

# DDCM Design Video Surveillance Solution for Talladega College

In August 2018, Dr. Billy Hawkins, president of Talladega College in Alabama, invited David Batie, CEO of DD Consulting & Management (DDCM), to visit the campus. The objective was to discuss providing better protection for students, visitors and staff by upgrading and expanding their video security system.

DDCM was recommended to Dr. Hawkins, because they are a strategic solution firm whose primary focus is providing solutions and services for closed-circuit TV (CCTV) and video surveillance. DDCM depends on Arrow Electronics and Marathon Electrical Contractors to keep them on the cutting edge with the latest technologies available, which enhances their continued growth as a company and allows them to remain a trusted advisor to their clients.



## About Closed-Circuit TV

The use of CCTV and video surveillance is expanding globally. Law enforcement agencies, colleges, local schools, businesses and city governments are all grappling with the impact video is having on their IT infrastructures. It is critical that they procure validated solutions that address the underlying system requirements. DDCM's approach to addressing CCTV and video surveillance system requirements provides an open and flexible architecture that allows for several storage strategies.

## What Talladega College Needed

During the kick-off meeting at Talladega College, Dr. Hawkins expressed the desire to improve campus video security. Because the campus is open, it is extremely difficult for the Security Department to monitor visitors and guests as they enter and exit the campus.

Dr. Hawkins stated that:

- > There was a need to upgrade existing cameras in addition to adding new cameras.
- > The campus police department needed to be able to view the campus cameras from their smart devices, as needed.
- > The dorm monitors needed the ability to monitor cameras from their office PCs.
- > There was no centralized video monitoring location.

## Scoping the Situation

Armed with Dr. Hawkins' challenges, DDCM was given the approval to conduct a campus survey in order to better understand the current video security system. It was discovered that the existing solution needed to be updated with state-of-the-art VMS software and cameras.

After completing the survey, DDCM's network, storage and camera engineers devised a CCTV and video surveillance plan that would drastically improve the video security on campus. One thing they knew for certain was a solution had to be created that would improve the backbone of the video security system to ensure 24x7x365 days of uptime.

DDCM knew the coming addition of a new residence hall, student center, basketball arena and museum of art would further stress the existing video system. In addition, it became obvious that if they implemented everything the president wanted, nearly 300 or more video cameras would be needed on campus.

## Solution Details

This preliminary information indicated that the CCTV solution had to be scalable to accommodate the growth on campus. Clarence Williams of DDCM and Seife Teklu of Arrow designed an enterprise solution for the back end using Dell EMC servers and storage. This solution was validated at one of the Arrow Solutions Labs in Atlanta, Ga. The design included:

- > VMS management server
- > Two (2) recording servers
- > Archive storage Dell ME4024

This new equipment would balance the load and provide 30 days of retention as cameras were incrementally added into the system. DDCM's network engineer Raymond Brooks evaluated Talladega's network to ensure its health. DDCM's David Batie and Chris Hambric of Marathon Electrical Contractors then designed the new camera solution, using Axis cameras and Milestone (VMS), which provided campus police with the ability to view cameras on campus, as needed.

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"It was discovered that the existing solution needed to be updated with state-of-the-art VMS software and cameras."

## About DD Consulting & Management

DDCM's approach to addressing CCTV and video surveillance system requirements includes an open and flexible architecture that allows for a myriad of storage strategies. Our solutions provide video management, video backup and long-term archiving. Our goal is to be a trusted advisor to our clients. "The diversity of our

company's solutions and the ability to scale sets us apart from our competition," says David Batie. "We know that one solution doesn't work for all. Our experience with CCTV and video surveillance management software, access control, intelligent storage, digital evidence management software, and analytic software enable us

to deliver the best solutions and address the business and technology needs of our customers. Our strategic partnerships with industry leaders allow us to deliver the most current and cost-effective solutions available."

## Making It Happen

DDCM presented their Campus CCTV solution to the president and administrative staff and received approval to move forward. Here are the steps that were taken:

- > DDCM began the project by planning and designing the CCTV upgrade of existing cameras and network cabling of the dorms and administrative buildings. Additional video cameras were added as required. Interestingly, some of the buildings on campus were built in the 1800s, and they required a little more planning to preserve the historic design of the buildings.
- > The new video management software, enterprise servers and archive storage integrated the existing and new cameras into the CCTV solution.
- > DDCM designed and implemented a video wall at the police station on campus, which allows the police to proactively monitor campus activities around the clock.
- > The museum project required DDCM to work with the architect and contractor to approve the CCTV camera design. This was a bit more complicated, because it included both the CCTV solution, as well as the security system.

When implementation of the system began, the new residence hall had just been completed. With DDCM's team working closely together, they were able to complete the install and implementation of the CCTV solution prior to the students' scheduled move-in date.

DDCM is currently in the planning stages of adding cameras to capture cars and their tags when entering and exiting the campus.

## Dr. William R. Harvey Museum of Art

"It was indeed an honor to be a part of this historical event to launch the opening of the Dr. William R. Harvey Museum of Art (home of the Amistad Murals valued at \$50 million dollars)," says David Batie. "And I want to give a special thanks to our partners — Marathon Electrical Contractors, AXIS, Milestone (VMS), Dell EMC and Arrow — who made this project happen without a hitch and increased the security of the overall campus."



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## Contact Us

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## Arrow Electronics

If you are interested in seeing a demo at one of the Arrow Solutions Labs, [click here](#). Our labs can be accessed virtually or on-site, and they allow resellers to build, test, validate and demonstrate complete technical solutions.

## Results of the Solution

To date, 250 cameras have been installed on the Talladega campus. DDCM will continue to monitor any new requirements, and cameras will continue to be added as needed.

"Talladega College has experienced tremendous growth. We recently opened three new buildings, renovated existing facilities, and launched our first-ever graduate program. We have also had record-high enrollment increases," said Talladega College President Dr. Billy C. Hawkins. "To maintain a safe and secure campus as we continue to grow, we needed to upgrade our security system and add new cameras campuswide. DDCM successfully assessed our concerns, developed a solution and installed a state-of-the-art security system."

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