



TRAFFIC CAMERAS PAY PUBLIC SAFETY DIVIDENDS FOR PENNSYLVANIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Our surveillance system has helped in identifying two additional robbery suspects in separate incidents, both of whom were arrested as a direct result of the video cameras," says *Christopher Jones, a detective with the Upper Chichester Township Police Department.* "These cameras are helping the Upper Chichester Township Police Department improve community safety and are strengthening our efforts to deter, identify and solve crime."

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The amount of traffic in the small area of Pennsylvania's Delaware County Upper Chichester Township has created challenges for the police department, particularly during the morning and evening commute times when traffic is at its heaviest. Looking to alleviate the burden on the department and its officers, Upper Chichester decided to install video surveillance cameras at some of its busiest intersections. These cameras would enable faster identification of accidents and other factors affecting traffic flow, allowing officers to respond more quickly to keep vehicles moving along busy roads.

SOLUTION

Working with Exton, Pa.-based systems integrator NextGen Security, Upper Chichester chose network cameras from Hanwha Techwin America, formerly Samsung. The decision was based on both the cameras' performance and a recommendation from NextGen, a 2016 SDM Systems Integrator of the Year honoree.

The first phase of the project called for installation of 20 cameras at five intersections. For these applications, NextGen recommended 5 megapixel bullet cameras with IR capability and varifocal lenses. For video management and recording, the integrator deployed Security Center 5.3 from Montreal-based Genetec.

One requirement of the new video system was that cameras needed to be installed on existing traffic signal standards to keep them out of reach of the general public to prevent tampering. Along those same lines, when designing the system, NextGen needed to ensure that cameras would also be protected from dust, debris, harsh weather and other factors that could negatively impact performance and reliability.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Hanwha solution has provided valuable information in more traditional traffic-related situations. The cameras have created a safer environment for Upper Chichester residents and those who are simply passing through the town. Because the video system has so far exceeded the police department's expectations, there are plans to install cameras to monitor five additional intersections.