

Saint Bridget Parish trust in RDX® QuikStor™ for storing and archiving video surveillance footages

St. Bridget is a Catholic community in River Falls, Wisconsin. Beside a church, St. Bridget also operates a school where children from pre-kindergarten through the 8th grade are educated.

Protecting people and assets

As St. Bridget Church grew, a new addition was added, and the number of activities and events increased significantly. With more and more people using the building after hours as well as more obscured areas, the potential for theft or damage increased as did the potential for unsafe situations. The church staff realized they needed to act to protect their valuable assets and more importantly to ensure the safety of their parishioners and students. They came to the conclusion that they need to deploy a video surveillance systems to be able to deter, capture and to help law enforcement investigate any unwanted and illegal incidents

Knowing the parish

Reverend Harris, pastor of St. Bridget Catholic Church, consulted one of his parishioners who is an IT system engineer seeking advice. So they setup a meeting with the staff to discuss possible video surveillance solutions. The engineer ultimately recommended an Overland Storage product technology that was being offered as part of a complete video surveillance system by Vista Networking Solutions.

Defining the solution

It was very important to the staff of St. Bridget that the video surveillance system must be built on a comprehensive solution with well-matched and proven components. Also the effort maintaining and operating the system should be reduced to a minimum. Vista Networking Solution provides a turnkey solution consisting of a network video recorder, a video management system from SoleraTec and RDX QuikStor removable disk system from Overland Storage for archiving and transferring video surveillance footage. Together with the help of the system engineer, they developed a plan to position 12 cameras in various locations throughout the church and school.

Proven components

Vista Networking offers a one stop shopping solution including the V7500 series network video recorder which is based on a desktop PC. It is pre-loaded with the Phoenix RSM™ video management software from SoleraTec and is targeted to environments with up to 24 cameras. On the hardware side, the V7500 provides two built-in RDX QuikStor drives from Overland Storage to facilitate recording of high resolution video feeds, archiving critical video clips and transferring footage to off-site locations.



Challenges

- Protecting students during recess
- Prevent and solve break-ins, thefts and acts of violence
- Easy to use and easy to operate system
- Possibility to archive surveillance data
- Possibility to export and transport surveillance data to other locations for further investigation

Solution

- V7500 Network Video Recorder
- Phoenix RSM video management software
- 2 RDX QuikStor internal drives for storing, archiving and off-site vaulting of high resolution surveillance videos
- POE (Power over Ethernet) and cabling
- 12 cameras of different kind like dome, bullet and IR



Sue Steckbauer, St. Bridget Parish administrator

“ We have benefited from the saved video on several occasions - the most critical being when an unidentified man in a van pulled up at the school while the kids were at recess. We were able to pull that video, analyze, and share with local police”.

In addition, they chose cameras with a two stream functionality. A low resolution video stream is recorded onto the internal hard disk of V7500 and enables fast search of video sequences in case of an incident. For archiving, long term retention purposes and further investigation, a high resolution video stream is stored on RDX QuikStor media.

Easy and fast installation

After the positions of the 12 cameras had been determined and all cables had been installed, the team began to install the video surveillance system. The cameras were connected to a PoE (Power over Ethernet) switch which provides electrical power to the cameras. With this, only one cable connection to the cameras was needed for both, data and power. As the V7500 network video recorder comes with the pre-loaded Phoenix RSM™ video management software, setup tasks narrowed down to mounting the cameras and routing the cables to the desired system location. The system is operated in a standalone environment, so there was no need for further integration into existing infrastructures.

Hassle-free operation

Once set up, the system worked without any problems. The only tasks the staff has to do, is to change and rotate the RDX media and store them off-site for save retention. If no incident is noticed after 30 days, the RDX media is reformatted and reused for new recordings.

“ We have not had any issues with the surveillance system and have had minimal involvement since installation”, said Sue Steckbauer, St. Bridget Parish administrator. “The fact that we have had to do very little is a testimony to its success”.

Conclusion

Due to the fast installation and the worry free operation, the video surveillance system provided a short term return on invest and a happy customer.

For proper analyzing of video sequences in case of an incident, HD resolution should be used on the high resolution video stream. The RDX media currently provides 4TB maximum capacity. With this, 10 days of 24h HD recording can be kept on one media. The full backward and forward compatibility on drives and media ensures that St. Bridget can benefit from future capacity enhancements without changing their system.



The SoleraTec Phoenix RSM Video Management Software is pre-loaded to the V7500 network video recorder and allows live viewing and analyzing video streams for investigation



The V7500 NVR is featured with the RDX QuikStor internal drives. The removable media store up to 10 days of footage and provide long-term archiving, off-site storage and transportation of surveillance data

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