



Clarion University Depends on Panasonic I-PRO Video Technology for Campus Safety

Clarion University depends on Panasonic i-PRO systems to provide IP-based video surveillance throughout its campus in the Appalachian Mountain region of northwestern Pennsylvania. The University's systems integrator, The Protection Bureau, is enthusiastic about the benefits of Panasonic security systems to Clarion University.

"The proof is in the picture, bottom line; the other specs don't matter," said Bob Burket, Senior Security Consultant, The Protection Bureau. "For megapixel cameras, Panasonic has the best picture out there, particularly in low-light situations."

The system at Clarion University is built around Panasonic's i-PRO WJ-ND400 network video recorder, with the i-PRO WV-NW502S camera, a 3.0-megapixel vandal-resistant IP camera offering multiple stream formats: H.264, MPEG-4 and JPEG compression. The camera incorporates Panasonic's exclusive MEGA Super Dynamic camera technology with 128x dynamic range, Adaptive Black Stretch technology to make dark areas more visible, and face detection technology to better identify subjects. The WV-NW502S provides images at 30 frames per second in H.264 format (in 1.3-megapixel mode).

"This camera does a great job with severe backlighting situations. In low light, it doesn't get any better," said Mr. Burket. The camera's advanced MEGA Super Dynamic image technology allows more sensitivity for lower light levels (1.0 lux color and 0.08 lux black-and-white at F1.4 in 1.3-megapixel mode). This provides clear images, even when light is dim, which is ideal for 24-hour surveillance. Mr. Burket notes that Clarion University uses the camera throughout its parking lots and pedestrian walkways, where lighting is inconsistent – it could be low or high intensity or various "temperatures." "The cameras compensate for all of it," said Mr. Burket.

Panasonic cameras provide surveillance of the exterior of two campuses and the interiors of new buildings as they are built or retrofitted. The Protection Bureau has been installing cameras at Clarion University for about a year and will continue with the installations for the next three to five years.

The integrator also expects to be maintaining and servicing the system for many years, which makes the dependability of Panasonic's products particularly appealing. "Panasonic is always the best of breed as time goes on. They are bullet proof—everything about the system just works and keeps on working," said Mr. Burket.

Panasonic's i-PRO WJ-ND400 network video recorder can accommodate 64 cameras, and each channel is fully licensed. There is no need to deal with per-camera licensing, which can complicate the process of switching out cameras. "A new camera takes the same IP address, so it's plug-and-play," said Mr. Burket. Panasonic is one of the few major manufacturers with this approach. The WJ-ND400 offers multi-format recording in MPEG-4 and JPEG, 2x and 4x digital zoom on live or recorded video, and Panasonic camera control for pan/tilt, zoom, focus, brightness, preset position and auto mode. Up to nine hot-plug hard disk drives can be installed for maximum on-board storage capabilities, and up to 16 clients can monitor and control the WJ-ND400 simultaneously.

"Panasonic security products are so dependable that the long-term cost is very affordable," said Mr. Burket.

Clarion University also uses Panasonic's WV-ASM100 software, which ties together multiple recorders and enables users to view the system as a whole on a computer workstation from a central location. Which camera is assigned to which recorder is invisible to the user, who operates the various recorders as a unified system.

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WV-NW502S



WJ-ND400