

Weighing in on heavy vehicle monitoring.

The Uganda National Roads Agency installs Axis cameras to monitor weighbridge stations.



Organization:
Uganda National Roads Authority

Location:
Uganda

Industry segment:
Transportation

Application:
Traffic flow management

Axis partner:
Computer Point, Mirasys

Mission

The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) is mandated to develop and maintain the national roads network, advise Government on general roads policy and contribute to addressing transport concerns. In order to ensure the effective operation of various UNRA weigh bridges across the country a decision was taken to deploy a monitoring solution.

Solution

Leading East African IT systems integrator, Computer Point Ltd., recently installed a surveillance system at the premises of a large Ugandan Government Department, using Axis network cameras. The system was well received and has been functioning optimally since deployment. Superior image quality, distributed intelligent video capabilities and ease of installation convinced Computer Point to once again select an Axis solution.

Result

Axis network cameras were easily integrated with UNRA's Mirasys Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system. This combination of products allows for capturing of each vehicle number plate as it passes through the weigh station. When an offence is committed or it becomes necessary to track a particular vehicle, the footage can be searched using the number plate as a reference.

“Axis cameras, along with VMS and LPR solution, exceeded my expectations. It helps us to monitor all activities at and around the weighbridge stations and the trucks that pass through the facilities.”

James Ngobe, Systems Analyst, Uganda National Roads Authority.

Maintaining critical infrastructure

The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) was established by an Act of Parliament and became operational on July 1st, 2008. In 1996, the Government of Uganda prepared the 10-Year Road Sector Development Programme (RSDP). The Programme was reviewed and updated in 2002 making it a 10 Year rolling Road Sector Development Programme Phase 2 (RSDP2). One of the objectives of the RSDP was establishing a robust administration for effective and efficient management of the national roads network. To achieve this objective, Government committed itself to reform national roads management through the establishment of an autonomous performance-based Road Authority.

Part of UNRA's mandate involves the protection of the road infrastructure from deterioration so as to minimise road maintenance and reconstruction costs in general. In order to ensure that road users, specifically heavy vehicle operators, do not damage road surfaces and do not make the roads less safe for other road users, it is necessary to enforce vehicle load control.

This load control takes place at weighbridge stations at various locations throughout Uganda. All commercial vehicles weighing 3.5 tons or more passing through one of these stations may be directed to the weighbridge scales so that a controller can determine whether or not the vehicle exceeds the legal axle and/or the gross vehicle weight limits.

Computer Point Ltd., provider of strategic operational solutions for corporates, financial institutions, government bodies and educational organizations, were contracted to install monitoring systems at these facilities.

Tracking in high definition

Weighbridge stations in the cities of Lukaya, Mbale and Busitema were selected for the deployment of an entire monitoring system comprising an NVR, Axis network cameras and ANPR software.

“An IP-based solution is simple to deploy. The open architecture of Axis cameras makes it easy to integrate with other products,” explains Computer Point Director, Jinu Thomas. “Our customer required excellent image quality, automated focus and zoom capabilities and advanced recording features. Axis cameras are the perfect fit for this installation.”

AXIS Q6035-E PTZ Dome Network Cameras, selected by Computer Point for the weighbridge station surveillance, are designed for demanding applications such as the harsh conditions at the Ugandan Roads Authority sites. AXIS Q6035-E is outdoor ready and offers HDTV 1080p, 20x optical zoom and high-speed pan/tilt performance for coverage of wide areas and great detail when zooming in. AXIS T90A21 Illuminators provide additional light to ensure optimal performance.

“UNRA Control Room Officials monitor the footage of trucks entering and exiting the weighbridge lanes. In the event that it becomes necessary to track a particular vehicle, the ANPR application can be searched using specific number plate details,” says Thomas. “The weigh stations are vital elements of a safer road network. These surveillance solutions provide much needed support to simplify the management of these sites.”



Uganda National Roads Authority



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