

Project Profile

Suburban Chicago Hospital Takes High-Tech Approach to Security



The hospital's recent security upgrade is an impressive showcase of access control, intrusion detection, CCTV, and alarm monitoring integration. And at the heart of St. Mary's security is the Andover Controls Infinity Security Management System.

The new security management system at St. Mary's Hospital "is right up there with any found in a large downtown high-tech medical center," said Steven Wilder, St. Mary's Director of Risk Management.

Located 55 miles from metropolitan Chicago in Kankakee, Illinois, St. Mary's is a 97-year-old, 225-bed suburban hospital. The hospital's recent security upgrade is an impressive showcase of access control, intrusion detection, CCTV, and alarm monitoring integration. And at the heart of St. Mary's security is the Andover Controls *Infinity* Security Management System.

Access Systems, Inc. of Homewood, Illinois was the Andover Security Automation Representative responsible for the design and installation of the new system.

The company worked closely with the hospital to design a single comprehensive security management system to replace a first-generation access control system. In addition, the hospital wanted to upgrade the CCTV system with more cameras and modern multiplexing technology, control elevator access to restricted floors, and improve security in the pharmacy and data processing areas. And lastly, St. Mary's wanted a user-friendly front end workstation that would graphically tie everything together, including security alarms, cameras, and the fire alarm system.

The hub of St. Mary's new *Infinity* security management system is the hospital switchboard office. Here at the *Infinity* SX 8000 workstation, the operator can monitor the hospital's alarm points, including the 55 perimeter secured doors, internal equipment room doors, access in and out of the elevators leading to restricted floors, and the hospital's emergency call buttons. A second SX 8000 workstation is used in the security office, where, on an on-going basis, security personnel issue cards and enter employee numbers and access permission information into the *Infinity* database.

At the switchboard, two Dedicated Micros Uniplex Series II 16-channel multiplexers allow time multiplexed encoding of the hospital's 18 cameras. There are two video monitors—an alarm monitor which displays the camera of the area in alarm state and a spot monitor which allows viewing of all cameras sequentially.

When an alarm event is generated by the Andover system, an ASCII code is sent via the RS232 port on the SX 8000 front-end to the Uniplex CCTV multiplexer. The camera closest to the active alarm point is displayed in the alarm video monitor and remains there until the operator acknowledges the blinking icon and its corresponding text message on the SX 8000 graphic alarm panel screen.

The *Infinity* system also provides the nursing staff in the ER, Radiology, and Nursery departments with added security. Personnel in these areas now wear wireless panic button alarms around their necks, which they are instructed to push if they feel their safety is in jeopardy. Upon doing so, an audible alarm sounds and a high-level alarm signal is sent to both the SX 8000 workstation and the City of Kankakee police department.

Housekeeping personnel clip similar wireless panic transmitters to their belts when they clean in the hospital's adjacent medical arts building at night.

Recently *Access Systems, Inc.* added a "group lock down" feature to St. Mary's *Infinity* system. Now, with one click of the mouse on an SX 8000 graphic panel or custom built console, an operator can lock all eight doors in the ER or all four doors in the OR individually or both simultaneously in the event of a security incident.

Today St. Mary's Hospital maintains a proactive approach to security management as they continue to come up with new and creative ideas to enhance the Andover *Infinity* system in their hospital.

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PROJECT AT A GLANCE:

Project Type:

Security

Project Name:

St. Mary's Hospital

Location:

Kankakee, Illinois

Market Segment:

Health Care

Number Of Buildings:

4

Total Square Feet:

450,000

Infinity Equipment Installed:

1 – CX 9200 network controller
2 – SX 8000 workstations
4 – ACX 700s
2 – ACX 780s
2 – IDX 800s
2 – IDX 850s
2 – SCX 920s

Network:

Ethernet LAN

Applications:

Door access control and monitoring
- 28 doors with readers
Intrusion detection
- 45 doors monitored
Elevator access control
Wireless panic transmitter
monitoring
Elevator emergency call
button monitoring
Emergency room and operating
room "lock down"

Number of Controlled Doors:

28

Number of Cardholders:

600

Andover Controls Representative:

Access Systems, Inc.