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Dallmeier CCTV/IP video surveillance solutions for hospitals

Health is the most valuable possession. Still, even health care professionals working in hospitals have to deal with issues such as theft, disputes over possible malpractice or even the kidnapping of infants. CCTV / IP video surveillance systems by Dallmeier are being used in order to prevent against recurrences of these crimes or at least enable a swift and cost-effective solution.

Perimeter protection

Surveillance systems are already used in perimeter protection: High-resolution surveillance cameras keep an eye on every corner and ensure that no unauthorized person enters the compound. In



most cases, the system will be monitored by a gate keeper via the monitoring software SMAVIA Viewing Client which is very clear and easy to operate, which negates the requirement to employ additional security personnel. Additionally, if a number plate recognition system is connected to the CCTV system, the operation of barriers or traffic lights (i.e. in parking blocks or carriage gateways) can be controlled automatically.

Theft protection

Unfortunately, not all supposed 'visitors' come to the hospital to wish their loved ones a speedy recovery. The openly accessible and mostly unlocked rooms make it easy for potential thieves to steal clinic and/or patient property, which often causes significant financial losses for the hospital. In most cases detailed images from high-quality surveillance cameras in hallways, at emergency exits, near elevators or in the pay office, lead to a positive identification of the perpetrator. Using the SmartFinder, a system for the intelligent search for motion within pictures, the relevant image sequences can be found quickly and easily. Another advantage of Dallmeier recorders and video servers is the fact that the recorded images are accepted for evidential purposes in courts of law (LGC

Forensics certification).

Security in the newborn nursery

Repeatedly, cases of children being kidnapped from newborn nurseries hit the headlines. In order to ensure that not only the newborn infants may doze peacefully but also their parents may sleep in peace, many hospitals employ video surveillance systems. Hence, nobody enters the baby ward unnoticed. The systems' flexibility allow for the monitoring system to be connected to an access control system so that no unauthorized persons gain access to the premises.

Malpractice or not?

Often in the aftermath of failed surgeries or complicated births, the question arises whether or not mistakes were made during the procedure. Any such disputes can be resolved quickly and conclusively thanks to advanced video surveillance. Digital recording systems are frequently being used during surgeries in order to be able to review the whole procedure at a later date. In compliance with sanitary regulations the recorder is not located in the operating theatre but usually in a separated room. Data protection is also guaranteed at all times. With regards to the pre-operation discussion, which must take place before every surgery, the patient is made aware of the possibility to record the surgery and then decides whether or not he or she wants to make use of it.

Furthermore, digital recording systems are being employed in another, highly sensitive field of medicine: Endoscopy. Endoscopy is a diagnostic procedure for the examination of orifices and hollow organs such as stomach, colon or trachea. Using this technology, the doctor is able to diagnose, and if necessary, immediately treat diseases without an invasive surgical procedure. An endoscope is usually composed of a cold-light inspection lamp (so as to prevent the organs from damage due to heat) and a camera. The images are displayed on a monitor, which makes it significantly easier for the doctor to treat the patient since he is able to view clear and magnified images of the relevant organs. The images are simultaneously recorded onto a Dallmeier recorder. Firstly, doctors who were not present when the endoscopy was conducted can use the recordings for a later diagnosis. Secondly, the images serve as teaching material for prospective doctors.

Video surveillance saves lives

Especially in intensive care units, patients are mostly unable to communicate a deterioration of their condition to medical staff. Video surveillance enables staff to monitor patients 24/7 – for in an emergency it is the quick reaction of the treating physicians which determines a patient's chances to survive. In anaesthetic



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recovery rooms the patients' conditions are also simply monitored from the nurses' room.

System requirements

The requirements for video surveillance systems in hospitals are high: Reliability and failure safety, easy operation and control as well as flexibility and adaptability. Additionally, its recordings need to be accepted for evidential purposes in court. Many hospitals do not have the financial resources at their disposal, which are necessary to migrate immediately from analogue to digital recording. Therefore, Dallmeier offers the possibility to gradually adjust the system depending on the individual needs of each hospital. Also, owing to their flexibility, the systems can easily be expanded in the future.

Comprehensive surveillance mechanisms (e.g. dynamic fan control, monitoring of exterior and interior temperature, diagnosis of assembly groups, voltage control, etc.) ensure highest operational reliability and durability of the recorders. They also guarantee that medical staff are free to do what they do best – to take care exclusively of their patients.

Christian Bayer from Icb-Engineering Office Bayer is convinced: "The Dallmeier recorders are highly reliable and the Linux-based operating system guarantees highest failure safety. Furthermore, all Dallmeier components are manufactured in-house. This means that even after several years, replacement parts can be supplied without any problems. Last but not least, the entire product range is perfectly dovetailed."