

Seaport

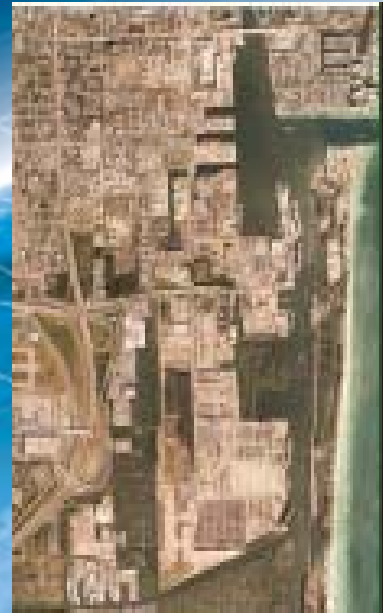
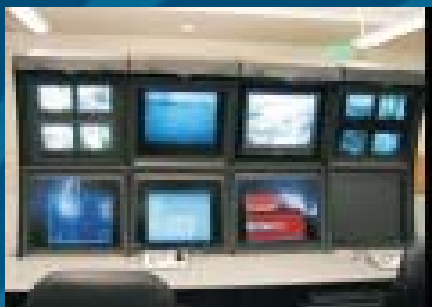
Port Everglades, Florida

Almost 6,000 ships call at Port Everglades annually, and its growing containerized cargo business places it 12th among the nation's seaports. The port's petroleum storage and distribution hub serves all of South Florida, it is one of the top three cruise ports in the world, and it boasts a major convention center within its 2,000 acres. Port Everglades is one of South Florida's strongest economic engines with annual operating revenues of approximately \$100 million. A major security incident or act of terrorism would have strong negative impact on the port and South Florida as well as reverberations throughout the world.

The Challenge

Few sites pose more complex or more critical challenges than the nation's seaports. In addition to the usual concerns of asset and employee protection, ports face additional security threats from terrorism, drugs and other smuggling operations, and stowaways. Mel Becena, Port Everglades Security Administrator describes it this way, "Seaports have to allow public traffic on the waterside; we're not a naval base where we can seal off access. There's no way we can ever shut off access, it would impact millions of dollars of commerce."

Becena's Port Everglades security operation is directly in charge of the port's four access gates where thousands of vehicles pass daily, the land perimeter, and the critical waterside. The initial design for the port's Homeland Security system upgrade called for 14 "node rooms" spread out over 2,000 acres, in which DVRs and other equipment would connect directly to nearby cameras before the data was put on the network. This design meant expensive hardware would be scattered all over the complex, no centralized control and recording, time-consuming and complicated maintenance, and worst of all, the system design was unnecessarily costly.



The Solution

The installation integrator, Security One, recommended that the port utilize the unique architecture of DVTel's software-based solution to extend and improve on the initial design plan. The DVTel Latitude Network Video Management System (NVMS™) enables the port to take advantage of its dedicated one gigabyte network to bring all data back to the Security Operations Center (SOC). Camera data now travels into DVTel encoders in the node rooms and is then transmitted over the network to the SOC to an ObjectVideo VEW system for intelligent video analysis and to the DVTel Latitude NVMS for monitoring and recording.

The project represents collaboration and integration among systems and equipment provided by DVTel, Lenel, ObjectVideo, StorageTek, FLIR, and Bosch. Mel Becena likes what he sees, "DVTel is a true network-based system, so there was no need to put DVRs all around the port. DVTel's integration with ObjectVideo gives us the performance we need to meet our complex security threats all at a significant savings over the original design." Not only did the port save substantial money, the DVTel solution is significantly more manageable and scalable than what had first been planned.



The Highlights

Upon completion of the project's first phase, the system comprised more than 200 fixed and PTZ cameras monitoring port entry and exit points and providing surveillance of the port perimeter, as well as waterside activities. DVTel's Latitude NVMS' flexibility and scalability will easily accommodate future plans to expand coverage areas with 200 or more new cameras.

The key to improved design and functionality is DVTel's ease of integration. The DVTel Latitude NVMS integrates seamlessly with the ObjectVideo VEW and Lenel OnGuard Alarm Monitoring systems. All three systems – DVTel, Lenel, and ObjectVideo can create alarms that will pop video in the SOC for immediate and thorough investigation.

The bulk of system hardware is located in the centralized SOC, allowing for greater control, easier maintenance, and lower TOC (total ownership costs).

All existing and future cameras are on the port's one-gigabyte network, so DVTel's Virtual Matrix technology can enable security personnel to call up any camera on any monitor at anytime, using a mouse or standard joystick.

A highly powerful aspect to the port's security is the ObjectVideo VEW system deployed on over 100 analog cameras covering the waterside perimeter. Each camera runs all objects in a camera's view against threat-specific pre-programmed rules. When an object violates a rule, for example, a small boat loiters next to a ship or a bag is left unattended at a cruise ship terminal, the software pops video in the SOC through integration with the DVTel NVMS and also alerts port security personnel by phone, pager, or email.

The integration between DVTel and ObjectVideo enables the ObjectVideo VEW system to take video data directly from the network instead of from the analog camera. It provides an additional major benefit: any camera can be run through the ObjectVideo analysis system, not just the 100 cameras initially dedicated to such intelligent analysis.



All video is recorded 24/7 at seven frames per second to the 33-terabyte StorageTek Bladestore servers. In the event of an alarm, video recording goes immediately to 30 fps to ensure maximum investigation capabilities, while keeping storage demands manageable.

Eli Gorovici, DVTel CEO, nicely summarized the DVTel advantage, "Our innovative, software-based architecture gives Port Everglades the freedom to locate equipment where they need it and the freedom to integrate systems together to create the performance and efficiencies that are essential for improved security capabilities at our nation's ports. Mel and his team now have eyes all over the port. They can sit in a central location and efficiently monitor and intelligently respond to threats from anywhere in the port complex."



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