

DAVIDSON COLLEGE CUTS COSTS WITH IP COMMUNICATIONS FOR SECURITY, LIFE SAFETY

April 21, 2008

DAVIDSON, N.C. – Bosch Security Systems, Inc., a full-line manufacturer of high-quality security solutions, announced today that Davidson College, an independent liberal arts college in Davidson, N.C., has selected a solution from Bosch to upgrade its extensive system of security and life safety equipment installed throughout the various buildings on its 450-acre campus.

Looking for a way to reduce recurring operating costs for the system, the IT staff at Davidson College turned to long-time security and life safety systems integration partner CRS Building Automation Systems, Inc. Their challenge to CRS was to engineer a way to shift the primary monitoring infrastructure to its campus fiber network. CRS recommended the installation of IP communications modules from Bosch Security Systems, Inc.

“The Bosch modules allow the college to continue to use their existing fire and intrusion control panels, while taking advantage of the cost savings and other benefits achieved with communications to the central monitoring station via an Internet connection,” said Phillip Cashion, Jr. (Skip), President, CRS Building Automation Systems, Inc.

More than 70 fire alarm systems from a variety of manufacturers protect the residence hall, classroom and administrative buildings throughout campus. All of these systems now communicate to the central monitoring station using Bosch Conettix C900V2 Dialer Capture Ethernet Modules, which work equally well with the college’s Bosch D6412 Control Panels as they do with the installed panels from other manufacturers. The modules use IP as the primary communication method to the central station. If the network fails, phone lines connecting the panels to the college’s private branch exchange (PBX) switch serve as the back up.

Previously two phone lines connected each panel to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) for communications, requiring 140 dedicated phone lines to communicate with a central monitoring station. By eliminating the direct connections to the PSTN for each panel, the system’s operations costs have reduced significantly.

Davidson College’s IT Department has calculated that the upgraded system will result in an impressive return on investment.

“We have already experienced a 50 percent cost savings now and expect that number to increase to 75 percent in the near future,” said Brent Babb, project manager, Davidson College. April 21, 2008

On top of the cost savings, the college is also benefiting from more detailed alarm information being transmitted from its security control panels to the central station. The central station can now tell the local authorities the exact location in a building where motion was detected or windows or doors were forced open by an unauthorized individual. This improvement is achieved through Conettix DX4020 Network Interface Modules connected to the Bosch G Series control panels that secure the administrative buildings on campus.

Overall, IP communications between the control panels and the receiver offer the college greater security as the control panels regularly send supervisory messages to the receiver at the central station to ensure the system is functioning properly. If the control panel does not receive an acknowledgement message, the central station operator is alerted. IP communications are also received faster by the central station than those previously transmitted via a phone line, which in turn, improves response time to an alarm.

In addition, the upgrade has helped the college reduce the amount of time required to fix any issues impacting the system.

“Previously, we had to wait for service from the phone company. Now, the IT staff is automatically alerted if there is a network or phone line problem, and we can dispatch a staff member to fix the issue at any hour of the day,” explained Babb.

About Davidson College

Davidson is a highly selective independent liberal arts college for 1,700 students. Since its establishment in 1837 by Presbyterians, the college has graduated 23 Rhodes Scholars and is consistently regarded as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the country.

About CRS Building Automation Systems, Inc.

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CRS Building Automation Systems, Inc. specializes in the installation of access control, fire alarm, CCTV, security and energy management systems. CRS has provided personalized 24-hour service and support for 20 years. Every staff member is well trained and the company works with its customers on every detail, beginning with a customized plan and management of an installation and then continuing with excellent customer service. The company's vision, commitment and core values separate it from the competition. For more information about CRS, visit www.crsbuilding.com or call (704) 333-7600.

About Bosch Security Systems, Inc.

Bosch Security Systems, Inc., a division of the Bosch Group, develops and markets a broad range of products and systems for security, video surveillance, life safety, personnel and asset tracking applications, as well as for communication and professional audio installations. Worldwide, Bosch Security Systems employs more than 10,700 associates and reported sales exceeding \$1.9 billion in fiscal 2007. For more information, visit www.boschsecurity.us or call (800) 289-0096.

About the Bosch Group

The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. In the areas of automotive and industrial technology, consumer goods, and building technology, some 272,000 associates generated sales of 46.1 billion euros (\$63.2 billion) in fiscal 2007. The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 300 subsidiary and regional companies in over 50 countries. This worldwide development, manufacturing, and sales network is the foundation for further growth. Bosch spends more than three billion euros each year for research and development, and in 2007 applied for just under 3,300 patents worldwide. The company was set up in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861-1942) as "Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering."

In North America, the Bosch Group manufactures and markets automotive original equipment and aftermarket products, industrial automation and mobile products, power tools and accessories, security technology, thermo-technology, packaging equipment and household appliances. Bosch employs approximately 25,000 associates in more than 80 locations throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico, with reported sales of \$9.5 billion in fiscal 2007. For more information on the company, visit www.boschusa.com.

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