



Creating Safer Schools

Through Intelligent IoT Devices & Better Emergency Response

More than 187,000 children have been exposed to gun violence at school since Columbine in 1999. Over the decades many have grown accustomed to this new reality, seeing incidences regularly covered on the news. What many fail to account for is the collateral damage these crises cause. While school shootings remain a rare occurrence, they have spread fear across the country; forever changing the educational environment for many students.

A school's goal may seem simple - to teach and nurture children, but just as important is the protection of its students and faculty. School safety and security has become top-of-mind for educators, parents, and students alike. While many are looking towards educational facilities for answers on how to better safeguard the children that attend them, educators and administrators are looking to the security companies to provide solutions that are able to meet their unique needs and budgets.

The Need for Surveillance

One of the premier private schools on the West Coast found their security system outdated and performing poorly. With over 1,200 students, a large faculty, and a sprawling campus set on 22 acres, the old system had caused numerous false alarms and was unable to meet basic safety needs. In light of the recent violent events across the nation, officials at the school saw the need to increase existing security measures and moved to take immediate action.

After searching for products to better secure the educational facility, the staff found it was a fairly simple choice. "When I looked at the different options that were available, all roads pointed only to the same manufacturer, MOBOTIX," said one of the school's Administrative Directors.

A New Solution

The MOBOTIX team met with administrators to better define their monitoring needs and design a solution to fit their school. Technical Project Engineer, George Honaker, then performed an in-depth site analysis to aid in the customization of the facility's new security protocol.

To improve situational awareness campus wide, a total of 44 MOBOTIX T25 Outdoor Station and Access Modules were placed throughout the school. The MOBOTIX T25 Outdoor Station and Access Module is a powerful high-resolution, hemispheric IP video door station allowing for keyless entry to secured buildings, fulfilling access management and video surveillance needs simultaneously. This allows school security officers to both control a building's point of entry and monitor the expansive open campus. The hemispheric 360-degree lens is able to cover an entire entryway, leaving no blind spots from wall-to-wall or floor-to-ceiling. The T25 provides better visualization of students and faculty throughout the day.

Key Data

Sector

Education

Customer

K-12 Private School, USA

Partners

Convergent Technologies

Timeframe

2018

Products

44x MOBOTIX T25 Outdoor Station and Access Module

“The unit does a good job picking up all movement within the school, and it also does a good job with the open parts of the campus,” said George Honaker of MOBOTIX. He continued, “It gives a hemispheric view so that we can watch all the way from one hallway down to the next, and everything in between.”

MOBOTIX’s T25 also detects motion and can alert security staff within seconds to suspicious activity. If the IoT devices detect motion on campus after academic hours, the security team will be notified instantly so officers can swiftly investigate the situation before it escalates.

Outfitted with automatic audio and video recording capabilities, the T25 efficiently surveils all events, while two-way communication functionality allows for visitor contact and management from anywhere in the world. The weatherproof KeypadRFID module enables keyless entry via card or code, while the optional MX-DoorMaster with access code memory makes it impossible to open doors by forcibly removing the module, especially important for lock-down events. The innovative system is simple for integrators to install, requiring only a single CAT or two-wire cable, and easily maintained thanks to the durable weatherproof housing.

Budgetary Benefits

“Since our property spans 22 acres and extends into a canyon, we are aware of the critical need to secure the campus through intrusion detection technologies; which is a much more aesthetic option compared to putting up channeling fences,” said one of the school’s Administrative Directors. “Keeping an open space concept in the campus was a top priority for us.”

Having the ability to merge two solutions, access management and video surveillance, into a single device not only creates a more efficient system but also aids with budgetary requirement by cutting down both hardware and installation costs. MOBOTIX devices feature robust designs and have minimal power requirements making the solutions more cost-effective in the long run. These systems can be deployed in locations that have low power and lack the infrastructure needed for CCTV, making them easily adaptable to any environment. This combined with a lack of fencing and extensive cabling also helps to cut overall costs.

Safety Meets Strategy

MOBOTIX’s T25 was also equipped with an emergency duress button that immediately connects to first responders.

“The emergency duress button itself has the ability to make logical decisions that we’ve programmed into it to say what actions to take in the case of an emergency,” said Technical Project Engineer, George Honaker. “It’s important to have a strategy, and MOBOTIX can provide just that.”

In the event of an incident on campus, a fast response time from law enforcement is crucial for intervention. When either a student or faculty member is in need of assistance, they can activate the duress button on one of the many MOBOTIX units placed around the school, providing police response within 20-30 seconds.

Looking Ahead

While there is no true way to stop a tragedy, the use of advanced security technologies allows schools to minimize damages and take preventative measures to better protect their students.

“When a school thinks about emergency procedures, one of the important things is just having a plan,” said one of the school Administrative Directors. “And with MOBOTIX specifically we know that we have a partner.”



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Not only was Mobotix able to provide an Emergency Duress platform to get first responders onsite quickly; the system also meets the needs for Video Surveillance, Mass Notification and Video Intercom.

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George Honaker, Technical Project

