



Toshiba IP Cameras Deployed in Effort To Revitalize Historical Columbus, Ohio Neighborhood

Several Toshiba IK-WB21A IP network cameras and a Toshiba DVR have been deployed on the Near East Side of Columbus, Ohio in a pioneering effort to make a historical neighborhood more inviting to retail and residential redevelopment.

Toshiba cameras are installed on six buildings along a two-mile stretch on East Main Street, between 17th Street and Wilson Avenue. Adjacent to downtown Columbus, this area is one of the City's most historic communities with many of its buildings dating back to the late 19th century.

Although crime has been on the decline of late, the neighborhood's rates of gang activity, drug sales and prostitution continue to be among the highest in Columbus. This led local nonprofit Columbus Compact Corp. to request funding from the federal government to install a video surveillance system.

Once funding was granted earlier this year, Columbus Compact Corp enlisted integrator E-One Companies in tandem with Toshiba distributor Communication Supply Corporation (CSC) to design and install the system.

"We strongly encouraged Columbus Compact to deploy wireless mesh networking instead of standard analog CCTV. It is less expensive to install yet provides greater opportunities for future expansion," explained Jim Voneman, Outside Account Manager for CSC Akron.



“By leveraging wireless IP, the mesh eliminated the need for trenching, building-to-building cable runs, or purchasing expensive coax. Plus, we were able to use the PoE-equipped mesh nodes to power the Toshiba cameras and the heater/blower systems inside the protective camera enclosures,” said Voneman.

Finalized in June, the robust system is now streaming real-time video from the Toshiba cameras across a Firetide® wireless mesh network to a Toshiba DVR at the head end located inside Columbus Compact headquarters. Video is constantly monitored by trained members of community watch groups, enabling rapid response to suspicious incidents. Despite being situated in a dense urban environment the wireless network delivers high-resolution images for evidence-grade images.

Shortly after the cameras' installation, these “digital eyes” watching the street captured the attempted shooting of an undercover police officer. Video from the incident was handed over to the police on a thumbdrive for use as evidence against the captured suspect. Twenty other major crimes have been recorded, including the assault of a local woman that was stopped by alerted police.

Columbus Compact Corp recently requested additional funding for the second phase of the project that would mount another twenty Toshiba cameras further down Main Street. New nodes and pre-configured cameras can join the existing mesh automatically.

“Toshiba is proud to have been part of the revitalization of the neighborhood,” said Sergio Collazo, Director of Toshiba Surveillance & IP Video Products.



Toshiba IK-WB21A PTZ Network Camera

- High-speed PTZ functionality
- SuperCCD™ sensor
- 22x optical zoom lens
- SXVGA resolution (1280 x 960)
- 10 BASE-T, 100 BASE-TX (RJ-45) Ethernet
- Built-in slot for SD™ card (record at camera)
- Motion JPEG video streaming
- Up to 30 frames-per-second
- -175° to +175° pan angle
- 300° per second pan speed
- 200° per second tilt speed
- Compact, lightweight, easy to install
- Two year limited warranty