

False Alarms and Easy Robberies, Cellular Towers Need Surveillance



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Cellular Towers Stand Alone

Cellular base stations are prime marks for criminals in search of an easy target. Often containing a wealth of valuable copper wires, criminals take advantage of their remote location and trespass freely, without fear of being identified. Previous attempts to protect these towers often relied on optical sensors. The sensors would create a perimeter around the cellular tower and an alarm would sound whenever something would enter the marked off area. Without any audio or visual awareness of the site, patrol cars had to be dispatched to the remotely located site following each disturbance. More often than not these alarms were triggered by wild animals, and cellular companies spent a lot of money sending patrol vehicles for each alarm. Cellular operator TIM in Brazil was tired of their towers being damaged and looted. They were also tired of wasting money on unnecessary site visits, and knew a more advanced surveillance solution was necessary to end the theft and vandalism.

Thieves Take Notice

As an electronics systems leader in Brazil and around the world, telecommunications companies turned to Siemens

for help in defending their vulnerable cellular towers. Taking into account the need for live video streaming over a cellular network, and the ability to generate events and alarms, Siemens selected SerVision’s UVG400 as the ideal system. The UVG400 is a 4 channel DVR that uses advanced video compression to stream high quality video across 3G and GPRS networks and provides real-time alerts from its integrated Video Motion Detection (VMD). Flavio Muniz Rodrigues, an engineer from Siemens, explains, “When selecting a monitoring system for TIM’s cell towers we stressed the importance of ensuring reliable video streams from remote locations and instant notifications of any security breaches. The SerVision UVG400 met all of our requirements, including the ability to perform in extreme test environments with temperatures as high as 80°C, and the pilot project exceeded our expectations.”

Siemens installed 170 UVG’s at cellular towers across Brazil. Each system is situated in a locked enclosure a short distance away from the cellular tower and four cameras are installed around the perimeter of the site. Previous security solutions often failed when perpetrators would shut down the power during a break-in; the UVG, however,



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succeeds in this situation. Installed together with a special power supply, the UVG and the cameras connected to it continue to operate even when the main power line has been shut down, so users can still view live video streams as well contact the appropriate authorities. All systems are accessible through SerVision's advanced monitoring software, the SVMulticlient, from a central location, but users can also monitor video streams and notifications from their smart phones using SerVision's software for mobile devices.

Protection and Peace of Mind

The deployment of UVG systems has had remarkable results for TIM in Brazil. They are no longer throwing away money on unnecessary site visits prompted by roaming squirrels, vandalism has been reduced significantly, and thieves in search of an easy score are swiftly brought to justice. Authorities at TIM are resting much easier without having to worry about the safety of their towers, or losing money from their bank accounts.

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UVG400

Go wireless with SerVision's UVG security systems! Ideal for monitoring locations where cable-based network connections are not available, the UVG is specially designed to stream high-quality video over cellular and WiFi connections. Install one in the back parking-lot of your business and you can keep an eye on the parked cars and the rear of the building – whether you're inside the building, home at night, or away on a business trip. Place one in your garage or stable, or even on a crane at a construction site, and you can keep tabs on everything that occurs there.

UVG security systems offer all of the HVG features – live and recorded video streaming to closed-circuit monitors and off-site PCs, cellular phones, and PDAs; sensor-activated recording and notifications; two-way audio; a high-capacity hard drive for storage of recorded video; and low power consumption. To this winning combination they add wireless networking support to create a complete security system suitable for any location.

