The Situation

Surveillance One, a systems integrator based in Lafayette, CO, was asked by a national developer and operator of shopping malls to design and implement an upgrade to the video security systems at its properties to centralize camera management and enable remote monitoring and access.

This important upgrade would allow the operator to react more quickly without having to send a technician on-site, including the ability to power cycle cameras remotely. It would also mean shifting away from using cameras powered at the edge, because those can’t be remotely managed and often need to be in places where power is hard to reach. The project would also minimize or eliminate the use of PoE repeaters and other potential points of failure, and yet still be able to extend across the massive spaces within malls.

Malls are challenging environments – due to their immense size and need to typically have hundreds of cameras. There are often 5 to 15 IDF closets spread throughout a mall – and some may be situated at heights that can be reached with special access equipment and during specific times. If a technical issue arises when the mall is open, physically reaching these points can be even more difficult.

The business of shopping malls continues to evolve, as does their security needs. For example, the tenant mix is changing, including more shops featuring designer and luxury merchandise – adding higher value targets for potential thieves. Additionally, mall security is increasingly using automation with
their cameras and detection systems to inform guards rapidly as incidents happen, and to enable a response in real-time.

The Solution

To be able to centralize the management of the video cameras at multiple mall locations, power cycle them remotely and minimize points of failure, John Fitch, a Project Manager at Surveillance One recognized that they would need “seamless cabling out to the device from a network switch.” This would require cabling that could traverse vast spaces and go a long distance.

To achieve this, the team at Surveillance One deployed GameChanger® Cable, an easy, cost-effective way to take the networking infrastructure beyond the 100-meter limit. GameChanger Cable is optimized for long distance applications, delivering 2.5 Gb/s performance and 100W PoE over 200 meters. Since its introduction in 2017, this patented cabling solution, combining increased gauge size, carefully designed twisting and specialty materials has been installed in high-profile projects across the globe.

With GameChanger Cable, Surveillance One was able to use cabling all the way out to the camera. John Fitch explained, “You’re able to run that line from an IDF out to the camera and avoid having to put power on the edge and avoid having to put a PoE repeater in the middle of the line.” According to John Fitch, this meant “a seamless connection and a lot less failure points.”

Surveillance One is a systems integrator largely focused on providing protection for critical infrastructure, such as energy and water treatment plants. It sees shopping mall security as solidly aligned with their mission. “The retail sector is a critical infrastructure sector,” John Fitch noted, “we can’t underestimate the value that needs to be put into properly protecting our families and our kids who are walking in malls. I think it’s important to keep moving the technology forward, to do everything we can to protect these public environments.”

About Surveillance One

Surveillance One helps protect people, property, and critical infrastructure from sophisticated attacks. Surveillance One has created turnkey security solutions for companies large and small, including members of the Fortune and Global 500. Its corporate headquarters are located in Boulder County, CO with offices in Los Angeles, Charlotte and Orlando.

GameChanger Part Numbers:
258310333 - Riser, Yellow w/ White Stripe
258300336 - Plenum, Blue w/ White Stripe
258300310- Plenum, White
258330804 - OSP, Black
258340804 - OSP Shielded, Black
258802404 - ITC-HL, Armored, Black

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11,107,605

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