

**Featuring**

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**Issue 3 - Spring 05**

# Vidionics

## Security Systems Limited

Providing Turnkey Solutions Since 1973



**The fight against crime in Northwood in London took a huge step forward when the CCTV Cameras installed by Vidionics were switched on.**

Cameras were installed at various locations allowing the operators to sweep in any direction and will keep guard to make sure the residents are safe.

Police can watch the live footage from the cameras at the CCTV control room, in the Civic Centre, Uxbridge, 24 hours a day. The scheme was a result of some creative money management from the Borough's local councillor, Richard Lewis who brought together the Northwood CCTV Scheme.

The cameras selected by Vidionics can produce near broadcast quality pictures during all hours

and are recorded using state-of-the-art digital recorders.

The Councillor who represents Northwood on Hillingdon Council, said: "These cameras are of TV quality, they can zoom in and out and take excellent close up shots. They can be used in court as evidence against people, and will make a big impact in cutting crime and reassuring people." ▶▶▶



**Ready,  
Steady,  
Go!**

Councillor Richard Lewis (left) and the Mayor, Councillor Alf Langley ready to switch on the new CCTV system.



# New CBI Survey on Business Security

## 97% of Companies Express Concern

As with all digital products the units have almost no moving parts and annual maintenance is a thing of past reducing the long term ownership cost to almost zero.

Watch out the the latest generation of *Network Video Recorders* (known as NVR's) soon to hit our shelves. The NVR's will take recording to another level allowing clients to control and access recordings from any location, anywhere. Another benefit is the ability to store the data offsite further enhancing the security and accessibility of such data.

If you are interested in knowing more about how **going digital** can enhance your security then please contact our sales team.

**Readers may be interested to hear that following in-depth telephone research carried out by MORI on behalf of the CBI it was confirmed that security is top of the agenda for corporate Britain with 97% describing it as a matter of great or some concern.**

The types of security incident causing most worries are terrorist action, environmental terrorism and computer hacking. Some of the larger companies also highlight the damage done and threat posed by animal rights extremists.

Nearly two-thirds of companies had a strategic overhaul of their security arrangements this year, with 80% involved in detailed security discussions at Board level. Two in three companies now have a Chief Security Officer, with one in five actually on the Board. Companies aren't just talking about security, they are investing substantial sums of money, typically over £1 million has been spent this year alone, significantly more than five years ago and this is expected to continue to rise.

Yet despite all this high level attention, confidence building business plans and financial outlay, companies admit to feeling vulnerable. 60% said that they had residual concerns about their organisation's state of preparedness, that concern rises to 70% in smaller businesses. The survey comes on the eve of the CBI Annual Conference in Birmingham, where MI5 Director-General Eliza Manningham-Buller will begin a business security session. It makes clear that company concerns take many forms...

- Business continuity and the fact that plans put in place had not been tested (23%)
- Need for constant vigilance and doubts as to their ability detect and respond to threats (23%)
- That existing plans were not quite adequate (20%)
- Vulnerability to IT attacks (15%)
- Threat to transport infrastructure security (7%)
- Safety of employees (7%)

It also highlighted a number of different sources of advice and guidance that companies turned to with around three-quarters calling on providers of security technology companies such as Vidionics and IT consultants.





Andy Gill

Vidionics are pleased to announce the launch of a new Software Maintenance Agreement (SMA) for Cardax based Access Control Products. The release makes available a range of software enhancements.

The package includes comprehensive support for the latest Microsoft® Windows® operating systems and carries out a significant rework of the system's Archiver, including the ability to schedule the archiving of system data so that this happens automatically and frees up space on your server hard drive. Archiving is now quicker, more robust, and it is easier to produce reports containing archived data



Enhancements such as: Security to protect against high network traffic of field controllers, protection against electricity spikes & malicious 'ping attacks' and the ability to disable inactive cards automatically following a user defined period is just a few examples of what the package covers..

*"This really is an excellent all round package and as well as offering great value for money it also provides piece of mind to security managers ensuring the system is up-to-date and protected against today's external attacks"*

## IP Based Solutions on the increase

Over the last year we have seen more and more clients utilise existing WAN/LAN Networks.

The benefits of such a move can lead to not only large cost savings but also provide further advantages in functionality often allowing operators to access the system from anywhere within the organisation. Although we have seen an increase in the use of access control over the network today's IP based cameras can also provide similar benefits in viewing and off site recording of images.

Contrary to popular belief bandwidth usage is not as big an issue as it used to be. Today's cameras can be configured to ensure that network usage is kept to a minimum.

The D4RS from Dedicated Micros is a simple to operate compact VCR and Multiplexer combined.

The unit allows the user to record and burn a CD of the cameras recordings for playback on any computer.



## Going Digital

The death of the Domestic VCR appears to be in sight following the announcement from the UK's largest electrical chain Dixons that they will cease to stock them at the end of last year.

The Security Industry is following this trend as more and more clients are switching from VCR's to a Digital alternative.

The digital multiplexer was introduced around five years ago and it's take up was slow at first as security staff struggled to cope with the then cumbersome and somewhat clunky controls.

Today however things have moved on and the almost childlike operation provides not only image search and retrieve at lightning quick speed but also frame by frame investigation.

### ▶▶▶ Northwood story cont...

To achieve the functionality required by the client the Vidionics engineers took the decision to 'build-in' the technology that controls the camera within the enclosure. This decision allowed less cabling between equipment and led to cost savings in addition to improved reliability.

Commenting on the installation Project Manager Graham Thompson said "When cameras are located at these heights reliability is the number one thought on everyones mind. If the camera fails for whatever reason it is difficult and costly to get to and repair so we bear this in mind when designing such installations"

A fibre optic link was also provided allowing operators to view the signals from Uxbridge CCTV Control Room situated 10 miles away.





## Back Chat

# Expansion Plans

In line with the company's strategic expansion plans Vidionics has recruited two new members to the team.



**Jane fox** now heads up the Accounts Team as *Finance Manager*. Jane has worked in finance for the past 15 years and brings to the Company a wealth of valuable knowledge.

**Kevin Walker** has moved from the projects side of the business to *Technical Sales*. Kevin has been with the company for 6 years as Installation Co-ordinator and has been responsible for a large number of turnkey projects.

# 5,000th Installation!

The completion of a 28 door access control monitoring system at Milford School in Oxford Brooks was a milestone for the business as it marked the companies 5,000th installation.

MD Terry Fagan said *"We are very proud of this unique statistic. There cannot be many security companies who can boast such a large number of completed projects"*



Left to right Dai Rule, Andy Gill (Vidionics), Darren Whitfield (Cardax) and Arne Johanessen (Gallagher).

# Golf Day Raises Cash

Can you remember the smell of freshly cut grass, light winds and long days?

On the 18th June last year Vidionics took on two of it's partners Cardax and Gallagher's for a charity round of golf.

After just two holes it was clear that Tiger Woods need not concern himself just yet! The day raised much needed cash which was distributed to three Charities: the Woman's Breast Cancer, the Blind Association of Scotland and a local Leukaemia charity .

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