

Facility Video Evaluation Summary

Background

During the past two months, the ETIS contract has been evaluating equipment to replace our current network video recorder (NVR). We narrowed the search down to 3 products that were presented by 2 different companies and they are: **Integrated Security Solutions**, who presented the products ***Omnicast*** and ***VideoEdge***, and **DVRSystems**, who presented its own product.

After great presentations and demonstrations from all parties, it was a very obvious choice in selecting **DVRSystems** as the best replacement solution for our NVR needs.

Overview

Here are the main factors that make this product the best for the Code 549 Environmental Test and Engineering group and Integration facility.

- **Support- DVRSystems** has specialized in video recording systems for over fifteen years. As such they are very knowledgeable about their product and the industry overall, and have been very helpful with information during this process. They also warranty all hardware and software during the 5 year warranty period as well as provide lifetime free software subscription and technical support.
- **Hardware-** The proposed NVR hardware that was custom designed for our facility far and away will be an upgrade to our current system as well as exceeded the other vendor specifications. The NVR design and integration of components provides a product that is more robust than products offered by the competition. The product is scalable in that there is room for camera and storage expandability for years to come.
- **Software-** The scaled down operating system (Microsoft Windows XOS) will use very minimal drive space or processing power. The OS is hacker proof, freeing the NVR of anti-virus software or other additional support application software, leaving more computer resources for processing video recording operations. The software is configured so that it does not depend on available drive space to perform efficiently, such that data will be retrieved at the same rate of speed whether a drive is at 1% capacity or 90% capacity. The native video storage format (MP4) is a proprietary format, and the player for that format downloads with video files automatically when saved. Additionally, video files can be saved in WMF and AVI formats for viewing using Windows Media Player or Apple Quicktime.

- **Cost-** With all of the extras that the **DVRSystems** solution provides, the cost was the least expensive of the 3 products reviewed. The warranty coverage, the equipment being used, and we think the ease of use surpasses the competition and are the best solutions for our environment.
- **Performance-** . **DVRSystems** was the most knowledgeable vendor regarding system bandwidth constraints caused by video streaming and assisted us with optimizing our current system as to hold us over until purchasing the new system. We visited the Charles County Detention Center for demonstration of the product and were impressed not only by the product usability, but also the customer's perception of **DVRSystems** support. Both the NVR and the vendor have performed well according to that customer.

Conclusion

It is important that we purchase a system that minimizes administration, but provides the best usability over a myriad of video users, from technicians and engineers needing to control cameras for tests, to the administrators and system owners with a robust set of requirements for configuration. DVRSystems provides an NVR product that is feature-rich and flexible for the varying requirements of our facility, and has been custom designed for our specific requirements, allowing us to group camera resources and users to ensure proper accessibility and operability across the user base. In short, they provide a solution with the best performance while minimizing system administrative and management resources.

John F Hauprich III, CISSP & CEH
Principle Security Engineer / Contract IT Manager
Analex, Qinetiq North America
Mission Systems Group
Code 549, ETIS Contract
NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center