

Axis network cameras help improve operations at Freightliner's Manchester terminal.

A new surveillance system at Freightliner's Manchester terminal enables users to quickly search and access vital footage and enhance security operations.



Organization:
Freightliner Ltd.

Location:
UK

Industry segment:
Transportation

Application:
Terminal security, health
and safety, operations

Axis partner:
NW Systems Group

Mission

As the leading intermodal rail freight operator in the UK, Freightliner wanted to enhance surveillance at its Manchester terminal following the successful installation of network video cameras at some of its other terminals in the UK by Axis partner NW Systems Group. The Manchester terminal wanted to take advantage of an IP-Surveillance system to assist with operations around the site and to monitor the arrival of containers at the terminal by road and rail. This improvement in surveillance would also help significantly improve security and health and safety around the site.

Solution

Following successful deployment of IP-Surveillance systems at many of its other sites in the UK, the organization turned to IP solutions specialists NW Systems Group to provide cameras for its Manchester terminal. NW Systems Group deployed a range of Axis network video cameras, all specifically chosen to deliver excellent image quality even for night time surveillance.

Freightliner uses AXIS Camera Station, IP-Surveillance software that allows for video monitoring and recording for up to 50 cameras, to search and view essential footage.

Result

The Manchester terminal is now able to take full advantage of IP-Surveillance to assist with on-site operations. The terminal's managers have a prime view of the terminal and can quickly respond to emergencies and distribute resources around the terminal as required. It also found that the number of claims against it for damaged containers has gone down as the site's managers can now quickly access high quality images delivered by the Axis cameras over the network which prove liability.

"Running the system in-house, coupled with the quality and durability of the cameras and software, means that our maintenance costs have been significantly reduced. All in all, we are very impressed with the quality of the Axis surveillance system."

Andy Murphy, deputy general manager, Freightliner terminals.

Improving operations at Freightliner's Manchester terminal

Freightliner Ltd is UK's leading intermodal rail freight operator moving up to 3,000 containers per day. It is part of Freightliner Group which employs 1,800 staff and has 170 locomotives and more than 3,000 wagons. The organization has 13 terminals throughout the UK and surveillance is extremely important for operational monitoring purposes.

Previously, each terminal relied upon standalone analog CCTV, but following the successful upgrade to network video at some of its other sites, the Manchester terminal wanted to take advantage of the same technology. The Manchester terminal was keen to upgrade to network video because locating footage on VHS tapes was a laborious process and the image quality provided by the analog CCTV system was frequently poor and unusable.

Andy Murphy, deputy general manager, terminals said: "In the past, searching for a specific piece of footage was extremely time-consuming. We needed a solution that would allow us to speed up this process and share footage electronically with others quickly and easily."

An overview of operations

NW Systems Group, an Axis partner, had already successfully upgraded the surveillance systems across many of the Freightliner sites at a rate of two terminals per year. When Freightliner decided to upgrade at its Manchester terminal, NW Systems Group recommended Axis network cameras so that it could monitor footage remotely, share it across the Internet with other sites and obtain enhanced image quality.

Thirteen AXIS 211 and AXIS P1343 Network Cameras have been installed in strategic locations to record registration plates and container IDs as vehicles arrive and leave the terminal. They are also used for security purposes at the terminal gates.

AXIS 233D and AXIS 232D+ Network Dome Cameras provide the terminal's managers with an overview of operations across the site and the AXIS P3343-VE Network

Camera records images of the drivers. AXIS Camera Station is used to view footage simultaneously and allows the end user to quickly locate and distribute footage.

Superior image quality

The Manchester terminal now has a fully operational surveillance system that delivers a host of benefits. The terminal's authorized staff members can now view live or recorded video from any terminal, over the Wide Area Network or remotely over the Internet.

Footage of containers as they arrive and depart is now available at the Manchester terminal. If a complaint is received that a container has been damaged, they can find and check the footage much more quickly than on the older system to establish if it is a genuine claim or if it was already damaged on arrival. This reduces the rail freight operator's insurance claims as they have footage proving liability.

From an operational perspective, the cameras also allow the terminal staff to react to any emergencies around the site. Andy Murphy explains: "All of our cameras have motion detection which allows our operators to monitor in real time when a situation arises. We can then take the appropriate action to deal with the issue. The cameras have helped us to streamline our operations. For example, we can now monitor traffic queues at the gates and it also helps us plan the allocation of equipment around the site, as the cameras can monitor what is needed in a specific location."

The quality of the footage has also greatly improved: "The image quality is excellent and the night time images have also surprised us. Running the system in-house coupled with the quality and durability of the cameras and software, means that our maintenance costs have been significantly reduced. All in all, we are very impressed with the quality of the Axis surveillance system and the installation carried out by NW Systems Group," concludes Andy Murphy.



Freightliner

NW Systems Group