

State-of-the-art technology to protect an ancient tradition of ceramics.

Mazzacane Collection closely monitored by Axis cameras.



Organization:
Cerreto Ceramics
Museum

Location:
Cerreto Sannita, Italy

Industry segment:
City surveillance

Application:
Safety and security

Axis partner:
Eureka Sistemi ed
Automazione s.r.l.

Mission

The Museum is a collection of ceramic artifacts that are witness to the long history of majolica in this place. Located in the rooms of the Palazzo S. Antonio, the former convent that now houses the Town Hall, it has also become the depository of the collection of the heirs of historian Vincenzo Mazzacane. It includes a video surveillance system necessary to protect the priceless value of the new exhibits.

Solution

The system chosen features network cameras of a size and design that fit perfectly into the architectural context without being obtrusive. Axis was able to limit set-up tasks to a minimum thanks to the PoE power supply, which provides remote monitoring and de-localized storage as a further guarantee of safety. The built-in IR illumination also allows the cameras to work at night with the footage changing from color to B/W.

Result

The solution is discreet and incredibly reliable, and neither disturbs visitors nor the overall aesthetics of the building. Besides PC monitoring, the footage filmed is broadcast at the entrance on a 32" screen, a deterrent to ill-intentioned visitors. Control of the cameras is simple and intuitive thanks to the AXIS Camera Companion interface.

"Thanks to the support received from Axis in choosing the cameras, we have managed to identify a solution that has allowed a swift and painless transition from our previous video surveillance system to the new one, with an incomparable guarantee of efficiency and quality."

Fausto Iarrobino, General Manager at Eureka S.r.l..

Protecting precious artifacts

The Civic Museum of Cerreto houses ancient and modern collections of ceramic artworks whose importance has meant the Museum has been awarded the status of Place of Regional Interest. Its rooms have been renovated to welcome about 400 items, most of which date back to the 18th century, the golden age of ceramic manufacture in Cerreto in terms of quantity but above all quality of the artifacts in the prestigious collection of the heirs of historian Vincenzo Mazzacane. The expository path also contemplates a section with ancient findings from the Roman period and traditional works of Cerreto from the Baroque to the 19th century, while the contemporary section treasures the works of artists who have taken part in several exhibitions of ceramics held every other year in the Italian town of Benevento.

To protect the precious heritage on display, the former analog video surveillance system has been replaced by Axis IP cameras capable of combining efficiency and performance with a discreet presence that harmonizes with the Museum's interior.

The choice fell to 2 palm-sized AXIS M5014 PTZ Dome Network Cameras with HDTV resolution, 16:9 screen width and maximum frame rate, capable of generating H.264 video streams and Motion JPEG with limited bandwidth thanks to the H.264 standard. The system is completed by 8 AXIS M1144-L compact cameras for indoor use and 5 AXIS M1143-L for outdoors, all high-definition and featuring integrated IR LED for automatic illumination in conditions of total darkness.

The two dome PTZ cameras monitor the entrance and the staircases that provide access to the mezzanine floor, while the eight fixed video-cameras used indoors provide surveillance of the various rooms of the basement and mezzanine, except for one that supports the PTZ at the entrance.

Power over Ethernet functionality made installation easier because of the absence of power cables, allowing remote monitoring, display of multiple filming angles in real time on both PC and a 32-inch monitor positioned at the entrance to the Museum to serve as a deterrent, and storage on NAS of 4TB physically allocated in rooms outside the Museum to ensure another layer of security. The AXIS Camera Companion software has simple and intuitive control, clear and sharp image quality, and allows users to search recordings and to export any footage and snapshots instantly.

The scalability of the system also favors installation of new cameras that will monitor the new areas that the Town Hall Administration intends to open in the near future to improve the Museum's attractions even more.

"We are definitely satisfied by the fantastic quality/price ratio of Axis network cameras. The system fully satisfies our initial requirements such as discretion, integration with the structure, and performance," says engineer Letizio Napoletano, Project Manager, Municipality of Cerreto Sannita.

