



## CASE STUDY



# BlackHawk Improves Site Security with Modern Video Surveillance Solutions

*Leveraging its 35 years of oil and gas experience, BlackHawk Datacom has created a mobile video surveillance solution to help operators reduce their costs while improving site security.*

“ BlackHawk did an excellent job of installing the system. It wasn't long until we had our protocols defined and we had five arrests. Since then word has spread and we have hardly any trespassers. ”

## CLIENT CHALLENGES

At one of the company's properties, the world's best turquoise was being mined. When the price of turquoise skyrocketed, theft started happening immediately. The primary concern was the risk that someone was going to get injured or killed. The particular area where the turquoise was being mined was very dangerous. The Regional Manager took action to deter the thefts by deploying signage, but this action did little to nothing to reduce the activity.

Following their failed attempt at deterring the thefts, they hired local sheriff's officers to patrol the area. Word spread quickly that the property had law enforcement roaming the area. After the first few arrests, the activity disappeared. Although onsite law enforcement was effective, the service was also very expensive. The company was spending \$29,000 per month for their property to be secured by the officers. The cost of law enforcement was unsustainable, and their availability was not reliable.

## HOW BLACKHAWK DATACOM HELPED

During the same time frame, the company Site Manager was having conversations with BlackHawk Datacom, who was working with another of their divisions. BlackHawk Datacom explained that they had developed a trailer-mounted surveillance system known as SiteHawk. The SiteHawk system could be deployed in these remote locations and function under its own power, using a self-contained DC power plant. It also contained a communications platform that allowed the video captured to be relayed real time to the BlackHawk Security Operations Center (SOC). The BlackHawk SOC could provide alert based monitoring on a 24/7 basis. These alerts would be triggered by analytics within the cameras.

The Site Manager decided that he would deploy two SiteHawk trailers. The SiteHawk units were equipped with cameras ideally suited for this terrain and environment. The BlackHawk Datacom technician, Randy, did an excellent job in positioning the systems. Soon after camera set-up, he had sent an email to BlackHawk about the communication protocols. The efforts to define these protocols in advance ensured that Shift Supervisors and the BlackHawk SOC were on the same page.

The BlackHawk SOC and the company's local representatives work together as a team to address any incursions into the property, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The result has been a dramatically improved situational awareness for everyone involved in the operation.

“ Law enforcement was effective, but we couldn't rely on them to always be available to moonlight. BlackHawk is more reliable and a whole lot less expensive. ”

## RESULTS

Since they've deployed the system, they've had contact with eighteen trespassers, three of which had possession of a firearm. Of these trespassers detected by the SiteHawk system, they've made five arrests. According to the company, the systems have paid for themselves already. Now that the news has spread that the technology is installed, activity has been deterred.

The trespasser activity is back to virtually zero, the same level they experienced with law enforcement patrolling the area. However, the costs are dramatically less. Compared to paying the law enforcement officers, the company is saving \$25,500 per month with a system that is more reliable and just as effective.

Another benefit of SiteHawk is the increased production and safety of personnel. Since they can view the video, they're not having to spend much time patrolling the area. They'll still go out once or twice per shift; but before SiteHawk, personnel would roam the area six to eight times per shift.

The benefits to less patrolling by company personnel include keeping employees from being exposed to the illegal activity taking place, a reduction in the probability of a trespasser getting injured or killed, and the company's personnel having significantly more time to concentrate on their daily routine.

In summary, the results of the company installing BlackHawk Datacom's SiteHawk are:

- ▶ Reduction to virtually no trespassers.
- ▶ Decrease in monthly costs of \$25,500.
- ▶ Increased safety for the company's personnel and trespassers.
- ▶ Increased production by the company's personnel on their primary purpose.