



Motorola Equips G-8 Summit with Wireless Video Surveillance System

Based on a fast, cost-effective camera network employing Canopy technology



Photos: Thomas Grundner

In June the world got a look at Heiligendamm, one of Germany's oldest seaside resorts, where this year's G-8 Summit was being held. The expected guests were not limited to top-level governmental representatives, but also included G-8 opponents, who had announced in advance that they were planning to hold demonstrations and set up road blocks. In order to protect the safety of the international delegations, their families and local residents, and to guarantee that the conference would proceed smoothly, a broad-based security plan had to be put in place within a very short time. The state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's Operations and Technology Branch of Police, Fire Protection, and Disaster Response Services (LPBK) faced an enormous challenge under intense global scrutiny.

Background

Whenever the heads of state of the leading industrialized nations meet, security is an overriding concern, and exceptional measures have to be taken. For instance, the entire Heiligendamm Baltic resort was cordoned off by a chain link fence over 7 miles long (12-km). Since the international delegations were lodged in various locations in Heiligendamm, security personnel had to be posted at many different sites. Even though nearly 17,000 police officers were on duty during the G-8 Summit, supported by 2,300 additional fire department, emergency response and technical support personnel, it was not possible to fully protect the large area by using human resources alone. Although demonstrations were prohibited in Heiligendamm itself, the G-8 opponents used nearby Rostock as a staging area, so security personnel also had to be able to continually assess the situation beyond the fenced perimeter. In addition, the Rostock-Laage Airport had to be secured. As large as their numbers were, mobilized personnel were insufficient to meet these security requirements. The LPBK therefore decided to set up video cameras at all the locations where special surveillance appeared to be necessary.

"The IP-based video surveillance system using Motorola's Canopy technology allowed camera positions to be changed quickly and easily. Thus, the Canopy wireless camera network is also an ideal solution for temporary installations."
(Alexander Burghardt, Director of Sales, Government & Public Safety Business Unit, Motorola GmbH)



“German Minister of the Interior Wolfgang Schäuble (CDU) gave a positive assessment of security at the G-8 summit in Heiligendamm. Federal and State police, he stated, ‘ensured the safety of all our official guests and made certain that there were no disturbances and that the atmosphere at the Summit was friendly and relaxed.’” (ZDFheute, June 8, 2007)

The planners chose a wireless camera network based on the Motorola Canopy broadband platform. This robust and highly reliable high-speed wireless solution permits changing situations to be monitored in real time. The Canopy system’s radio frequency signals are protected against interference and can effectively overcome physical barriers. In addition, Canopy has transmission rates that are as fast as other service on the market: namely, point-to-multipoint transfer rates of up to 14 Mbps and point-to-point rates of up to 300 Mbps.

The solution

Altogether, the LPBK installed 22 video sources throughout the area, separated by operational sectors. The equipment consisted of stationary network cameras, analog portable video cameras and aerial cameras: 15 mobile cameras were installed in vehicles, five dome cameras were set up on fixed locations, and finally, two helicopters were equipped with cameras. The 12 point-to-point and point-to-multipoint connections transmitted images in real time at 5.4 GHz via a TCP-IP network to the police command center near Rostock and to the Ministry of the Interior in Schwerin. Selected video sequences could be saved “on demand” using video recorders.

The advantages

Cabling costs for video surveillance services usually account for up to 60% of total project costs. But with wireless broadband communications systems, these costs are eliminated. Moreover, it only takes an hour to install a camera, which means that all the cameras can be set up in just a few days. The LPBK was not only impressed with the fast and economical camera setup provided by the Motorola solution, but also with how easy it was to use the hardware and software. Personnel were able to familiarize themselves with the system in just a few days. The authorities were also required to provide seamless surveillance in high-security areas. In addition, public safety personnel had to be able to react quickly and efficiently to potentially dangerous situations. The ability to change camera positions easily and the real-time transmission of images met the need for maximum security. At 25 images per second, officials at various command centers and at the Interior Ministry situation room in Schwerin were able to monitor what was happening in metropolitan Rostock, Heiligendamm, and at the Rostock-Laage Airport in real time via a broadband radio relay network.



MOTOROLA

Motorola Jays Close, Viabes Industrial Estate, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 4PD, UK www.motorola.com/wi4

MOTOROLA and the stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

All other products or service names are the property of their registered owners.

© Motorola, Inc. 2007