Providing an Improved Interview Recording Solution.

The Plainfield Police Department looks to IPVideo Corporation’s AVfusion for an improved interview recording solution.

Challenges Overcome:

NEW CAMERAS
On any given day, the Plainfield PD can have investigators conducting interviews throughout five separate interview rooms and wanted an easy way to capture quality audio and video recordings of all interviews.

CENTRALIZED DATABASE
It was important to have a software system that integrated with active directory giving the investigators and officers the ability to view the video recording from a centralized database and log in using their network credentials.

SEARCHABLE RESULTS
The excessive time it took to search through audio video recordings, as the existing platform did not give the officers the ability to search by case number or date and time.

“The precinct has seen quite an improvement in our audio and video quality... We are extremely happy with our decision to install AVfusion!”
-Tom Goral, Plainfield PD

About AVfusion

AVfusion is an easy-to-install, easy-to-use, network-based audio/video recording system designed for police interview rooms, where recording frame-by-frame, synchronized audio and HD video is critical. The system allows law enforcement professionals to quickly launch interview sessions and catalog them with reference-able data, making the search and retrieval of recordings a simple process—all from a secure desktop computer.
Overview

The Village of Plainfield is a prosperous and bustling Village, located 35 miles southwest of Chicago, with a population of approximately 40,000 residents. The Village is centered around the historic downtown which is a vibrant, pedestrian-focused destination for shopping, dining, and entertainment. The National Park Service has named Plainfield’s Downtown Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. This prestigious honor makes Plainfield’s downtown one of only fifteen downtowns in the State of Illinois on the National Register.

Keeping the residents of this historic community safe is the primary goal of the Plainfield Police Department and the staff is committed to serve and protect, promote safety, and enhance quality of life for all. The Patrol Division provides the primary functions of law enforcement and public service through community partnerships, the prevention of crime, apprehension of violators, reporting of incidents, abatement of public nuisances, and the promotion of public health and safety, while safeguarding individual rights. With a commitment to serving and protecting the community, the Plainfield PD sought out a powerful interview recording solution to help investigators quickly search and retrieve recordings in one simple process—from any secure desktop computer on their network.

Challenges & Objectives

With 54 police officers on staff—7 of which handle criminal investigations and conduct interviews regularly—having a centralized video recording platform was a necessity. On any given day, the Plainfield PD can have investigators conducting interviews throughout five separate interview rooms and wanted an easy way to capture quality audio and video recordings of all interviews. Having quality audio was crucial to the department, as the lack of clear audio provided a challenge if recorded statements were submitted and used as evidence.

The existing analog video system that the Plainfield PD had in place did not produce the clear audio and video quality that was required to effectively record an interview. The department also wanted to have two cameras installed per room to help capture clear footage of the interviewee and interviewee and not miss a beat. In addition, it was important to have a software system that integrated with an active directory giving the investigators and officers the ability to view the video recording from a centralized database and log in using their network credentials. Another challenge for the department was the excessive time it took to search through audio video recordings, as the existing platform did not give the officers the ability to search by case number or date and time and they would end up spending too much time searching through footage and audio recordings.

The Solution

The answer was plain and simple for the Plainfield PD: IPVideo Corporation’s AVfusion solution—which is an easy-to-use network-based audio/video recording system designed for police interview rooms where recording frame-by-frame, synchronized audio, and HD video is critical. AVfusion was selected to upgrade the precinct’s older, analog DVR system and implement a new cutting-edge platform that was simple to install, manage, and could be used to train officers.

Each of the 5 interview rooms were equipped with Lource Ceiling Microphones for high fidelity sound, and an Axis F1035E fish-eye and P3365 dome cameras allowing for the full view of the room and a closeup view of the subject to be recorded in HD. The rooms are also equipped with the AVfusion remote start/stop button, allowing the investigators the ability to queue the room on command and also provide the option to reserve the interview room in advance. Each room also included the AVfusion bookmarking key fob which allows the investigator to quickly bookmark moments of importance during the interview, and easily access them on playback.

Investigators and other authorized parties can now observe the interview from a central viewing location or from an authorized computer, while recorded video can be accessed and exported from any workstation on their network with proper security and permission-based protocols.

Results

With AVfusion requiring minimal training and the software installed on each workstation in the precinct, the staff at Plainfield PD were up and running within a few hours thanks to the work of IPVideo and Umbrella Technology, a local systems integrator who handled the installation.

“We are extremely happy with our decision to install IPVideo Corporation’s AVfusion solution at the precinct and have seen quite an improvement in our audio and video quality,” states Tom Goral, Information Technology Specialist at Plainfield PD. “We are extremely impressed with IPVideo’s service and engineering staff who were on call to assist us and resolve any issues that were encountered quickly and efficiently.”

The entire precinct is now able to view recordings from their own desk through a centralized platform. This easy-to-use product allows law enforcement professionals to quickly launch recording sessions, search, and retrieve recordings—all from any secure desktop running AVfusion software; making it the clear choice for Plainfield PD.