



SECURITY SYSTEMS



Securing Mercy Medical Center's New Facility

A Vision Technologies Whitepaper providing an overview of the security systems and requirements for the new Mary C. Bunting hospital tower.



Security Systems

INTEGRATED PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEMS

VISION TECHNOLOGIES SECURES MERCY MEDICAL CENTER'S NEW FACILITY

When Mercy Medical Center needed a completely new security system for their new tower in Baltimore, they studied the market, and decided on an integrated system for access control, video surveillance, video management and storage. They also wanted a system that would integrate into their personnel systems to help manage the wide variety of access requirements to the various areas within the facility. HIPAA requirements mandate a strong, manageable system with significant reporting capabilities. In addition to the obvious security concerns, putting patients at risk, healthcare security breaches are increasingly putting healthcare organizations at a significant risk of financial and reputational harm.

IP INTEGRATED SECURITY SYSTEM

Vision Technologies was selected to install a network based integrated security system in the new Mary K. Bunting hospital tower at the Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore. The IP integrated security system consists of the latest technology in video surveillance working in conjunction with networked Access Control. The basis of design was created in accordance with the Medical Centers needs for ensuring a safe and technologically sound campus for employees, patients and visitors. Design criteria focused on patient safety, staff security, asset control, monitoring and management. Vision Technologies understands the enormous responsibilities and risks the healthcare industry faces: the pressures of securing the facility while also helping provide for the safety of patients, staff, and visitors with strict budget requirements.

The new ultra-modern Bunting Tower and its security systems will operate seamlessly in conjunction with the existing Baltimore campus which was initially a concern with Mercy's IT department. Thanks to Vision Technologies being a strong Network Infrastructure company we were able to perform this integration with minimal involvement and impact on the IT staff. The video management system and access control system will integrate to operate as one and be controlled from the Medical Center's advanced security control room.



Camera System

The camera system consisted of interior and exterior IP-based cameras. Among the cameras that were installed were a weatherproof camera, with integrated microphone and speaker, motion detection, alarm management with pre- and post-alarms, digital zoom, and event-controlled recording. The camera software features integrated alarm management including data & video storage, accomplished via a custom-built system that will store an infinite amount of information for greatly extended periods.

Considering the Medical Centers sensitive environment and the various areas within the campus that require extensive surveillance and control the data storage was a key element to the security of the facility.

Vision technicians connected the cameras, via the Power over Ethernet (POE) switches, to the access control system software and video will be stored on a Vision-provided and installed server with direct-attached storage arrays (DASDs), furnishing a total of 45 Terabytes of storage. Vision worked with Mercy IT department to have the cameras pre-addressed and programmed prior to physical installation, simplifying the task and saving time, money and effort.



Access Control and Support

The access control system consists of 360 access-controlled doors, some of which are auto-operating with magnetic locking-door interfaces, and monitored for status.

Each access-controlled door had the following features: a card reader, electronic lock (mag or strike), request to exit sensor, and a door contact. The doors that had a magnetic lock installed also received a push-to-exit (REX) button and a key override.

In addition to the new tower, Vision Technologies has been awarded the service & maintenance contract for the entire campus encompassing many different security systems from video surveillance to parking garage security, perimeter security and emergency lockdown and evacuation systems. Moving forward it will be the responsibility of Vision to provide Value Engineering of these systems, improvement design and implementation of new projects while maintaining working systems across an impressive and extensive campus.

On-site maintenance, including regularly scheduled reviews and assessments of the system will ensure Mercy Medical Center maintains the highest quality of patient and staff security. To enhance Mercy Medical Center's knowledge of the status of support events, Vision also provided a web-based ticket system that furnishes up-to-the-minute information on both open and closed trouble tickets. The ticket system is called the Managed Service Center, or MSC. To ensure proper access and protection of proprietary information, authorized log-in credentials are supplied to a small number of personnel. In addition to determining open/closed status on trouble-ticket items, MSC users can also open individual tickets to see additional information about the progress of the troubleshooting and/or how the problem was resolved.

Vision Technologies is proud to have been selected to design and install this critical security system at Mercy Medical Center's new facility.