Industry: Places of Worship Challenge: Helping to deter and detect religious hate crime

A video surveillance solution manufactured by Tyco, the security products division of Johnson Controls and installed by Kings Secure Technologies, is helping deter and detect hate crime directed at worshippers who attend the Gurdwara Singh Sabha in Bradford.

32 high definition Illustra IP network cameras from Tyco have been installed to monitor activity around the site of the Sikh place of worship, in order to identify anyone showing hostility towards the congregation.

The Gurdwara Singh Sabha is sadly not alone in being a place of worship that has been the victim of hate crimes. Throughout society as a whole, 2017 saw over 68,000 acts of aggression in the UK being recorded as being motivated by racial or religious prejudices.

System integrator, Kings Secure Technologies, was one of three companies invited to compete for the contract to install the new video surveillance system following on from a risk assessment carried out by a 'Designing Out Crime' officer from the West Yorkshire police. "The members of the Gurdwara wanted to take advantage of the very latest video surveillance technology in order to provide the police with high quality video evidence of any incidents or suspicious activity," said Bob Forsyth, Chief Executive Officer at Kings Secure Technologies.

"With 32 cameras required in order to ensure there would be no blind spots, this size of a project might normally stretch the budget of a place of worship, even though Illustra cameras are competitively priced. Fortunately, the Gurdwara was able to successfully apply for help with the cost of installing the new system via the security funding scheme available as part of the Government Hate Crime Action Plan. This was possible because the Gurdwara had been the target of religion based hostility."

Read the full story at www.kingsltd.co.uk/topic/highlights/case-studies/





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