



# NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

## PRODUCT INTEGRATION IS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL INSTALLATION

The brand new National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park is located in Columbus, Georgia, just outside of Fort Benning, the home of the Infantry and one of the Army's largest installations. The museum is a world-class tribute to Infantrymen past, present and future and is the first of its kind in the United States.

Six large galleries tell the heroic story of Infantrymen tracing details from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terrorism. More than 30,000 artifacts are on display throughout the 190,000- square-foot museum, and visitors can enjoy an authentically recreated World War II Company Street, 3D IMAX Theatre, restaurant, gift store and weapons simulator.

The museum turned to Newcomb and Boyd, a security consulting firm, for security technology expertise and direction. Mike McCabe, Director of Information Technologies for the National Infantry Foundation, had the challenge to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for guests while securing the museum facility and artifacts.

Protecting priceless artifacts and controlling the flow of traffic throughout the new museum prompted the museum to install an AMAG Symmetry Professional Security Management System (SMS) integrated with Digital Monitoring Products' (DMP) XR500 intrusion system. The integration allows control of points,

zones and users through the AMAG Symmetry SMS. Pelco DX8100 DVRs along with Pelco Camclosure fixed cameras and Spectra IV P/T/Z cameras provide video coverage. Operational Security Systems, Inc. installed and programmed the integrated security system.

Controlling access and securing expensive weapons and artifacts are critical. The museum tracks movement of people in the facility so that they may be held accountable for their actions. All employees and volunteers wear a badge to identify themselves and gain access to approved areas within the museum. The galleries, storage areas and carpentry shop are protected by AMAG's Symmetry access control system. Over fifty Pelco cameras view the general gallery areas, building entrances and exits, exterior areas of the building and employee parking lot and service entrance areas.

The Symmetry EN-IDBC Power over Ethernet door controller manages access in the parking lots using HID ProxPro readers.

"In order to maintain the same level of access integrity and keep the project cost down for the museum, the Symmetry EN-IDBC POE Door Controller was selected for the employee parking lot and service & loading dock lot," said Operational Security Systems, Inc. Project Manager, Keith Lockhart. "Using a fiber Ethernet connection to each of the two gate locations, allows for



full remote control of the gates via the Symmetry graphical user interface (GUI). The gates can be momentarily or maintained open with one click of the mouse."

The Symmetry SMS is managed by the National Infantry Museum's IT department and monitored by a contract guarding service in the security control room. Two client workstations are set up to view Symmetry utilizing a graphical display of the alarm points in the building.

When an alarm occurs, a large image is displayed in the Symmetry video matrix to show the area in alarm. Security officers can see the event and quickly determine the appropriate action. Alarms are also sent to the Fort Benning Police Department. "With a GUI you can quickly see where the trouble spots are, use a camera to see the location and dispatch a guard if need be," said McCabe.

"All of six of the galleries contain priceless artifacts from different eras of the Infantry's history including contents from Saddam Hussein's palace," said Operational Security Systems, Inc.'s Lockhart. "Therefore, all entry and exit points are monitored and controlled by the Symmetry GUI, DMP and recorded on the Pelco DVR."

Symmetry also provides elevator access control. Visitors can access floors one and two to see the galleries and visit the restaurant and store. Employees and volunteers with authorized access can enter nonpublic areas.

**Partner Integration Importance**

The National Infantry Museum's security management system integrates numerous manufacturers' products to create an optimum solution. Pelco, DMP, Dell, Fargo and HID are just a few of the companies involved. The museum needed the best products available to integrate the different subsystems. AMAG's ability to seamlessly integrate all these products into one user interface was the reason the Museum chose Symmetry.

"With AMAG Symmetry as the backbone of this complex system interfacing with the DMP panel for intrusion and alarm reporting as well as the interface with the Pelco DVRs, we were able to provide a GUI with all aspects of the system from remote access control of all card reader doors, camera call up upon an access event to full camera control," stated Lockhart. Symmetry is integrated with DMP Intrusion panels to provide approximately eighty monitored intrusion points throughout the museum. A reader with a keypad is used to control the intrusion portion of the system. Users must present their proximity card or enter a code into the keypad to gain access.

Different parts of the museum close at different times of the day. For example, the restaurant stays open later than the galleries which close at 5:00 p.m. The intrusion system is configured to allow each area to be independently activated.

McCabe takes advantage of the remote virtual private network connection to provide assistance to second shift employees if needed. "It's a great system," said McCabe. "It provides a lot of flexibility allowing the people in the space that they are authorized to be in while keeping them out of the spaces they don't need to be in."

"The combination of the Pelco cameras and the integration of the access control and intrusion system through Symmetry allows us to see the security status of the whole facility at once and makes responding to troubled areas easier and faster," said McCabe.

**Why Operational Security Systems, Inc.?**

This project was a limited bidding opportunity to pre-selected system integrators. Operational Security Systems, Inc. was invited because of previous successful projects with the electrical contractor, Griffin Electric. The project requirements to tightly integrate access control, closed circuit television and intrusion detection systems fit well with Operational Security Systems, Inc.'s reputation for successfully configuring complex systems to the unique needs of their customers.



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**Future**

The National Infantry Museum plans to add more cameras in the future to provide coverage to the parade field and Fort Benning graduation area that is part of the museum grounds. “We look forward to providing on-going support and service with this system as well as the future security needs of the Museum,” stated Jim Baron, Account Representative of Operational Security Systems, Inc.



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