



## Toshiba IK-DP30A Dome Cameras Integrated into Police Observation Devices

Police Observation Devices, better known simply as PODs, were first unveiled in 2003 in a pilot program by the Chicago Police Department. Remote-controlled cameras with zoom and 360° rotation were positioned in weather-proof enclosures to view and record potential crime in the city's high-risk areas. Captured analog video was transmitted via coax cabling back to police headquarters where it was monitored and recorded.

Equipped with flashing blue lights on top and a large police logo, Chicago's PODs provided a highly visible presence that disrupted drug and gang activity. Crime rates in the test areas immediately declined by up to 76 percent, marking a major breakthrough in public safety. Since then, police departments across the country have installed PODs to capture criminal activity or more importantly, to deter it from happening in the first place.

One of the pioneering companies driving POD technology is Comdesco Group.

Headquartered in Chicago, Comdesco originated the ARVIS (Advanced Real Time Video Information System) POD. Hundreds of ARVIS are now in use by police departments from New York to Los Angeles.

John Plese, Vice President of Comdesco explains: "Video data is used primarily as an after-the-fact forensic tool because it is largely recorded at the site. As a result, there is no real time benefit to law enforcement and community safety. Our ARVIS solves this problem by providing a fully integrated live video system, which provides real-time information that can actively protect communities and vital infrastructure more efficiently and cost effectively."



For the past three years, Comdesco has relied upon Toshiba dome cameras for its ARVIS system, most recently the IK-DP30A.

“The Toshiba domes tested well with our encoders and other on-board hardware within the ARVIS that allows integration into virtually any IP-based infrastructure,” said Plese. “The camera’s imaging capabilities are excellent, especially at night.”

Comdesco has deployed IK-DP30A-equipped ARVIS in a wide variety of public safety applications, as well as in privately owned locations such as housing developments and construction sites.

One recent ARVIS installation was at Illinois State Police District 5 headquarters in LOCKPORT, Illinois, where would-be thieves had been breaking into cars parked in the impoundment lot situated alongside the building.

What was ironic was that the cars targeted by the crooks were their own, said Illinois State Police Sergeant Chris Paluch: “We had several car owners jumping the impoundment lot fence to retrieve their vehicles without paying the fines. It became enough of a problem that we decided to install a video surveillance system to keep an eye on the lot, as well as keep an eye on our outdoor firing range and the intersection out front of headquarters.”

Comdesco mounted an ARVIS unit on the roof of District 5 headquarters, adding IP accessibility so that authorized users could access real-time video at their work spaces, from home or even on a Mobil Handheld Unit. Video is recorded on computer hard-drives. Since the ARVIS was deployed the break-ins have stopped. John Plese at Comdesco credits high- and low-tech for the success: “Just as important as the video technology within the enclosure is the high intensity LED lighting and police logo on the enclosure which act as deterrents.

To learn more about the Comdesco ARVIS please call 708-995-2052. Or visit [www.comdesco.com](http://www.comdesco.com).



*ARVIS with IK-DP30A camera installed at private pool by homeowner's association (Wood Dale, IL)*



*Temporary installation of ARVIS with IK-DP30A camera at Rialto Theater (Joliet, Illinois)*



*ARVIS with Toshiba IK-DP30A dome camera installed at townhouse project (Joliet, Illinois)*