



SECURITY & COMMUNICATION NEWS

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BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SUPPLIERS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

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A safer city

A new mobile Rapid Deployment System for Dundee City Council has been playing a useful role in deterring crime.

Recently, there was a major problem at Camperdown Wildlife Park in Dundee when youths broke into the grounds and attacked and frightened some of the animals.

Recognising the seriousness of the problem, the police and council acted extremely quickly to deploy the cameras to the park, with Stuart Leslie from SCS Security Design carrying out the installation at very short notice.

Brian Johnston, project officer for

Dundee City Council, says: "The cameras at Camperdown have acted as a very useful deterrent and while there is still a problem of intruders coming into the park, they are avoiding areas where the cameras are sited."

The cameras have been used as a deterrent in other problem areas of Dundee.

They were also used by Tayside Police for road monitoring purposes at the recent Open Golf Championship at Carnoustie. The cameras were deployed at road junctions and monitored by COFDM radio transmission from

Carnoustie High School.

The innovative camera system can be mounted on lamp posts, walls and other fixed features at short notice, providing versatile and effective coverage.

The fully functional cameras – linked to a recording facility – can be viewed remotely, providing effective round-the-clock coverage. The operating system can be linked into the council's IT network.

Brian Johnston says: "The effectiveness and flexibility of these cameras are playing an important role in protecting our communities."



CCTV for top hotel

Set in 25 idyllic acres of gardens and mature woodland, Devere Barony Castle near Peebles is one of Scotland's top hotels. Behind its impressive stone façade lies a modern hotel offering all the comforts of a welcoming stay.

The safety and well-being of guests is a priority and this is why the hotel called in SCS Security Design to install a CCTV system to cover the car park, bar and restaurant areas.

The cameras are linked back to a digital viewing and recording system in the reception. Infra-red cameras were used for the external areas to ensure good coverage on even the darkest of nights.

The historical nature of the hotel also meant that the camera system was installed in an unobtrusive and sympathetic manner with the architecture.

CCTV was also installed to monitor the swimming pool in the leisure centre to ensure the safety of guests.

Kieran White, general manager of the Barony Castle said: "Barony Castle was extremely happy with the whole process associated with the purchase and installation of the CCTV equipment.

"SCS Security Design was able to match our requirements with their advanced technology and the installation team worked with us in ensuring the minimum disruption to our busy operation. We are particularly pleased with the effectiveness of the infra-red car park cameras."

New roles will deliver growth

Brian Davidson, formerly the sales director for the Scottish Communications Group, has been promoted to general manager of SCS Security Design whilst remaining as a board director of the Group.

Managing director Paul Gibson said it was a key appointment that would help drive further growth throughout the group.

"Brian has played a key role in the recent expansion of the Scottish Communications Group and his well deserved promotion will help continue this development programme," he said.

Meanwhile, after a spell working with ADT, Liam Mowat has returned to SCS Security Design in his new role as engineering manager.

Stuart Leslie from the engineering department has been promoted to sales engineer. His comprehensive expertise in complex security systems and his ability to liaise with customers to ensure installations meet their exact requirements will ensure the continuation of excellent service levels.

Also joining SCS Security Design is Grant Gorrie as a senior CCTV/access control engineer. Grant joins the company from ADT and has 20 years experience in the industry.



Brian Davidson, centre, with Liam Mowat, left, and Stuart Leslie

Alarm system for hostel

The Greyfriars Hostel for the homeless in Perth has recently had installed an internal and external CCTV and staff attack system.

The red-alert alarm system is activated by the push of a portable button and sensors on the ceiling can signal exactly where in the building the incident has occurred.

The fully digitised CCTV system can record real time and archived images.

In the interview room there is a lip-synched digital recorder, which allows for sound and video, and which can activate an alarm if required with the push of a button.

Thomas Byrne of Greyfriars Hostel said: "The safety of staff and residents is of extreme importance to us and this is why we had this system installed. It is working extremely well and we are pleased with its effectiveness."

Police praise stadium CCTV

SCS Security Design has installed a number of new CCTV systems in recent months for Stirling Council.

The company currently has a maintenance contract with the Council and this has inevitably resulted in new installations for schools and other public buildings.

One of the most notable has been at Forthbank Stadium, home of Stirling Albion FC, where the camera system has just been upgraded. Funding for the work came from Community Services at Stirling Council.

The installation involved the total upgrade of the old black and white CCTV system to a colour digital operation using pan-tilt and zoom cameras in and around the perimeter of the stadium. The CCTV is monitored by a recording system in the police support room at the stadium.

Fraser Walker at Stirling Council said: "The old system provided black and white images and this new installation provides a massive improvement in terms of efficiency, operational use and the clarity of the images. The police match commander for Stirling Albion's home games says he is delighted with the new system."

Surveillance for depots

Tayside Contracts is a commercial contracting organisation providing logistical support and construction based services to the Councils of Angus, Dundee City and Perth & Kinross.

To ensure round-the-clock monitoring of its maintenance depots at Perth, Dundee, Collace Quarry, Forfar, Arbroath, Blairgowrie and Kinross, the company recently called upon the services of SCS Security Design to install a CCTV surveillance system.

The CCTV at each of the depots is remotely monitored from the company's headquarters at Dundee, with an alarm detection system in place that kicks into action if any movement is detected. This alerts the control room and enables the operator to undertake a more detailed surveillance of the site. Each depot also has its own digital recording system.



Hazardous work radios

Staff at specialist chemical engineering company EPSCO Ltd often have to operate under hazardous and confined situations in locations such as oil rigs, the power generation industry, ships and distilleries.

This requires the use of protective suits and self contained breathing apparatus. Safe and effective communication is vital in such conditions and this is why the company opted for Atex approved Motorola GP340 radios and Peltor headsets supplied by Scottish Communications.

These 'extreme certainty' safe radios ensure there is no likelihood of the production of any sparks in volatile environments such as the inside of confined spaces and hazardous and potentially explosive areas.

The specialist head set and microphone system is linked to a radio that is firmly secured to the operator's belt, allowing for ease of operation.

The radios give team members instant access to one or many colleagues at the touch of a button, without compromising safety, and allow constant contact should a critical situation need resolving.

Stuart Smith, the general manager for EPSCO, said: "We gave Scottish Communications a full specification of our requirements and the system they delivered fulfils our needs very well."

CCTV preventative maintenance

The importance of regular CCTV and Access Control Systems annual preventative maintenance incorporating the focusing of cameras, cleaning of lenses and checking of power supplies has always been at the forefront of maintenance and emergency service contracts offered by SCS Security Design. Regular CCTV maintenance ensures that cameras are cleaned regularly and recording systems are maintained to a high standard to maximise performance in accordance with The Data Protection Act.

In a recent move, Brian Hibbert, who has been with SCS for eleven years, has signed a partnership agreement to maintain SCS systems. This new arrangement will provide SCS Security Design maintenance customers with high quality, scheduled preventative maintenance service throughout Scotland. All preventative and emergency support services are co-ordinated through SCS Security Design's office ensuring that customers enjoy a level of quality of service within agreement timescales.

There are three levels of service available: Bronze, Silver and all encompassing Gold. SCS can also maintain systems supplied by others at very competitive prices. For further details or a quotation please contact support office manager Carlyn Wallace.

Student safety a priority

Following a request from staff, Angus College in Arbroath has installed a CCTV system covering external and internal areas of the campus.

According to Steve Hanson of the College, the over-riding reason behind the installation was for the safety of staff and students, with the CCTV providing an extra degree of cover.

"It makes the staff and students feel better knowing that there is the CCTV in place," he says.

The College has recently upgraded its common rooms and canteens for students, which included the installation of new soft furnishings that are vulnerable to damage or vandalism.

"Although vandalism is only an occasional problem at the college, since the installation we have had no instances at all," says Steve.

"There was also an incident where the CCTV was used to identify someone who was causing a problem, which enabled us to talk with the person and sort it out."

The CCTV system uses broadband to interconnect between the buildings around the college campus with the images archived upon digital recorders.

Angus College is one of the most highly respected further education colleges in Scotland. It has invested over £11 million in the last three years so that its students enjoy brand new, state-of-the-art learning environments including a modern, purpose-built sports facility, upgraded construction and engineering workshops and innovative computer suites.



'Superb definition'

A new CCTV installation for Perth football club St Johnstone is playing an important role in ensuring the safety of spectators.

The club has installed four digital pan-tilt zoom high resolution colour cameras inside the stadium and two outside, providing comprehensive all-round surveillance. The cameras are connected to a state-of-the-art digital recording system in the police control room at the stadium.

Chris Smith, head groundsman, said: "The new system is light years ahead of what we had before and enables round the clock monitoring. The quality and definition of the images is superb."

The cameras have also proved useful in monitoring the car park during evening functions held by the club.

CCTV benefits port control



A new CCTV system for Fife Police at the ferry terminal at Rosyth Port is aiding security.

SCS Security Design was asked to upgrade the existing system at the terminal for the Superfast roll-on, roll-off ferry. Internal and external cameras were installed linked back to a hi-tech digital recording system from Edinburgh manufacturer Indigo Vision.

The Internet Protocol (IP) system has very high frame rate, enabling it to record extremely high definition pictures.

Stuart Ward, CCTV Liaison Officer for Fife Constabulary, said that SCS Security Design was chosen for the installation because they met all the necessary requirements and are a well-established supplier to Fife Police and Fife Council.

"The CCTV system provides very useful support for our joint agency security work at the Port of Rosyth," he said.



Cameras for new boarding house

Craigleith House is the new Upper Sixth Form Boarding House at Fettes College in Edinburgh and opened its doors in September 2007 – a stunning purpose built home for 126 final year students heralding more independence, responsibility and flexibility and thereby better equipping them for life beyond

school.

To ensure the safety of the pupils, SCS Security Design has installed a comprehensive CCTV system that is linked back to the main school building to ensure continual monitoring.

Johnstone Kay of Fettes says the system is working well and will play a major role in helping provide a safe

and productive environment for upper sixth formers.

This is not the first installation by SCS Security Design at Fettes. Several years ago cameras were installed in Regency-style lamps to comply with building regulations. The system is able to beam pictures directly to laptop computers of senior staff.

Vista Blade – The sharp end of digital video recording



Vista Blade is a range of enterprise level real-time DVRs, offering high resolution images and excellent performance for systems incorporating both analogue and IP cameras.

Each camera input has a dedicated codec to allow cameras to be fine tuned to suit any requirement. Any camera can be set to any compression level, in any quality up to D1 resolution, at any image rate per second. The powerful use of macros allows the user to program the DVR to just about any form of configuration giving you full control of how you use the equipment.

Blade DVRs are true hybrids, incorporating network inputs for direct connection to IP cameras with a maximum of 20 inputs – 16 analogue and 4 IP. Live and recorded video

can be viewed over a network using MPEG-4, with control of multiple DVRs from multiple locations.

All the DVRs in the range are capable of recording a full 25ips for each camera. Up to four internal drives allow up to 3TB of internal storage, maximising recording duration without compromising resolution or image capture rates.

Summary of key features:

Real-time D1 recording for all cameras

Individual codecs for each camera input allow 25ips recording at D1, 2CIF or CIF resolution.

MPEG-4 compression

Offering very efficient compression, MPEG-4 delivers excellent video quality at relatively low bandwidth, thereby maximising hard disk storage space.

Systems capability and connectivity

Multi-protocol RS485 and coaxial telemetry enable a wide range of dome

and PTZ cameras to be selected and controlled.

Analogue and IP inputs

The range allows for future expansion by offering 4, 8 and 16 analogue inputs and either 2 or 4 IP camera inputs. This allows system design to take advantage of both analogue and IP cameras and existing or new infrastructure.

Large internal storage with integral cooling tunnels

Up to four internal drives allow 160GB to 3TB of internal storage. This maximises recording duration without compromising resolution or image capture rates. Cooling tunnels have been built in to channel the air flow around the internal hard disks. The temperature of these are constantly monitored and alarms are triggered should the threshold be reached.

To learn more about this product range please visit www.vista-cctv.com or contact Brian Davidson or Stuart Leslie at SCS Security Design.

State of the art radios for historic building

Scottish Communications recently installed a complete radio system for the Scottish Court Service at its impressive and historic building in Parliament Square, Edinburgh.

The system supplied was a VXR7000 Repeater Station with downward tilt aerials mounted on the roof of the building to achieve coverage throughout their offices, courts and the Great Hall.

The hand held radios supplied was the Vertex VX410, which will be used by the Estates and Security staff.

This fine building on the south side of Parliament Square, with its Italian façade and imposing Doric portico, is occupied by the Court of Session, the supreme judicature in Scotland.

The great central hall, with its magnificent timber roof - the finest north of the Tweed - was the meeting place of the Scottish Parliament from 1640 till the Union of 1707.

Since then the Parliament Hall, together with the adjoining buildings, has accommodated the College of Justice (the ancient name of the Court of Session), and in the handsome stained-glass window to the south there is depicted the inauguration of this institution by James V in 1532.

When the Court is sitting, Parliament Hall presents a scene of great bustle and animation. Here agents, counsel, and

clients all gather. The Hall is adorned with portraits and statues of former legal luminaries.

Below this building is housed the National Library of Scotland, which was founded

three years through the generosity of an Edinburgh citizen, Sir Alexander Grant, Bart, who gave £100,000 for its permanent endowment, and a further £100,000 towards the cost of building.



Photo by Jonathan Mitchell QC

WIN A CASE OF QUALITY WINE

Scottish Communications Group is offering one of our lucky readers the opportunity to win a case of high quality wine.

To enter this great competition, please answer the following question: Name the two football clubs that have recently had CCTV systems installed?

Send your entry by email to: sales@scottishcommunications.com

Entries must be received by 4 January 2008. First entry randomly drawn on that date wins. Usual terms and conditions apply. No correspondence will be entered into.

