% digital networked cameras.

Result

Installation of this system upgrade allowed management to simplify the surveillance job by monitoring images from every nook and cranny of the expansive facilities in one central monitoring center instead of multiple locations as before. This resulted in significant savings in operating expenses and manpower. In addition, management saved time in monitoring the 700-plus image channels.

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"COEX is a prominent location for prominent people and important events are held here all the time, making a very high level of surveillance and security monitoring a top priority. Our analog-type surveillance video cameras had to be managed from multiple control rooms and it took more than two hours to check all the images captured from all different locations. After we began monitoring from one surveillance center, we saved time and money, and the Axis system eliminated our previous system's blind spots. We will install additional HDTV network cameras to enhance the security at COEX."

A COEX official.

Located at the center of Seoul's busiest district, COEX is Korea's largest exhibition space, with a 390,000 sq. ft. (36,000 sq. meters) of land area and a gross floor area of 4.6 million sq. ft. (427,000 sq. meters). The convention hall has seating for 7,000 visitors, as well as 61 conference rooms. Every day, seminars, symposiums, and other events are held in the convention hall and conference rooms, including the recent G20 Summit.

Overseas buyers and merchandisers also use these spaces for closing their business deals. To monitor these far-flung spaces more effectively, COEX needed solutions that could upgrade its security capabilities. In particular, it had to do something about its aging analogtype monitoring equipment.

COEX decided to install AXIS Q7406 Video Encoder Blades, AXIS Q7900 rack, and the AXIS 295 joystick on the existing analog cameras in its exhibition halls and parking lots. It also replaced the hard-to-manage analog systems with the smoothly functional IP-based digital imaging monitoring system. Axis video encoders are easy to integrate with existing analog cameras, allowing maintenance crews to complete their work in hours instead of days. By simplifying the monitoring management system, the video encoder improved surveillance efficiency and made COEX one of the world's best tourism and cultural event organizers and the premier venue for trade fairs in Asia.

Previous 2–hour job now a snap

Under the legacy surveillance system, it took more than two hours for the maintenance crews making the rounds of the control rooms to check each and every space within the compound. It was a remarkably inefficient way for surveillance in terms of manpower and time.

The AXIS Q7406 Video Encoder Blade is a 6-channel blade for video encoder rack solutions that enables large numbers of analog cameras to be integrated into an IP-based, high-density video surveillance system. When AXIS Q7406 blades are used with an AXIS Q7900 Rack, up to 84 analog cameras can be supported in one 4U, 19-inch rack.

Once this system is up and running, a single central monitoring center monitors and manages 700-plus channels. A COEX official said, "With the Axis solutions, we are saving time and money by consolidating the surveillance job into one location instead of needing multiple control rooms like we did with the previous system."

Efficient and flexible solution

A COEX official explained, "When introducing the new solution, it was essential that solution support for the VMS control center application could cover different brands of components. The Axis solution handled everything perfectly and helped us reduce costs and simplify system maintenance."

By turning a legacy analog system into a digital, network-based system, the Axis solution enhances image quality and surveillance efficiency and simplifies management. Through the H.264 video compression feature of the Axis video encoders, the solution reduces bandwidth and file size substantially without compromising image quality. It flexibly handles diverse monitoring needs by creating different sets of video streams in terms of compression format and resolution.

Proven robust in the G20 Summit

COEX was busy transitioning to the digital-based surveillance system in preparation for the G20 Seoul Summit held in November 2010. By closely monitoring the images of the world's leaders transmitted in real-time from the conference rooms and corridors, the security staff ensured a safe, trouble-free Summit for all participants and attendees.

Confirming the advantage of the digital-based network system, COEX has decided to switch to a 100% digital system in the future. A COEX official said, "We are aware that moving toward a networked video system from the analog CCTVs is the market trend. Since Axis solutions are easy to install and scale up, we consider it a priority option."