

# AMERICAN BANK CENTER NEW VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SOLUTION AND TWO-WAY RADIO SYSTEM FROM BEARCOM ADDS EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY

The American Bank Center is an entertainment complex located in Corpus Christi, Texas owned by the city of Corpus Christi and managed by ASM Global (formerly SMG). This multi-use facility consists of the 10,000-seat American Bank Center Arena, the 2,500-capacity Selena Auditorium, and a 138,000-square-foot American Bank Center Convention Center.

## **Surveillance System Challenges**

As the American Bank Center facilities grew and evolved over the years, a variety of video surveillance cameras and access control and monitoring systems were installed to keep pace. However, these deployments ultimately resulted in a patchwork of technologies, with varying levels of image quality and varying degrees of effectiveness. In addition, the surveillance network was hosted on a shared network that resulted in slow connection speeds due to the network's limited capacity and security firewalls. Further challenges were routinely encountered





because recording was done on 12 separate Network Video Recorders (NVRs) located throughout the facility. When incidents did occur, it required extensive time to search through hours of video, often to discover the desired footage was not available or was unusable.

BearCom was offered an opportunity to propose a new system with the requirement that the proposal must be submitted within 30 days in order to meet a fiscal budget deadline.

#### **Additional Communication Challenges**

American Bank Center had a fleet of more than 100 portable radios that were 20 years old and were in poor condition to support a variety of departments and talk-groups. During large events, these radios frequently failed, resulting in poor communications, compromised staff productivity and safety concerns. Originally, the radio system was acquired from a local vendor through an advertising trade-out agreement. The agreement seemed to make financial sense at the time, but resulted in a provider with little incentive to maintain the system and achieve American Bank Center's satisfaction.

## **The Solution**

American Bank Center management and the city of Corpus Christi recognized it was time to upgrade the center's surveillance and wireless communication systems. Funding was approved to contract the purchase and installation of new state-of-the-art solutions.

BearCom was offered an opportunity to propose a new system with the requirement that the proposal must submitted within 30 days in order to meet a fiscal budget deadline. With the deadline in mind, BearCom was provided full access to conduct an extensive inventory of the existing system and inspect the legacy analog/digital cameras, Network Video Recorders (NVRs), cabling, and the network layout. Working closely with American Bank Center staff, BearCom was able to prioritize and categorize all critical security areas as well as identify new and desirable video scenes.

# → PARKING

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## Avigilon Video Surveillance Proposed to Meet Project Goals and Deliver Advanced Analytics

One week before the deadline, BearCom presented a proposal to American Bank Center for a new Avigilon surveillance system consisting of 116 high megapixel Avigilon cameras, a new dedicated fiber network, dual Command Center monitoring stations, and Avigilon's largest Network Video Recorder with capacity to store up to 90 days of video footage.

With budgetary goals in mind, BearCom proposed to use existing and viable network resources, so long as they did not compromise performance of the new system. Camera connectivity was classified into 3 categories for purposes of labor pricing:



BearCom's new analytics-powered Avigilon video system is simple in its design and very user friendly. With the new dedicated fiber network, the American Bank Center system now has bandwidth to perform unimpeded at optimum levels with additional capacity for years to come. The high megapixel Avigilon cameras provide impressive digital zoom capabilities without the mechanical issues related to traditional Pan Tilt Zoom (PTZ) cameras. Now when incidents do occur, footage can be conveniently sorted via Avigilon analytics and reviewed at either of the two Command Centers, at management desktops, or even remotely from mobile apps.

Additionally, American Bank Center will be implementing BearCom's VADOR (Video Alerts Dispatched Over Radio) technology, which sends (human voice) audio alerts over the radio dispatch system when certain analytic events are triggered. This proprietary technology from

BearCom allows security personnel to be alerted even when they step away from the Command Center.

Using specialized equipment from Avigilon, BearCom was able to cover more visible area with fewer cameras. The resulting cost savings in labor and equipment allowed American Bank Center to leverage the city's available budget and install a new digital radio communications system.

# New Two-Way Radio System Improves Staff Communications

To support the Center's various departments, the new radio solution BearCom deployed is a private on-site Motorola Solutions MOTOTRBO Capacity Plus system with a single repeater operating on 16 radio channels along with 150 portable radios. This radio fleet is large enough to support American Bank Center's largest events and still has capacity for additional rental radio users if needed. The new surveillance system has already proven to American Bank Center personnel its superior performance over their previous system. In the transition phase of the installation, the new cameras caught someone vandalizing the facility. On the previous system, the perpetrator was not identifiable on the footage captured. When the new Avigilon system content was reviewed, the suspect was easily identified and subsequently turned over to the Corpus Christi authorities for prosecution.

To learn more about how BearCom can help you with you with your security needs, contact your local BearCom representative or call 800-527-1670.

# **About American Back Center**

The American Bank Center complex consists of an auditorium, convention center, and arena. The Center originally opened in 1967 as the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center. In November of 2004, the complex underwent a significant renovation and was renamed American Bank Center Convention Center. During that same time, the American Bank Center Arena was completed, and the Selena Auditorium was renovated and connected to the other buildings on the property.









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