PUBLIER POLICE FORCE REDUCES INCIDENT RESPONSE TIMES WHILST INCREASING OFFICER AND PUBLIC SAFETY

WITH HIGHLY ENCRYPTED, INTEGRATED MOTOTRBO™ NETWORK AND DMRALERT®

PUBLIER

Publier is a small, dynamic French town, situated on the shores of Lake Geneva between Thonon and Evian. There is plenty on offer for its 7000 strong population, including many well-known sports facilities, such as the Cité de l’Eau aquatics centre. Publier also boasts 130 hectares of green spaces and numerous walking trails, as well as three schools and a range of industries and businesses. It is home to the Evian bottling plant.

CHALLENGE

Although Publier local police has had access to the nationwide shared public safety network (INPT) for many years, its officers traditionally used mobile phones to communicate between themselves. However, its recent significant growth, with more officers and police cars now patrolling the streets, resulted in the need to deploy a reliable internal radio network for immediate, group-wide communications. Publier wanted a system which could be linked to the INPT network and provide robust coverage across its hilly terrain. Publier Town Hall decided to work with long-term Motorola Solutions partner Sysoco. Sysoco is now part of Axians, the Information and Communication Technologies brand of VINCI Energies group, and has an office in nearby Annecy. Axians proposed a UHF MOTOTRBO system, together with the enhanced GPS tracking system DMRAlert STREET and its alarm system VigiAlert.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Organisation: Publier Local Police
Partner: Axians Réseaux Mobiles Privés (Private Mobile Networks)
Industry: • Local government • Public law and order
Motorola Solutions Products: MOTOTRBO system comprising:
• SLR 5500 Two-Way Repeater
• DP3661e Portable Radios
• DM4401e and DM4601e Mobile Radios
• IMPRES™ batteries and chargers
"We’ve recently grown our team and so decided to deploy a MOTOTRBO system, in conjunction with our partner Axians. We needed reliable, clear internal communications to keep our officers informed and safe. However, this isn’t just a radio system. We’ve got DMRAalert for the control room to locate and track officers, deploy them efficiently and check we are patrolling all areas; and via VigiAlert we receive instantaneous, secure and precise alarms from la Cité de l’Eau leisure complex; and finally, the integration with the INPT system enables open communications with the National Police. All this means a faster, more efficient, coordinated incident response; and that’s what community policing is about.”

Emmanuel Mahieu, Head of Department, Publier Local Police

SOLUTION

Firstly, Axians installed an SLR 5500 repeater in the church bell tower, conveniently situated half way between the shores of Lake Geneva and the upmost reaches of Publier. This repeater provides reliable network coverage across the town. The officers were equipped with DP3661e portable radios with IMPRES batteries. They wear the radios clipped to their bullet proof vests. A DM4601e mobile radio, meanwhile, was installed in the lead police car. At the station, as well as the IMPRES chargers, Axians has deployed three DM4401e mobile radios; two for DMRAalert STREET, one as a DMR gateway to the INPT system. The latter allows officers to receive live communications and information with alerts from the National Police, as well as to make emergency calls on the INPT network. These communications are all on their third channel. Two other channels are also used: the first connects to the relay system for general communication with all radios, and the second is a direct, radio-to-radio system which officers can use when the relay channel is busy.

The control room uses the DMRAalert STREET management tool to track and map its GPS enabled MOTOTRBO radio fleet with pinpoint precision, down to street level; it can also see if certain areas have not been visited as frequently, and direct patrols accordingly. Controllers can manage their teams efficiently, organise an effective response and send out individual or group calls and SMS. In case of an emergency, controllers can immediately locate any officers who have used their radios’ emergency button to summon help, using the Transmit Interrupt function to clear a channel if necessary.

The force is also benefitting from the VigiAlert alarm system, which Axians has integrated into the MOTOTRBO network. It is currently deployed at the Cité de L’Eau, with a series of emergency buttons installed at the three different receptions, as well as a remote control which enables the user to raise an alert from anywhere within the complex. These alerts are sent as text instant messages directly to the radios, so officers can attend quickly and at the right location, as the Cité de L’Eau covers a significant area. The town hall now plans to roll out VigiAlert to its CCAS (Communal Centre for Social Action) and its social welfare office; cameras are not permitted in these offices, but the presence of an alarm system for rapid intervention in case of incidents will reassure employees.

BENEFITS

Emmanuel Mahieu explains how the integrated, highly secure MOTOTRBO network is benefitting his officers on a daily basis: “When there’s an incident, we can immediately reach and inform the closest teams, so they are prepared and on the scene within minutes, liaising between themselves. Or if we’re tracking a vehicle, for example. The fact we can coordinate efforts with the national police via the INPT interoperability has enabled a more effective, coordinated response with a higher success rate. And the robust communications help us to keep our officers safe when they’re in the field. That’s key. So, you can see, we really do rely on our MOTOTRBO system.”

The ease and speed of integration with the INPT and VigiAlert systems was also key to the success of the whole project, as it seamlessly extends the usage of the network and enhances public and officer safety. Moving forward, Publier Town Hall will roll VigiAlert out to other sites and will keep looking at ways it could develop and enhance its system, such as creating activity reports in DMRAalert.

Applications:
- DMRAalert STREET
- Encrypted voice communications and SMS
- GPS tracking and geolocation
- Connection to the nationwide shared public safety network (INPT)
- Integration with VigiAlert, with an extra encryption layer (VigiAlert Frames)

Advantages:
- The MOTOTRBO network offers reliable coverage, strong encryption and crystal-clear audio across Publier (8km²)
- The radios are robust, compact and easy-to-use, with an excellent battery life
- The system offers a very high level of security thanks to the AES 256-bit encryption
- GPS geolocation tracking and effective internal team communications ensure swifter, coordinated incident response, together with improved officer safety
- The Integration with the INPT system allows connected communications with the national police force
- VigiAlert delivers reliable, secure alerts as direct links between the Cite de l'Eau and the local police, for faster, targeted interventions

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