

Case Study

Covert Surveillance

The Client

Established in 1981, Meridian Services is one of the largest and most reputable licensed investigation and security companies in Western Australia. Meridian Services deliver the highest quality covert surveillance, investigation and security services to a wide variety of clients including; Australia's major insurers, solicitors and Government agencies.

The Challenge

Meridian Services provide video evidence on over 95% of surveillance operations, making it essential to be able to record high quality images. Due to the nature of the business these images need to be captured covertly to maintain the integrity of the operation and shared quickly with other personnel and clients.

The Journey

Previously field based operatives were always used to carry out vehicle-based surveillance, but this approach is costly requiring long hours of surveillance in order to record a very short period of activity. Personnel risk being compromised and are limited in the locations they can reach. Meridian had been looking for an alternative, automated solution to use in field based operations but found lack of power supply, remote access problems and high cost prohibitive.



The Discovery

As the investigation company for the high profile Building Industry "Name and Shame Campaign" Meridian Services evaluates many new products that may assist the industry in reducing theft and vandalism. The concept of the GPAC System™ provided Meridian a viable alternative to hours of physical surveillance.

State of the Art Solution

ETCorp's GFLAK™ (GPAC Fly Away Kit) is a completely portable solution for effectively collecting covert video and sensor data. The unique GPAC System™ software enables real time video and data to be securely accessed via a standard web browser anywhere in the world.

- Built in power and internet connection enabling monitoring in remote locations
- Continual or activity triggered capture removing the need for tedious monitoring
- Secure web browser allows observation and control of sensors and cameras
- SMS or email alerts sent to personnel when activity occurs
- Open standards/vendor neutral operating platform
- Secure logins & data audit trails

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Meridian is now able to set up unmanned, automated surveillance operations, reducing the chance of field based operations being compromised. When an event occurs the footage is reviewed remotely and appropriate action taken. Personnel can quickly and easily move the GFLAK™ case between locations enabling several different sites to be monitored over a short period. An important consideration for Meridian is data integrity of video evidence; an audit trail is created on the GPAC System™ database allowing the information to be later utilised in court, potentially leading to a successful prosecution.

Simple Implementation

Meridian's existing IP cameras and movement sensors were easily connected and configured using the GPAC System™ Plug and Play browser software. Operation of the GFLAK™ is simple and easy to understand, enabling personnel to set up and use the system without detailed technical knowledge. Additional cameras and sensors can be added quickly and easily to the system, allowing flexibility in different situations.



Effective Results

In just a short period of time Meridian have already reaped the benefits of the GPAC System™. Remote surveillance of a building site using the GFLAK™ and cameras hidden in an unmanned vehicle has captured video evidence of theft and vandalism. In collecting evidence for insurance claims, the system has allowed for covert automated operations and reduced the risk of operations being compromised.

“The GPAC System™ is an excellent tool for us, which saves time and money and gives better images and results. Remote access removes the risk of the surveillance personnel being compromised and being portable it can be moved between locations. It's a very versatile product, we can add in new devices dependant on different scenarios”.



The GPAC System™ is more than video; Meridian is already looking at using the system with other devices such as seismic sensors buried in the ground to covertly detect movement. The GPAC System™ has provided Meridian Services with another strategy to use in undertaking covert surveillance and helped solve the problem of capturing high quality images in remote locations.