

## Löyly Sauna, Helsinki, Finland



# Finnish Sauna Tradition under surveillance

**A high-resolution video system secures the exceptional architecture of the Löyly sauna in Helsinki while at the same time protecting the sauna complex 24/7**

At the very heart of the Finnish culture lies the sauna tradition; with a population of over five million people, there are more than three million saunas in Finland, and most of them are located in people's backyards.

In the summer of 2016, however, a unique sauna complex, Löyly, opened by the seaside in Helsinki, bringing the sauna experience into the public sphere. The architect duo of Ville Hara and Anu Puustinen from the local architect company Avanto Architects designed the exceptional shell-like complex, which consists of three traditional wooden saunas and an impressive bar and restaurant area.

### Need for discreet surveillance

With hundreds of guests every day – and even more in the tourist seasons – a high level of security is needed to ensure the safety of the premises, guests, and staff. Therefore, during construction, it was decided that a high-resolution video monitoring system had to be installed.

“We needed a reliable system that could monitor the most critical areas during operational hours and at the same time provide high security for the building, which is an architectural masterpiece,” explains Timo Kettunen, who is the project director at Royal Ravintolat, a Finnish restaurant chain that runs the restaurant at Löyly. He oversees the construction of all Royal Ravintolat restaurants and was as such involved with the installation of the monitoring system at Löyly. Protecting the buildings was a priority, but it should be done without compromising the aesthetics of the architecture: “From an architectural point of view, it was very important that the cameras could be installed in a way that they would blend in with the buildings,” explains Ville Hara.

The architects therefore contacted Lastmile Connection Service - LMCS Oy (LMCS), who are specialized in providing high-quality IP surveillance camera systems. LMCS's sales director, Antero Erhiö, immediately suggested a solution with MOBOTIX cameras. “Löyly wanted not only cameras that could be hidden, but also a system that is reliable and doesn't break. MOBOTIX ensures that; when cameras are mounted, there is no need for service. This was crucial for Löyly,” says Antero Erhiö.

Löyly is the only building of its kind in Finland and the construction is quite complex. Antero Erhiö had to revise the installation plan several times before finding a solution that would ensure full overview and at the same time satisfy the requirements from the architects. This, for instance, meant that the camera housings were painted in the exact same colors as the walls.

### High quality – less cameras

LMCS installed a total of 14 cameras in and around the Löyly premises. For outdoor surveillance, several D15 camera models with two lenses were installed together with D15 models. Dual-lens camera models meant that fewer cameras had to be installed, making the solution more cost effective.

Thanks to MxActivitySensor, the cameras only record in case of relevant incidents. Interference caused, for instance, by trees moving in the wind, shadows, passing clouds, rain or snowfall is consistently ignored. For Löyly, this technology has reduced the number of recordings triggered by rain.

Indoors, the camera models p25 and c25 monitor the sales area, the entry point as well as risk areas with wet surfaces. To protect the privacy of the guests, the saunas are not monitored;



only the areas where people enter and exit are monitored.

“Surveillance is for us not a matter of keeping an eye on the individual customer, but about covering our liabilities if something happens and ensuring the safety of employees dealing with money. The MOBOTIX cameras were chosen because of the high image quality, which means higher safety,” explains Timo Kettunen.

Thanks to the 6MP Moonlight Sensor Technology, the image sensors feature extremely good light sensitivity. This means that the MOBOTIX cameras can deliver high quality images even on full moon nights without any additional lighting, allowing

Löyly to retrieve detailed images not only in the evening and at night, but also the areas that do not get much daylight.

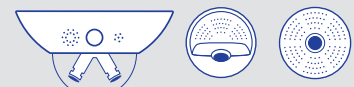
### Sleep well at night

With the MOBOTIX solution, it was possible to meet the requirements of high security and at the same time ensure discreet mounting: “We now have a solution where the cameras are so small and discreet that you actually don’t notice them. For me as an architect, this was the most important thing,” Ville Hara explains. Löyly does not run a 24/7 surveillance center, but only goes through the images in case of unexpected incidents.

“Fortunately, we don’t have to retrieve image data very often, but the cameras allow us to sleep well at night because we know that we can get the data if need be,” says Timo Kettunen.

#### MOBOTIX System In Use

**Cameras:** 14 (D15, p25, c25)



**Highlights:** MxActivitySensor



**Software:** MxManagementCenter



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