

GB Metal in Glostrup, Denmark



GP Metal regains its overview with a MOBOTIX surveillance solution

GP Metal is a family-owned company with a history rich in tradition behind it. For more than 60 years the company has collected, purchased and sold all types of iron and metal to be recycled at its facilities in Glostrup, Denmark. GP Metal managed quite well without on-site surveillance until 2010. However, a string of burglaries combined with a legal order to reduce the noise generated at the facilities resulted in the owners' decision to invest in a surveillance solution, in order to create a better overview of the site's significant square metre area.

"We purchase various scraps of iron and metal and refine them before shipping the pieces to both domestic and foreign buyers. Over the course of one day a number of precious metals go through our system, and a lot of noise is generated by cutting and grinding metal. That is why we received a legal order to reduce the noise level in the area where the lorries unload. In response, we set up some large containers in order to shield the area for the worst of the noise", explains Jørgen Knudsen from GP Metal

The large containers suppressed the noise but created a new challenge for the employees, who were now without a full view of a large portion of the site beyond the container noise barrier. The owners therefore decided to invest in a surveillance solution that could monitor the obstructed areas - and, as a result, give the employees a full view once again.

Surveillance from above

At GP Metal, a large part of the work is performed at heights of 5-8 metres, and large cranes lift and transport metals throughout the site. The challenge was therefore to create a robust surveillance solution that could work outdoors and from significant heights. Six M12 DualNight cameras were therefore installed on a row of high posts built specifically for the purpose.

"We recommended MOBOTIX cameras for the installation, as they are known for being robust and sturdy - which were two necessary qualities when the cameras were to hang freely from significant heights and in cold, windy and wet conditions. GP Metal also needed to be able

to monitor the site at night, which is something the M12 DualNight cameras could provide due to their built-in double lenses", explains Technical Manager, Thomas Olsen, who installed the solution at GP Metal's facilities.

A creative solution with standard modules

The new surveillance solution operates via IP, which provides flexibility and more options for creating a sensible solution for a company like GP Metal, where the external circumstances demand a more creative approach to mounting surveillance cameras.

"We decided to go with standard products and standard modules in order not to complicate the process too much. As a result, the surveillance system runs on a very ordinary wireless network, which means we were able to avoid having to install extra cables up the posts to access the cameras", Thomas Olsen explains.

The actual installation was implemented in a single phase. GP Metal's company smiths made the necessary fittings for the cameras, after which



“GP Metal has grown accustomed to using the cameras in its daily operations.”

is satisfied with the extra overview the system provides.

“We can sit in our offices and keep an eye out when a lorry arrives. It’s nice being able to see where they stop, what they unload, and if everything is running as it should.”

Surveillance solution that could monitor the obstructed areas

ProMobil set up the cameras and connected the wireless network in a short time.

Theft protection

The fact that the surveillance cameras have been placed atop the high posts also serves to better protect the site from theft. The camera cables run through pipes that make it impossible to sabotage them without a blowtorch, and the height itself will certainly deter most thieves from considering to sabotage the cameras.

“We no longer have theft at the ironworks, which is now fully monitored. Unfortunately, the thieves have now opted to hit some of the other areas of our facilities that are not yet monitored, so we haven’t fully escaped from theft. We are therefore considering to expand the solution so that over time we can cover the entire site and, hopefully, do away with unwanted guests”, comments Jørgen Knudsen.

More control at the weigh station

GP Metal has grown accustomed to using the cameras in its daily operations, and the company

We have a camera mounted right above our platform scale where the lorries are weighed in and out of the site. It’s important that the lorry stops directly on the scale, or it will give an incorrect result. Sometimes the drivers don’t see that they are almost hanging over the edge, but with the surveillance system we can correct such situations in time”, Jørgen Knudsen explains, as he concludes: “We are generally satisfied with the solution, which has met the needs that arose as a result of stringent noise requirements. We’ve regained our overview of the facilities, as well as the possibility of improved control of the many guests and vehicles that come to and go from the site each day”.

Retailer information: