

ITM and CCR: Coming of Age in Highway Safety

Thousands of Miles of Highway Images Now Accessible with a Mouse Click

Key Features

- SecurOS Enterprise
- Video Analytics
- Traffic Monitoring
- License Plate Recognition
- Failover Support
- Distributed Architecture
- Analog / IP / Hybrid Camera Capability
- Intelligent PTZ Capability

Background

CCR is one of the largest private infrastructure groups in the world, involved in the highway concession, passenger transportation, and environmental vehicular inspection sectors. CCR is currently responsible for several thousand miles of highways within Brazil that is under concession in the States of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Paraná.

Challenges

Related to highway safety, CCR had some challenges related to a monitoring system that covers seven highways that stretch thousands of miles and in some cases are thousands of miles of apart. One of the big problems was the decentralized system they had and the need to share more highway video and related information with other monitoring staff. Under their old system, images were limited to a local monitoring facility, which meant one had to copy tapes and send them to other relevant staff in other locations. Recording video was also an issue as they had lots of recording failure, a very big issue in terms of overall safety and legal issues.

Another challenge was the need to integrate all the different highway monitoring systems onto one management system.

They needed a system that could easily deliver video information internally as well as externally (such as to TV stations and websites).

Why iTM

Open platform technology was a key issue here, as they needed a lot of customization. CCR found that many of the big names in the industry had a "take it or leave it" approach in regards to their software. However, with Intelligent Technology Management (iTM), CCR found a company whose software platform offered true open architecture and professional staff who were more than willing to custom fit a solution for their needs.



The Solution

CCR found its optimum solutions working with three main companies: ITM, IBM, and BARCO. With iTM, CCR was able to work on a one-on-one basis to address the specifics of their video management and software challenges. Due to the fact that this involved a very large deployment with hundreds of cameras and thousands of miles of highways, they wanted to be very careful with how they proceeded and what technology they adopted.

The difference between then and now is that the centralization has increased our overall efficiency and security, which in turn helps our bottom line.

*Wanderlei Ramos Jorge,
Manager of Technology
and Innovation for CCR*



The Results

CCR has experienced a quantum change for the better in their overall monitoring and management capabilities. From a situation where images were only available at local monitoring stations, and copies had to be shipped to other outlets, they have progressed to the current mode where one can easily access video from the central monitoring station that is now available. One can manually login in the event of an incident and easily access video information. While each highway has its own infrastructure, from central headquarters one can view any of the highways.

The ability to easily monitor traffic from any location has increased automation and means less overall need for hands on staff. This in turn has lowered overall expenditures.

The advanced video management features of iTM have allowed CCR to easily deliver video both internally and externally (to websites and TV stations). The ability to provide live video has resulted in additional revenue for CCR as they are able to sell this footage to TV stations. Because of the built-in video analytics of iTM SecurOS Traffic Monitoring, there is no need for additional hardware, such as road sensors, to detect incidents or objects on the roadway. The advanced algorithms of iTM also translate into highly intelligent LPR, with an unprecedented accuracy and where the system clearly identifies rules, so that, for example, a "B" is not mistaken for an "8" when the plates start with letters, and where plates can be read horizontally as well as vertically, and in the most trying of environmental conditions.

Intelligent storage handled by IBM includes three tiers, which are short term/high frame rate, long term/low frame rate and exported incidents that must be bookmarked and stored for 5 years. ISS supports the overall management of these videos, particularly related to bookmarking key events.



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