Secure gaming with Axis.
Axis provides video surveillance for games arcades in Italy.

Organization:
Neapolis 1799 S.p.A.

Location:
Central and southern Italy

Application:
Video surveillance of games arcade

Axis partners:
eGuard s.a.s., Essai S.r.l.

Mission
Neapolis 1799 S.p.A. is a leading company in the gaming sector, with five entertainment halls throughout central and southern Italy. Faced with increasing numbers of robberies, damage and vandalism to cash desks, gaming machines, billiards, bowling and bingo facilities, Neapolis wished to equip its premises with a discreet and effective network video surveillance system to guarantee the security of the gaming halls, their patrons and employees.

Solution
To implement the video surveillance system, Neapolis turned to eGuard, a company specializing in the installation, maintenance and remote technical support of video control systems. As its partner, eGuard selected Axis Communications who, thanks to its wide range of network video solutions, proved to be the only company capable of meeting the security needs of the Neapolis gaming halls. As this was a system with multiple locations, in order to grant the streamings optimization and a flexible management of the interface for the mounting, eGuard choose the software N@video by Essai S.r.l. The control room was set up in the Fiumicino center, to which the Neapolis CEO and several other company officials have free access.

Result
Thanks to the Axis network video surveillance solution installed inside and outside of the gaming halls, Neapolis has been guaranteed a high level of security and peace of mind. Axis network video products also allowed the customer to optimize its past video surveillance investments by integrating the new network cameras with the existing analog cameras.

AXIS®
COMMUNICATIONS

"When this important project was entrusted to me, I had no doubts: Axis Communications was the only partner capable of meeting the customer's expectations. Axis is synonymous with reliability, high performance and ease of use."

Christian Piseddu, CEO of eGuard.

Requirements of gaming

Neapolis combines the beauty and appeal of its own centers with a broad range of services meeting the requirements of the public through a natural medium: gaming. Gaming means having fun, amusing oneself for a few hours by forgetting the stresses of daily life. To guarantee fun and safeguard its own patrons against possible theft or acts of vandalism, Neapolis turned to eGuard to increase security inside its own premises with a video surveillance system. eGuard chose Axis, a leading player in the network video surveillance market, offering a wide range of reliable and easy to install cameras.

The Axis game plan

eGuard offers a continuous technical support presence for remote assistance, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in the event of breakdowns, power outages, acts of vandalism and general anomalies, continuous updates in relation to the legal provisions, constant attention to new technologies and the continuous upgrading of its control room. The system comprises a total of 124 cameras split between the gaming halls in the five locations, and an operations control center with 5 computers and 6 monitors. The Neapolis gaming halls had been equipped with an old, analog video surveillance system. Where possible, eGuard managed to integrate the existing analog cameras using the AXIS 240Q Video Server Blade, a flexible and scalable video encoder used to help migrate analog systems to network video.

The network cameras have been installed in both outdoor and indoor locations. The model used for outside the gaming halls, to monitor the parking area and the customer exit, is the AXIS 221 Network Camera: equipped with an automatic, detachable infrared filter, it allows the acquisition of color images under conditions with sufficient illumination and black-and-white images under nocturnal conditions; furthermore, the AXIS 221 offers a masking function allowing areas of the recorded image to be blanked out for reasons of privacy.
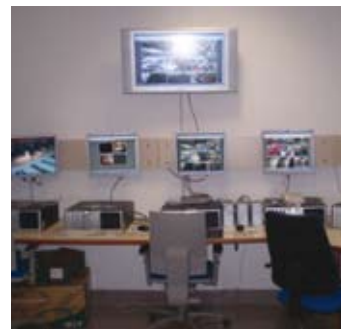
The following models were selected for the gaming hall interiors: AXIS 207, AXIS 212 PTZ, AXIS 213 PTZ and AXIS 210A Network Cameras. The AXIS 207, thanks to its compact size, is particularly suited to hidden installations and ideal for the "hot" zones of the gaming halls, such as the private areas with the poker tables. The AXIS 212 PTZ is the only PTZ network camera that allows the recording of complete panoramic views and instant PTZ filming at high resolution; it is perfect for monitoring medium-sized indoor environments and for all situations where the operators must be able to see both the entire area and have the option to zoom in on specific scenes for more in-depth inspections. The AXIS 213 PTZ is capable of simultaneously recording Motion JPEG streaming video and MPEG-4 at the highest quality; the advanced monitoring options allow the operator to manage the PTZ functions remotely from any computer connected to a local network or to the Internet.

The AXIS 210A Network Camera protects indoor areas in all cases where audio may be useful for identifying suspicious behavior; indeed, it is equipped with a built-in microphone and connectors for external loudspeakers, allowing security employees to not only see but also hear what is going on in an area, as well as to transmit orders or instructions to patrons or troublemakers. The Fiumicino gaming hall, one of the largest in Europe, is also the location of the control room. Thanks to the 6 monitors and 5 computers, images can be accessed in real time by authorized personnel, allowing them to react immediately to any incident. This is possible thanks to the software N@Video, that uses a system to manage the live stream to and from cameras, optimizing the bandwith management and enhancing the system. Also, N@Video manages the camera's frame rate intelligently, splitting the levels in QUAD, regi-stration and alarm in order to allow high image quality.

Gaming is secure

Thanks to the Axis network video surveillance solution installed inside and outside its gaming halls, Neapolis has been guaranteed a high level of security and peace of mind. The ability to discreetly monitor the sensitive areas of gaming halls, avoiding customers from being bothered by the invasive presence of surveillance cameras, has been appreciated.

Dario Coppola, Neapolis CEO, says: "The strength of a gaming hall is entertainment. To safeguard patrons at all times, we have been sensitive to the topic of security. In the past, we used an analog video surveillance system and envisaged several security employees. Now, we have successfully implemented a system based on network video technology, which has allowed us to improve image quality and guarantee more effective surveillance in sensitive areas. eGuard and Axis have completely satisfied our requirements and I don't rule out the future implementation of additional cameras."