Wine lovers raise their glasses to Axis.

Exquisite residential wine estate selects Axis network cameras for automated security.

Organization:
La Petite Provence

Location:
Franschhoek, South Africa

Application:
Safety and security

Axis partners:
Camsecure, Milestone

Mission

Unfortunately, crime can affect even the most idyllic of settings and boutique wineries are no exception. La Petite Provence, a well-known residential wine estate in the picturesque village of Franschhoek, Western Cape Province, South Africa, wanted to replace their outdated CCTV cameras with a fully automated, innovative system.

Solution

Axis partner, Camsecure, designed a surveillance system using Axis network cameras and Milestone XProtect® software that was easy to install, is simple to manage and can be expanded with minimum effort. La Petite Provence no longer operates two separate systems for surveillance and access control, thereby reducing administrative effort and expense. An integrated Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) solution ensures that infringements are unable to slip between the cracks.

Result

La Petite Provence residents no longer have the need for access cards or tags to gain entrance to the estate. A registered number plate is recognized by the Milestone XProtect® software via the Axis network cameras and the boom is automatically raised. Patrolling security guards have the support of a cutting-edge surveillance system to provide the necessary intelligence to streamline their duties.

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"We now have a security system that not only keeps us safe, but also makes the process of entering and exiting our estate as stress-free as it is to live here."

Henri van Rensburg, La Petite Provence Estate Manager.

As beautiful as it is secure

Franschhoek Valley lies nestled between towering mountains in the spectacular Cape Winelands. Long hailed as the food and wine heartland of South Africa, Franschhoek offers residents and visitors breath-taking scenery, internationally acclaimed cuisine and the finest wines. The mountain slopes, covered in luscious vineyards, enclose a valley rich in history and steeped in age-old French tradition.

As one of South Africa's oldest towns, Franschhoek can trace its origin back to the 17th century when French Huguenots fled their homeland as a result of the banning of Protestantism. 277 Huguenots arrived by ship at the Cape of Good Hope and settled on the land given to them by the Dutch government in the valley of Oliphantshoek (Elephant's Corner), which later became known as Franschhoek.

La Petite Provence, situated in the middle of the resplendent Franschhoek Valley, is a 36-hectare residential wine estate consisting of approximately 150 houses nestled amongst the vines. The harmonious lifestyle is supported by a superb climate and close proximity to many of the wonders of the Western Cape region.

Stamping out crime

The village of Franschhoek remains largely unaffected by the wave of crime that has blighted many parts of South Africa for some time. However, it still remains imperative that secure estates such as La Petite Provence offer their residents an environment that maintains a zero tolerance approach to any and all types of criminal activity.

"Our aim was to install a surveillance solution that also functions as an auditing system to replace the existing CCTV and access tag system. This ensures that La Petite Provence security personnel remain vigilant and have the necessary tools to react swiftly and effectively to all potential risks," explains Vivian De Meillon, Camsecure Technical and Regional Manager.

The first phase of the installation focused on securing the main gate of the estate. Camsecure took a two-prong approach by providing Axis network cameras to provide an overview of the entire entrance area as well as more specific monitoring of the residents' and visitors' entrance lanes and the single exit lane.

AXIS P3346-V Network Camera, fitted with an IR illuminator, offers superb video performance and provides images with better contrast, clarity, resolution and depth of field. Milestone XProtect® Enterprise ANPR software allows registered vehicles to access the estate without the hassle or security breach risk of tags or access cards. License plate recognition facilitates the flow of traffic, reducing bottlenecks caused by misplaced security devices.

The surveillance solution makes it possible to blacklist vehicles that have been red-flagged for any particular reason. This means that these vehicles will be denied access to the estate and guards will be notified by an alarm signal in the gate house.

The second phase of the La Petite Provence installation by Camsecure involves the expansion of the surveillance system to other high risk areas and more sophisticated custom integration between the Axis network cameras and Milestone XProtect® software to support the special process requirements of the estate.

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