

Adding Security and Communication to a Power Plant Property



THE SCENARIO

On the outskirts of a large city was an enormous power plant. The industrial property had a gated perimeter with controlled access points from eight different roadways. It was the workplace for thousands of people who operated and maintained the facility 24/7.

To ensure only authorized workers were onsite, everyone was identified in person prior to gaining access through the gate. The system they had at the time was inefficient. When workers arrived, they pushed a button that illuminated an interior strobe light; noise at the power plant was too loud for a traditional intercom. Once someone saw the flashing light, they would leave their work station, make the long trek to the remote gate, confirm the person was authorized to enter, unlock the gate, and then return to their work station. Being a 24/7 operation, this time-consuming process to identify workers was incessant and disruptive.

Operation managers realized they were losing production time and needed a more efficient way to let workers onto the property without causing constant interruptions. They wanted a system that allowed workers to be identified from a distance while also having audio that could be clearly heard through the roaring noise of the plant's turbines.

Workers at this plant saved valuable time when their method to identify colleagues was improved with an IP intercom system.

THE SOLUTION

Since the power plant covered a vast area, managers opted for an IP intercom to avoid distance limitations. Rugged exterior stations withstood volatile conditions and provided workers an everlasting way to request access at the gates.

Workers were identified and allowed onto the property using master station software on a shared PC, which was monitored 24/7. All calls were now answered—and gates unlocked—within seconds. This saved production time without the tedious process of leaving their work stations.

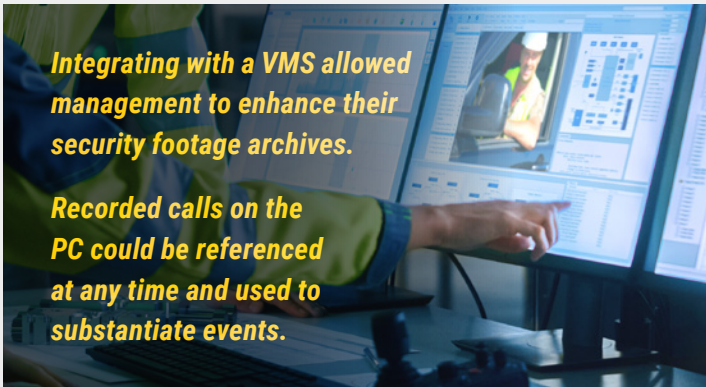
Improved sound clarity allowed management to eliminate the disruptive strobe light. They were also able to document which gates were accessed and when, along with detailed video of each call, which enhanced their security records at the plant.



Gated Entrances



The rugged exterior stations withstood harsh conditions while workers had an easy way to request access at the gates.



Integrating with a VMS allowed management to enhance their security footage archives.

Recorded calls on the PC could be referenced at any time and used to substantiate events.

Shared Work Station



THE BENEFITS

- IP intercom system provided a time-saving method for workers to be identified at the gates prior to gaining access, which ensured a safer working environment
- PoE stations at the gates, paired with PC master station software, helped to avoid any wiring distance concerns
- Software included an easy-to-use interactive map, providing modern features for more efficient operations
- Excellent sound quality on both sides of the intercom was adequate for the noisy power plant, allowing management to eliminate extraneous strobe equipment
- Calls initiated at the gates could be saved and viewed locally on the PC; a continuous video stream from the door stations could be viewed via third-party VMS at any time

System Configuration Example

