

CorrectionalNEWS

design+construction+operations

MAY/JUNE 2018 | VOLUME 21, NUMBER 3

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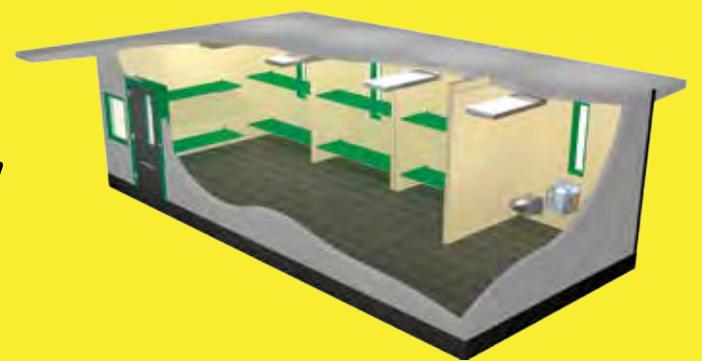
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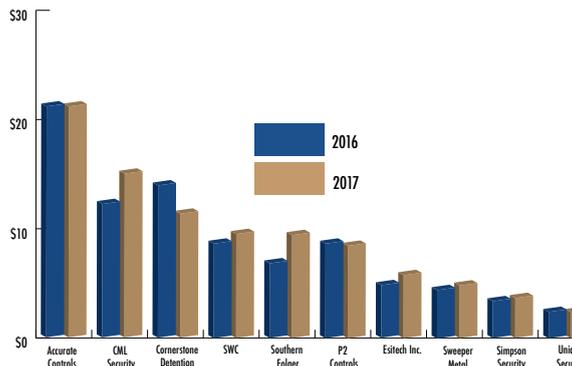
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Sessions & Kushner Square Off Over Criminal Justice Reform

WASHINGTON — White House Senior Adviser Jared Kushner finds himself at odds with Attorney General Jeff Sessions as he soundlessly pursues a bipartisan effort toward criminal justice reform.

Despite the administration's "tough-on-crime" reputation, Kushner met with Senators Chuck Grassley, Republican of Iowa, and Dick Durbin, an Illinois Democrat, as well as Utah Republican Sen. Mike Lee on March 29 to discuss

legislation.

On Capitol Hill, dozens of senators have sponsored a bill to change mandatory-minimum sentences and to alleviate drug laws to ensure that non-violent offenders do not receive

protracted sentences. The bipartisan effort seeks to overhaul the nation's criminal justice system by actively working to reduce the recidivism rate and shift the focus of operation methods toward rehabilitation rather than punishment.

The bill also includes provisions to develop greater education, worker training, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation services in corrections.

Facing Sessions and his efforts to further the war on drugs and push for harsher sentencing, Kushner has been able to reach an agreement with the attorney general: Kushner can continue his pursuit of transforming corrections, while Sessions will continue to position the administration fervently against any expansive overhaul.

Sessions criticized the bill in February in a letter to Congress, stating it "would reduce sentences for a highly dangerous cohort of criminals, including repeat dangerous drug traffickers and those who use firearms," reported The New York Times.

A group of 60 civil and human rights organizations sent a letter to Senate leaders late February expressing their opposition to the singular prison reform approach being endorsed by the White House, stating that it will not create a meaningful impact toward true reform.

"Any approach that does not include sentencing reform will be insufficient to meet the challenges we face," the letter read. "It is up to Congress to continue to advance frontend and backend reform designed to improve both federal sentencing laws and the functioning of the federal prison system."

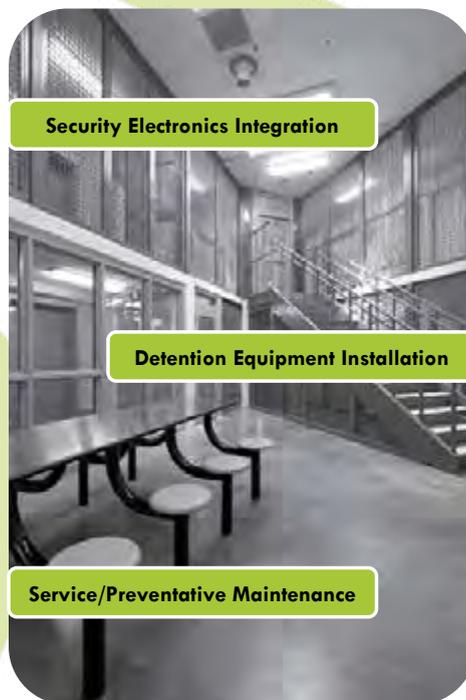


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KDOC Chooses Team to Expand Lansing Campus

LANSING, Kan. — Everyone can use a little elbow room, and the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) will bring more to inmates soon enough in the form of a new 396,719-square-foot expansion at the Lansing Correctional Campus.

To manage and design the facility, KDOC has tapped JE Dunn Construction, a large-scale domestic general building contractor with offices in 21 locations across the nation. Partnering with JE Dunn will be DLR Group, which will serve as the project's architect and engineer from the national firm's Overland Park, Kan., office. The architecture firm has enjoyed a tripartite partnership with JE Dunn and private correctional facility contractor CoreCivic, headquartered

See [Lansing](#), page 12

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A/E/C

Hugh Lester, PhDc, a leading criminal justice planner and designer, has joined the New York City architecture, design and planning firm of **Urbahn Architects** as senior justice planner. Lester's current projects at Urbahn include the



Lester

\$262 million New York City Juvenile Justice Facilities Redevelopment Master Plan that encompasses phased renovations and expansions of four existing facilities in the Bronx. Lester's responsibilities include applying planning and design expertise to juvenile justice, jail, prison and in-custody courthouse facilities as well as planning and design leadership for secure facilities. Lester's 26-year career encompasses more than \$1.2 billion worth of security, detention, correctional and criminal justice facilities throughout the United States and overseas, totaling more than 3.2 million square feet. Prior to joining Urbahn, Lester worked in senior design and planning positions at Dewberry, DMJM H&N/AECOM, HSMM/AECOM and SFS Architects.

DLR Group announced that Justice+Civic Design Leader **Andrew Cupples**, FAIA, was recently elevated to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) College of Fellows. Fellowship is one of the highest honors that the AIA awards, celebrating AIA members who

have made significant contributions to the profession and to society, who exemplify architectural excellence and whose work has profoundly influenced the built environment. Cupples works from DLR Group's Los Angeles office. He joined DLR Group in 2012 and has been in practice for 42 years. Cupples' work has inspired a new wave of understanding that better conditions for the incarcerated lead to better outcomes for the inmates and, in the long run, for society. Cupples will receive the Fellowship medal during the Investiture of Fellows Ceremony at the AIA Conference on Architecture 2018 in New York City on June 22.



Cupples

Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm, announced that **David Huey**, AIA, LEED AP, has been named president of Dewberry Architects Inc. He will oversee a national practice of more than 135 design professionals in multiple offices from coast to coast. Prior to his promotion, Huey served as senior principal and director of Dewberry's



Huey

Tulsa, Okla., office, where he has been based since joining the firm in 1986. In his new role, he will continue to lead Dewberry's healthcare facilities initiative, and will also oversee the firm's work in the education, criminal justice, municipal, public safety, institutional and commercial market segments. Huey has been practicing architecture for 36 years and holds a master's degree in architecture and a bachelor's degree in architectural studies from Oklahoma State University.

Hill International, a global leader in managing construction risk, announced the addition of **Imad B. Ghantous**, PE, as the firm's senior vice president of International Business Development. Ghantous will be based out of the firm's Dubai office.

During his 35-year career in the engineering and construction industry, Ghantous most recently served as regional director of operations, EMEA, at International Bechtel Co. Ltd. He previously worked for AECOM as a senior vice president and managing director with responsibility for the Buildings and Places and Project Management, MENA.



Ghantous

Companies

Reston, Va.-headquartered **GTL** announced that **Deb Alderson** has been named as CEO, joining the company on April 2. Alderson brings a history of past success and leadership to the company, most recently as CEO of Sotera Defense Solutions, which was acquired by KeyW Corporation in March 2017. Alderson has spent the majority of her career in government services. In addition to Sotera, she served in leadership roles with SRA International, SAIC and Anteon. Among other accolades, she earned a Fed 100 award from Federal Computer Week as a leader who affects change, progress and efficiency in determining how the federal government acquires, develops and manages information technology. Alderson brings a proven history of integrating acquired companies to drive business success to GTL, following a period when the company has executed a number of strategic moves to bolster its technology leadership position in the corrections industry.



Alderson

TrueLook, a national leader in providing construction cameras

combining live jobsite viewing, project time-lapsing and HD security recording, has hired software engineer **Jeff Harbert** as its new operations manager as the company undergoes dynamic growth. He is one of three key new hires. Harbert prides himself on problem solving, a skill honed in software development and implementation. He has served as a director of information technology and an IT network coordinator for pathology companies. He has also managed his own IT support business.



Harbert

TrueLook also hired software developer **Patrick Brown**, an accomplished code and database developer, adding to the company's ever-growing workforce, which has quadrupled over the past few years. Its growth comes on the heels of several technological advancements, including drone services, time-lapse upgrades, 24/7 security recording, and new indoor and outdoor camera options. The construction camera company is now saving 2 million images every week, with more than 300 million permanently saved images stored. That's up 63 percent from the same time period last year.



Brown

Another addition to the **TrueLook** team is **Scott Dowd**, a new sales representative for the company with experience in marketing technology-driven products and software. As a pioneer of construction camera technologies for more than 20 years, the company's cameras capture more than 50,000 time-lapse photos every day across the U.S. and Canada, and have delivered more than 2 billion images to customers.



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The new detention center has a 911/dispatch center and a sheriff's office.

New Miami County Detention Center Debuts in Downtown Paola

By Rachel Leber

PAOLA, Kan. — Construction on the Miami County Detention Center in Paola was completed in November 2017. The new detention center has a 911/dispatch center and a sheriff's office. It is a significant improvement, expansion and upgrade to the old facility, which was built in 1967.

Goldberg Group Architects, PC (GGA) based out of St. Joseph, Mo., was the architect on the project, with Loyd Builders serving as the construction manager, based out of its Ottawa, Kan., office. Design on the 43,700-square-foot project started in spring 2015, with an overall budget of \$18 million. The new facility is three stories high.

GGA first interviewed with Miami County back in 2006, but wasn't hired as the project's architect until eight years later, according to Lawrence Goldberg, president and senior principal at GGA. Although the exterior of the Miami County Detention Center "echoes the architecture of a bygone era," according to Goldberg, much has changed in the interim in the world of technology and design as far as correctional facilities are

concerned.

The goal of the project was to increase the capacity and efficiency of Miami County's detention facilities as well as to provide space for related law enforcement services and have them housed all in one building, which is located in downtown Paola, according to Goldberg.

"What became apparent from the selection of this particular site was that the project exterior would need to blend with the red brick and the cast stone of the courthouse if the project was to be accepted by the community," said Goldberg. "What the project came down to was either a low-rise pre-engineered building located out on the highway outside of Paola or a mid-rise solution situated next to the beautiful courthouse. When county officials selected the downtown Paola site, we knew we needed to develop a special exterior with historical materials, details and proportions."

The detention center has 96 beds in the general population category — a vast improvement from the 24 to 26 beds of

See *D/C*, page 13

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The detention center has 96 beds in the general population category — a vast improvement from the 24 to 26 beds available in the previous jail.

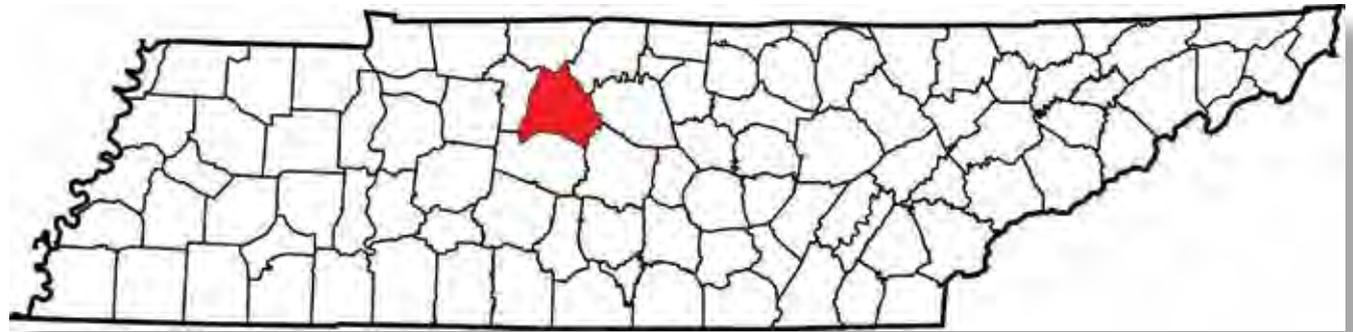
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Davidson County Unveils Release Program Reform

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Davidson County Sheriff's Office (DCSO)-controlled Pre-Trial Release (PTR) program in Tennessee began carrying out new procedures after a nearly two-year review, expanding a program with the initiative to grant "low-risk" defendants to make bail without payment.

The Davidson County PTR program has operated for approximately 30 years as a 24/7 operation with four case managers. The average length of PTR participation is one to six months, with the forfeiture rate currently at 4 percent. The initiative comes with the vision to restructure the system and ensure that individuals won't be kept behind bars simply because they cannot financially secure their freedom, according to a statement.

Those who participated in the evaluation process include stakeholders such as General Sessions Court judges, the Davidson County District Attorney General's Office, Public Defender's Office, Metropolitan-Nashville Police Department, Criminal Court Clerk's Office and the DCSO. Because of these studies, the new reform will broaden guidelines for PTR qualification, permitting more individuals to take part



The Davidson County Sheriff's Office (DCSO)-controlled Pre-Trial Release (PTR) program in Tennessee began carrying out new procedures after a nearly two-year review.

in the program.

A grant totaling \$350,000 over a span of three years was awarded by the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs, funding technical assistance through the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI). CJI examined criminal histories of Davidson County arrestees over a three-year period, who appeared in court and who are likely to be involved

in further criminal activity while out on bond. Furthermore, DCSO staff studied individuals who never made bond or PTR, their indigency status and how it correlates to the individual's inability to make payment.

"There has never been any proof that someone's ability to pay is a predictor they are more likely to show up for court," Davidson County Sheriff Daron Hall

said in a statement. "There is research, however, that shows people who remain in jail are more likely to be found guilty and serve more time. That means the system is putting a greater burden on financially disadvantaged individuals."

CJI developed a scoring system to determine the risk of a defendant, focusing on two main parts: who is likely to return to court and who is likely to be involved with criminal activity while awaiting their court date. Both commissioners and judges will use the tool as part of



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See Davidson, page 19 ➔



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Finding the Solution to Contraband Cellphones

By Scott Kernan

The Department of Justice (DOJ), with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)

and law enforcement from throughout the state conducted a press conference on Feb. 14, 2018. During it, U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott announced the multi-jurisdictional arrests of 19 Northern Hispanic gang members operating in

counties throughout the state and in both Pennsylvania and Oregon. U.S. Attorney Scott emphasized that U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and President Donald Trump are stepping up efforts to mitigate violent crimes



Kernan



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across the country. These arrests included indictments for drug trafficking, gun possession and other crimes. It also included two inmates housed at Pelican Bay State Prison in Crescent City, Calif., who advanced this criminal network from the confines of their prison cells using contraband cellular devices. Sadly, this investigation regarding murder, drugs and violence is not uncommon, nor is the reality that gangs are controlling this menace on society by using contraband cellphones smuggled into the institutions largely by corrupt staff.

My Department of Corrections (DOC) colleagues across the country have, for many years, been advocating for a technological solution to this all too real threat. I had the honor of accompanying them to meetings with the DOJ and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to advocate for immediate solutions to this undisputable problem. The DOC leaders across the nation have been calling on the cellular carriers to put the considerable profit they receive from contraband cellphones aside and come to the table to identify solutions and ultimately save lives. To this point, they have refused to cooperate.

Like any lost phone, the cellular carriers can identify contraband cellphones by their unique identifier and simply turn off the device. They can hide behind the legal façade of requiring a court order, or deflect by saying jamming technologies bleed into nearby neighborhoods, or even say that such steps are prohibited by the Constitution. But the fact is there exists very tangible steps the cellular carriers can take to mitigate the national, and even international, threat posed by these sophisticated criminal enterprises.

See **Board Member Spotlight**, page 12 ➔

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Board Member Spotlight, from page 10

These threats have been linked to gang members inside the prisons ordering assaults against law enforcement officials, terrorist activity and direct violent crimes against correctional staff and the public.

CDCR recognized the threat of contraband cellphones many years earlier. While the technology is still maturing, CDCR contracted with its technology provider as part of its existing inmate/ward phone contract

inmates' families via higher rates for legal telephone calls or suggest that taxpayers of California bear the burden. It was an easy decision to not spend the millions of dollars chasing a technology that was only partially successful at combating this widespread contraband cellphone issue. During our trip to Washington, D.C., we were introduced to beacon technology. The vendor explained that the phone providers could provide a software update to all phones, and those relatively inexpensive beacons could be strategically placed throughout the

of contraband cellphones in the system. However, these more than 12,000 phones discovered in our prisons represent an \$18 million black market value that we know about. The black market is so lucrative that being fired, or even prosecuted, is no price to pay for the potential profits. In a law enforcement profession that prides itself in protecting public safety, I have to admit that this minor fraction of staff is not only jeopardizing public safety, but also advancing the power of criminal gangs in real time and putting the lives of their colleagues in grave danger.

There will always be courageous law enforcement efforts to thwart out criminal activity, as proudly introduced by U.S. Attorney Scott in his press conference, but government intervention and cellular carrier solutions can greatly enhance these efforts. The staff who dedicate their lives to protect our safety deserve it, and lives will be saved.

Scott Kernan is the secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Lansing, from page 4

in Nashville, Tenn., for a quarter century. Joining this troika is Lawrence, Kan.-based TreanorHL, which will provide additional architectural and civil engineering services.

The expansion of the Lansing facility will bring additional housing units and inmate beds as well as new intake units. Key features of the expanded facility will include two housing units — a 1,920-bed maximum- and medium-security unit and a 512-bed minimum-security unit — medical services (with improved design for an aging population), food service, “spiritual life” and staff support areas as well as indoor and outdoor recreation areas, according to the KDOC website.

The design-build project includes ample site circulation and parking and improved lighting and security. KDOC is leasing the facility from CoreCivic, and the design-build process is expected to take two years.

In California, the worth of a smuggled cellphone can be as much as \$1,500 per phone.

to implement “managed access” to all CDCR institutions. Implementation proved to be very challenging to both CDCR and the technology company, and the maintenance and upkeep of implemented managed access systems required costly unanticipated upgrades to address advancements in cellular phone technologies as well as frequent unannounced modifications to cellular towers. It became very evident that the costs to keep up with managed access was prohibitive for the technology company and would be an ongoing expense to CDCR's budget that could not be sustained in the future. I was not willing to pass on these increased costs to

prison. When a contraband cellphone comes in contact with the beacons, the phone is rendered inoperable. Be it beacon, jamming or lost phone database solutions the public threat is so profound that it requires the government to act and cellular carriers to help.

In finding that solution, prison leaders must also admit that they have a very real problem with staff smuggling contraband onto prison grounds. In California, the worth of a smuggled cellphone can be as much as \$1,500 per phone. CDCR confiscated more than 12,000 contraband cellphones in 2017. The discovered phones only represent a fraction of the total number

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June 21-23, 2018: **AIA Conference on Architecture 2018**; New York; Visit: www.conferenceonarchitecture.com

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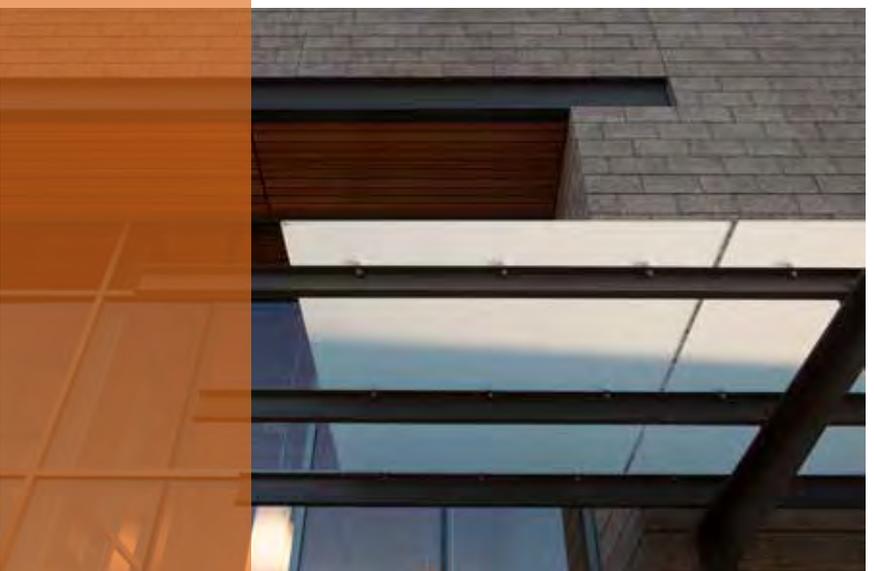
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D/C, from page 8

the previous jail. Additional housing is provided through special needs such as intake, medical and segregation, according to Goldberg. General population housing is arranged in a radial-podular layout around a single housing control, providing direct visual control into each of the eight housing pods. In addition, GGA paid attention to lighting, sound acoustics and creating aspects of privacy, such as showers in each individual cell, when designing the facility.

The new detention center has a medical space with its own observation cells as well as space for exams and for when detainees are ill. Right next to the medical space is what is referred to as “swing” pods, according to Goldberg. “The term ‘swing pods’ describes the design choice of building many smaller cells rather than larger ones in order to give greater flexibility to the facility in terms of how to use those pods,” said Goldberg. “If more sick beds are needed, they can be used for medical. If more observation cells are needed, then they can be used as such.”

In terms of mental health, some of the swing cells may be used as such, but often those aspects are taken care of during intake and booking in padded cells with direct visual control, according to Goldberg.

Each of the general population housing pods contain rear-chase modular steel cells, which allow for access behind the cells for maintenance of operating cell systems such as ductwork, plumbing and electrical by county building staff without having to enter the pods themselves when occupied.

The steel-chase also created about 4 to 5 feet of physical separation between the outside perimeter of the steel cells and the actual exterior walls of the building. This space and separation between the cells and exterior walls allowed the architectural team greater design latitude to create a unique, historical exterior that matched the nearby courthouse, according to Goldberg. Matching brick, stone bands and accents, carefully proportioned windows and decorative pediments were used to create a richer look and feel than would have otherwise been possible with more traditional masonry cell construction.

“Balancing all of the different construction components involved in successfully building a law enforcement project is challenging,” said Kevin Rost, senior architect at GGA. “But the array of detention equipment products we have

access to are key to achieving an end result like the Miami County project. It just wouldn’t be possible without today’s modular steel cells with their pre-wiring, showers and rear-chase technology.”

In addition to the challenge of matching the downtown aesthetic, building the new detention center in the downtown location raised a number of safety and security issues, according to

Bridget Mallin, project manager at Loyd Builders. Maintaining a secure site to keep the public safe, work hours, limited laydown area and access for material deliveries were top priorities for the construction team, according to Mallin.

“Add to that connecting the new structure to the historic courthouse with an underground tunnel — this project had it all,” said Mallin. “If not for the

high level of communication among the project team, it would have been much more difficult to complete.”

While the design team did not wish to undergo the extensive process of getting LEED certified, sustainability and efficiency was still a priority. Both passive and active energy efficiency

See **D/C, page 33** ➔

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With Seasoned Staff, US Detention Solutions Emerges into the Market

By Torrey Sims

Boulder, Colo.-based US Detention Solutions (USDS) has been meticulously filling key roles as the company begins to expand operations in the detention equipment industry. A bit of background first: The company began in 2017 when H. David Booker and his wife/business partner, Marianela Booker, saw that there was a “service void” in the industry that they believed could be filled by introducing USDS to the marketplace. In addition, the connection to the detention industry had already been established back in 2014 when Booker accepted a project manager role with, at the time, a major player in the detention equipment contracting field. Prior to working directly for the detention industry, Booker had built up a career as a successful construction project manager that spans nearly a quarter century. In his current role as president at USDS, he is responsible for both the strategic direction and daily operations of the company. Correctional News spoke with Booker to gain some insights on the work the company has been involved in, the challenges he has faced since entering the market last year and where he sees USDS going in the future.

Q: *Being that the detention industry is rather small and unique in nature, how were you able to recruit and build such a knowledgeable staff?*

Booker: The team at USDS has nearly a century of combined direct experience in the detention industry. I have been working as a construction project manager for the majority of my career, with the latter portion directly in the detention industry. All of our installation crew has at least 10 years direct industry experience. For example, Chad Overton, the company’s general superintendent, has 18 years of experience and is very well-known and highly respected by those who have worked with him. He is fully responsible for all boots on the ground and manages all day-to-day install operations. My wife and business partner (Marianela Booker) is an accountant and has many years of successful office management experience for primarily engineering and oil and gas firms. She is uniquely capable and has the reigns of the business back-of-house essentials. Also, new to the team as of early 2018 is Phillip Escobedo. Escobedo serves as the business development director and has allowed USDS to spearhead a sales and marketing initiative and backfill support for our clients’ projects large and small. The USDS team is determined to venture out as a new company because we firmly believe we bring a fresh perspective and an eagerness to deliver excellent finished product quality and customer service to the detention industry.

Q: *Explain the complete list of services USDS provides and also some key projects the company is currently pursuing.*

Booker: We are a full-service detention equipment contractor. We can provide engineering, project management and installation services for all detention needs. We provide and install hollow metal frames and windows, hardware, glazing, mesh, security ceilings, transaction barriers, padded safety cells, detention equipment and furniture. Through our channel



Booker



US Detention Solutions began business in 2017 and has since grown its team and presence in the corrections industry.

partners, we are also able to offer fully complete, turnkey security systems as well as ongoing service and maintenance of existing security systems. We already have worked on an ICE facility in Del Rio, Texas and a U.S. Marshal’s facility in Richland, Wash., and we are currently fully engaged in the Harris County Joint Processing Center in Houston.

Q: *What have been some of the biggest challenges as a new company in the detention industry?*

Booker: I would definitely say the biggest challenge is breaking down barriers. When one starts a new venture, there are always barriers to success. From industry players looking to keep you out, to governmental barriers, to financing and other resource barriers — we’ve experienced them all. We just want to do what we do to the best of our abilities and let the market dictate the winners. Fortunately, we have fostered relationships with some of the biggest names in the industry, and while we know there will be more challenges, we will tackle them head on when they arise.

Q: *What progress have you made as a company, and how would you compare where you are now to when you started last year?*

Booker: First and foremost, we have put together a very strong team capable of delivering as promised to our clients. In addition, our business model has

remained the same: understand our clients’ needs, provide superior support, remain streamlined in our operations and do what we say we are going to do. We are confident we have laid the groundwork to be very successful in delivering projects on time, on target and on budget.

Q: *What have been your company’s biggest successes thus far, and what specific goals do you have for the rest of 2018?*

Booker: I believe our greatest success to date has been being invited to participate in Southern Folger’s Detention Equipment Contractor Certification program. It is an absolute honor to be recognized so quickly for our expertise and our commitment to excellence in execution. In addition, USDS has full access to Coastal Detention’s portfolio of products. Our outlook for 2018 is very optimistic as the market is strong. There is significant capital being spent on new facilities as well as retrofitting facilities. Our people and our processes coupled with tremendous need for quality implementation services will keep us very busy throughout the year.

Q: *Why do you think now is the time to bring the company to the marketplace?*

Booker: We believe there is a service void in the market and that we are well poised to fill it. We understand the needs of our clients and are totally dedicated to delivering excellent results every time for every client. Organizationally, we have laid the foundation to increasingly take on work and are prepared for measured growth. We are streamlined in our processes and can deliver superior quality at competitive pricing. USDS is looking forward to forging a positive name in the industry and the team truly appreciates the opportunities in front of us. ■



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Illinois DOC Women's Division Ensures Comprehensive Care

By Roxanne Squires

Gov. Bruce Rauner proudly showcased Illinois' newly signed legislation in January with House Bill 1479, which required the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) to appoint a chief administrator for the newly and carefully structured women's division within the IDOC. The division has become the first of its kind in the nation with the goal of not only preventing these women from returning to jail and prison, but also ceasing a pattern of intergenerational incarceration. Carolyn Gurski, previously serving as acting chief of the women's division, was officially named chief not long after the legislation was signed.

The historic legislation comes as a direct result of recommendations presented in the Gender Informed Practice Assessment that was conducted in 2015. A team of experts identified the parts that the department could improve to help rehabilitate women offenders and increase their chances for success when they are released. The division's programming is being implemented at both Logan Correctional Center (LCC) and Decatur Correctional Center (DCC), the two facilities in the IDOC that house women, as well as the Fox Valley transition center that supervises women

after prison.

With the female population in corrections on the rise since 2010, an average annual rate increase of 3.4 percent has made women the fastest-growing population in corrections nationwide. The national female local jail population increased an overall 48 percent between 1999 and 2013, from 68,100 to 100,940, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The number of women sentenced to more than one year in state or federal prison increased by almost 2 percent between 2013 and 2014, becoming the largest number of female prison inmates (106,200) since 2008 (106,400). Female prisoners sentenced to more than a year in state or federal prison grew by almost 3 percent (2,800 inmates) between 2012 and 2013, while male prisoners increased 0.2 percent (2,500).

IDOC recognizes the exclusive and gender-specific needs of the population, with an overwhelming majority of women in prison being survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse. The passage of this bill allows IDOC to focus on improving conditions, healthcare and outcomes for these women who are incarcerated in Illinois.

According to numerous studies, incarcerated women report histories of alcohol and drug abuse, sexually



Illinois Department of Corrections recognizes the exclusive and gender-specific needs of its female population, with an overwhelming majority of women in prison being survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

transmitted infection, sexual and physical abuse, and mental illnesses with higher rates of these conditions than men. Three-fourths of women in prisons across the country have histories of severe physical abuse by an intimate partner during adulthood, while 82 percent suffered serious physical or

sexual abuse as children, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Women are more likely to have experienced sexual abuse and other forms of victimization than male offenders; an estimated 43 to 57 percent of state and federal women prisoners and 67 to 79 percent of women in jail have been physically or sexually abused.

In Illinois alone, 98 percent of incarcerated women have experienced physical abuse at some point in their lives, and 75 percent experienced sexual abuse, according to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. To address this, the new division will ensure comprehensive trauma programs and reputable staff to oversee the division.

"The new staff training is a communication model grounded in research on neurophysiology of trauma and resilience," said Gurski. "The model CR/2 is an evidenced-based, gender-responsive and trauma-informed practice that helps staff communicate to improve interactions with justice-involved women."

Gurksi explained that this is a highly effective skill for staff, with the potential to enhance safety, security and productivity of a corrections environment. When used consistently, staff members find their interactions with women to be easier, making them more thoughtful about their behavior and goals. CR/2 aims to help reshape the culture of corrections organizations by providing staff with unified and consistent forms of communication. In addition to this two-day training, staff members spend two additional days

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learning about effective strategies when working with justice-involved women and have a one-day training regarding vicarious trauma and gender-responsive policy implementation.

Offenders with a history of sexual abuse are given options of different programs in which to participate. First, there's Beyond Trauma, a gender-focused 12-session evidence-based program for offenders that incorporates the insights of neuroscience with the latest comprehension of trauma and PTSD. The program is based on the principles of relational therapy; it uses cognitive-behavioral techniques, mindfulness, expressive arts and body-orientated exercises (including yoga). The second option is Beyond Violence, a 20-session evidenced-based program for women with histories of aggression and/or violence. It deals with the violence and trauma they have experienced as well as the violence they may have perpetrated. The third, is Moving On, an evidenced-based program developed exclusively for women at risk for criminal justice involvement. The primary goal of this program is to provide women with alternatives free from criminal activity by assisting them to mobilize and build personal strategies, natural supports and community resources.

And lastly, there's House of Healing, a program which guides and supports offenders in confronting issues such as childhood wounding, grieving, managing anger, facing the impact of crime and taking ultimate responsibility for themselves and their actions. Houses of Healing offers guidance in stress management techniques and healthy, practical coping strategies. Overall, it addresses the necessity of self-forgiveness and forgiveness of others — subjects that are often overlooked and misunderstood despite the fact that they are essential to the cultivation of empathy and emotional and spiritual maturity.

Mental health needs almost always go hand-in-hand with past trauma. Based on self-reporting data, female inmates had higher rates of mental health issues than male inmates with 73 percent of females versus 55 percent of males in state prisons, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Nearly eight in 10 mentally ill female inmates reported physical or sexual abuse. A 1999 U.S. Department of Justice study also revealed that more than 40 percent of female prisoners were under the influence of drugs at the time of their offense. Sixty-nine percent of women entering jails met criteria for substance

dependence or abuse.

The IDOC's Mental Health Unit staff currently offers more than 100 programs where offenders can receive treatment, counseling and classes to help address their specific challenges. All mental health programming has to be established and approved as being evidenced based in the therapeutic

community. The Women's Division addresses mental health with treatment programs including Seeking Safety and West Care Dual Diagnosis Substance Abuse Treatment for Women.

Seeking Safety is an evidence-based program providing a present-focused counseling model to help people attain safety from trauma and/or substance

abuse. It addresses both trauma and addiction, but without requiring offenders to delve into detailed accounts of disturbing trauma memories. According to Gurksi, it has proved highly successful in group settings and as an individual modality. West Care Dual Diagnosis

See **Healthcare**, page 19 ➔

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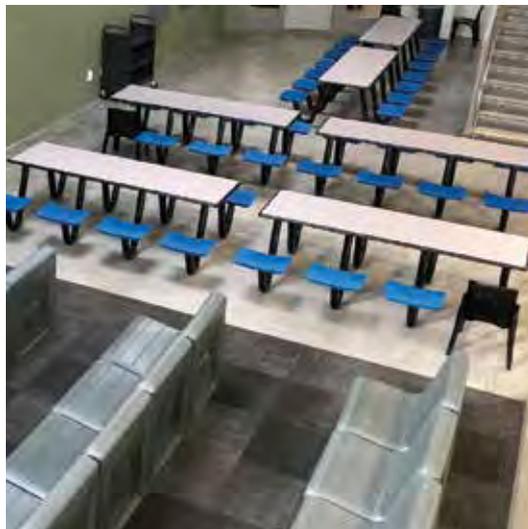
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Healthcare, from page 17

Substance Abuse Treatment for Women, a nationally recognized substance abuse treatment care provider, has been used successfully for many years. The program is a highly specialized form of substance abuse treatment that includes addressing psychological challenges that may be the cause or result of an addiction.

Another pressing issue for women in corrections involves family planning and services. It is shown that approximately 6 to 10 percent of incarcerated women are pregnant, while many women in correctional facilities have young children, ranging from 56 percent in federal prisons to 70 percent in local jails. During the time of their arrest and incarceration, many pregnant inmates struggle to receive standard prenatal care. Research also demonstrates that these women are not consistently provided with proper counseling



Davidson, from page 9

their decision-making process when choosing who qualifies for PTR. Once a defendant is placed on PTR, the arrestee is then given a DCSO case manager. Until the disposition of the defendant's case, sheriff's office employees will implement various methods to oversee the participants, based on their risk level, including direct visits, texts, phone calls, emails and letters, according to Davidson County.

"Our community must turn its attention to criminal justice reform and this is one step in the right direction," Hall said in a statement. "When incarcerated for long periods of time, people lose their jobs, family relationships, self-worth and the list goes on. None of those factors leads to success, only failure."

Davidson County officials noted that the changes to PTR is exemplary of a community working closely to give a voice to those who do not have one. Hall commended other criminal justice leaders for their contribution and support, but still emphasized the significance to motivate efforts in all areas of the system.

"Of course, public safety is the No.1 goal for all of us involved. What we are saying with this reform is an individual's ability to pay should never be a determining factor in their ability to get out of jail," Hall concluded.

or access to services, resulting in complicated and high-risk pregnancies.

This division aims to improve services provided to pregnant inmates and mothers. "All women's facilities offer parenting programs for all levels of offenders," Gurski explained. "At the Decatur, Logan and Fox Valley facilities, family activities range from day camps for mothers and children, video visiting

programs, storybook programs, summer reading programs, 4-H clubs and holiday activities for mothers and children."

To continue a positive relationship between staff and inmates, the division staff will receive ongoing training that helps them view a female offender from a trauma-informed, gender-responsive, culturally appropriate, strength-based and holistic approach. The

method provides understanding, tools to de-escalate situations and appropriate coping skills.

IDOC's bottom line is to help reduce recidivism rates among the female offender population and hopefully create a better future for generations to come. "We want to help break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration," Gurski concluded.

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Bed Location B3-021

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During the 15 years that SPP has been in existence, it has developed and delivered a wide range of science, sustainability and environmental education programs that are now in all 12 Washington state prisons.

Sustainability in Prisons Project Celebrates 15 Years of Expansion & Success

By Rachel Leber

EVERGREEN, Wash. — The Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP) — an organization that empowers sustainable change by bringing nature, science and environmental education into prisons — was founded in 2003. Over the years, this collaboration between Evergreen State College and the Washington State Department of Corrections has grown and expanded from just a few programs

to what is now more than 180 programs statewide with at least 100 partner organizations involved. In just the last few years alone, the vision and programs of the project have grown immensely, with no end in sight of what the organization intends to accomplish.

During the 15 years that SPP has been in existence, it has developed and delivered a wide range of science, sustainability and environmental education programs that are now in all 12 Washington state prisons. Some highlights of SPP's accomplishments include gardens that have grown approximately 492,000 pounds of produce for food banks and prison kitchens in one growing season alone, the raising and release of more than 13,000 federally endangered butterflies onto south Salish lowland prairies in the six years of that program's existence and, perhaps most impressively, more than 1,100 students who have graduated since 2013

from the 50-hour Roots of Success environmental course that prepares the participants for environmental careers, resource savings and positive community involvement.

One new SPP pilot project is the sheep program at the Washington State Penitentiary, located in Walla Walla. In this program, incarcerated individuals have the opportunity to work with partners to raise domestic sheep free of pathogens to benefit wild bighorn sheep conservation. Participants learn about domestic sheep, wildlife conservation, pathology and disease ecology. The program started in fall 2017, and the first new lambs were born in March 2018.

Another recent project that SPP started in 2016 is a program in which participants learn how to grow native wetland vegetation in an aquaponics facility. The native wetland plants are then used for habitat restoration to benefit Oregon Spotted Frogs — a species listed as endangered in Washington. Through the program, in-

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SPP now offers certificates for most of its conservation projects that characterizes the work the participants have done and the skills they have gained.

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carcerated participants learn to identify different plants, take care of fish and run a complex aquaponics plumbing system, according to Kelli Bush, SPP program manager at Evergreen State.

Finally, SPP now offers certificates for most of its conservation projects that characterize the work the participants have done and the skills they have gained, according to Bush. “This is important and meaningful to the participants, and [can be added] to resumes, preparing the participants for re-entry into society,” said Bush. “Our current goal is to bring college credit to those certifications during incarceration as often as possible. Currently, participants can receive up to 15 credits post-release as enrolled students at the Evergreen State College, which is an entire quarter’s worth of credit.”

SPP is looking to increase the certificates that they offer, including certificates in composting and gardening, according to Bush. Once those certificates stabilize in Washington, it’s SPP’s goal to offer these types of certifications and credits to other correctional institutions.

“The benefits that the Sustainability in Prisons Project program provides to the Washington state correctional system are many,” said Steve Sinclair, secretary of corrections and SPP co-director/Bush’s counterpart at the Washington State Department of Corrections. “The program changes the tone and culture of the facilities, and improves the interactions between the staff and the incarcerated population. SPP gives the incarcerated men and women another opportunity to give back to their community and society.”

While much has been accomplished over the years by the organization, it wasn’t until 2012 that the programming expanded beyond a few prisons, according to Bush. “Our program originally started at a single prison,” said Bush. “Now it is statewide.”

Not only has the program expanded across all 12 prisons in the state, but it has been determined by SPP that 23 other states and four other countries are now applying a similar model in their prisons. The catalyst that brought about this change came as a result of a national conference that SPP hosted in 2012, according to Bush. The conference was funded by the National Science Foundation, and made all the difference in terms of expansion for SPP. Fifty-seven contacts were made during that conference, and the SPP is still receiving calls on a regular basis from other prisons looking to follow a similar model.

“It really shows what a huge interest there is in trying something different,” said Bush. “People are clearly finding it effective, and, even if we don’t have precise statistics to offer quite yet, the anecdotal evidence that we have is that people are finding it really effective. No one would invest if it didn’t show results.”

In addition, SPP has become a contact for connecting different organizations to opportunities to participate. “For example, if we talk to a beekeeper in Virginia, we can connect them to someone in our state who is gardening and also interested in beekeeping,” said Bush. “We also have contacts in neighboring states that we can connect them to

that are trying this new approach. Essentially, we have been serving as a resource for all different states and counties — and even other countries — as a result of being one of the first states to pioneer this model.”

An example of SPP’s international impact is a fully established SPP program in Tasmania, Australia, according to Bush.

“It’s spreading all over the world, and one of our big goals is to have a more formal way to support all of these resources,” said Bush. “We’re finding that we are learning from all of these states, and that when we all work together, we can do a better job of offering these programs. This is not just a Washington endeavor — we want it to expand everywhere.” ■



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Photo Credit (all): Police Facility Design Group

On Nov. 8, 2016, Creve Coeur citizens approved Proposition P, the bond measure that would fund construction of the new police station.

The Creve Coeur City Council unanimously approved the contract of up to \$7.4 million for construction on the project on Jan. 8, 2018.



Construction Underway for New Police Station in Creve Coeur

By Rachel Leber

CREVE COEUR, Mo. — Excitement prevails in the town of Creve Coeur, as a brand-new police station is currently being built with plans for completion by spring 2019. The upgrade has been long overdue for the town, and after much planning, discussion and deliberation, the new police station is on its way.

On Nov. 8, 2016, Creve Coeur

citizens approved Proposition P, the bond measure that would fund construction of the new police station. The Creve Coeur City Council unanimously approved the ordinance placing the measure on the ballot at the Aug. 22., 2017 meeting.

The ballot measure was the culmination of more than two years of study by the citizens' Needs Assessment Task Force, the city council and city staff. The task force reviewed numerous options

presented in the form of a professional needs analysis (completed in 2015) before making its recommendation to the city council. It identified construction of the new police station as the best course of action to ensure a continuation of high-quality police services well into the future, according to Matt Veasman, architect at Kansas City, Mo.-based Police Design Facility Group, the architect on the project.

The Creve Coeur City Council unanimously approved the contract of up to \$7.34 million for construction on the project on Jan. 8., 2018 when they awarded the contract to St. Louis-based United Construction Ent. Co. — the lowest of seven bids received on the project. Construction started quickly thereafter — just under three weeks later on Jan. 25. The contract amount is within the established budget of \$8.8 million, which will be funded by the November 2016 voter-approved bond issue.

To ensure citizen input was included in the design process, the city council appointed a citizens' Facilities Task Force to advise on the design of the new building. Membership on the task force consisted of representatives from various Creve Coeur boards, committees and commissions, including two representatives from the finance committee and one representative from the Planning and Zoning Commission; the Energy and Environment Committee; the Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee; the Police and Safety Committee; the Arts Committee; and the Stormwater Committee. James Faron served as the city council liaison to the task force.

As design consultant on the project, Police Facility Design Group partnered with Archimages, based out of Kirkwood, Mo., who served as the lead architect of record on the project. United Construction Ent. Co. was chosen as the general contractor on the project, with Navigate/Paric Solutions serving as construction manager and project manager. Both companies have offices in St. Louis.

The current police station is located within the city government center, and

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the new 25,404-square-foot, two-story facility will be located just north of the existing government center. It will be built on 2.9 acres of 7.5 acres of land the city owns on North New Ballas.

Situated along the primary artery of North New Ballas Road, the city of Creve Coeur wanted the new police facility to run parallel to City Hall and to be highly visible on the street, with the intention of creating a strong identity as a government center, according to Veasman. With a steeply contoured site, architects had to design creatively in order to accomplish this goal.

“Not only was this goal accomplished, architects also used the sloping site to achieve two grade-level access points that created a natural separation of public and staff areas,” said Veasman. “A clean modern front elevation at the upper grade level exposed the public face of the building and created a strong identifiable public entry. The lower-level rear elevation provides a protected entry for the staff and a desirable degree of concealment for all of the fleet parking.”

The new police station was designed to address several deficiencies outlined in the needs analysis, including overcrowding, training deficiencies, parking hazards, safety and security, and emergency operations. The new facility will provide additional work space for police officers, detectives, crime prevention officers and support staff.

The new police station contains four tandem holding cells, designed for the short-term. Included in this number is a separate single-unit cell for juveniles. The design also includes a squad room, report-writing room, an evidence storage room and space for detectives, administration and a public meeting room on the main level.

The building will also include a training center and dedicated emergency operations center (EOC) — a critical component of managing public safety and security during major incidents, according to Veasman. The squad room at the existing police station currently doubles as the EOC, which not only lacks adequate space, but does not have the technology or the physical strength to withstand natural disasters.

In addition to these improvements, design plans include a new secondary access road for police personnel onto Magna Carta Road, improving the parking configuration that currently creates hazards between police vehicles and community center patrons.

The new facility also has a dramatically improved atmosphere compared to the existing facility, according to Veasman, with a more open feel and better lighting. “The building they are leaving has CMU walls and no natural light — it’s really old school,” said Veasman. “This is a newer, lighter atmosphere and a nicer space overall.”

The design team chose brick with

stone panel exterior for the building, with steel frame, double-wide exterior walls. Materials chosen for the project are “durable but economically selected,” according to Veasman.

Passive window shading is included in the design, with sunscreens on the exterior that cover the windows. Low-e glass was used as well as LED

lighting throughout. Low-flow toilets and touchless fixtures in the bathrooms will be installed as well. While some sustainable features were chosen to make the building more efficient, LEED was not a goal for this project.

Veasman added that using these types of sustainable features has become standard in correctional facilities.

“Meeting current energy code for any new buildings nowadays would meet what LEED standards were five years ago,” explained Veasman. “We don’t make LEED a goal for most of our buildings due to the time, paperwork and money involved, but implementing the sustainable features that we do just simply makes sense.” ■

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ANNUAL SECURITY ELECTRONICS CONTRACTORS LIST

	Company	Contact	Geographic Area Covered	Annual Revenue	Largest Contract in Past Year	Value of Jobs Under Contract	Completed Projects in Past Year	Number of Employees	
REVENUES \$15 MILLION AND ABOVE	Accurate Controls Ripon, Wis. www.accuratecontrols.com	TJ Rogers 920.748.6603	U.S. & International	\$22 million	\$3 million	\$41 million	39	72	REVENUES \$15 MILLION AND ABOVE
	CML Security Erie, Colo. www.cmlsecurity.us	J.J. Ramsey 303.704.6036	U.S.	\$15.6 million	\$4.5 million	\$19 million	24	48	
REVENUES \$5.1 MILLION TO \$15 MILLION	Cornerstone Detention Madison, Ala. www.cornerstonedetention.com	Ken Fuller 334.286.4278	U.S. & International	\$11.8 million	\$7.7 million	\$21.6 million	14	20	REVENUES \$5.1 MILLION TO \$15 MILLION
	South Western Communications Inc. (SWC) Decatur, Ala. www.swc.net	Rick Holmes 256.351.2445	U.S.	\$9.9 million	\$2.95 million	\$13.85 million	20	30	
	Southern Folger Detention Equipment Company San Antonio, Texas www.southernfolger.com	Michael Chike 210.533.1231	U.S.	\$9.8 million	\$1.7 million	\$11.8 million	21	19	
	P2 Controls Malvern, Pa. www.p2controls.com	Nicholas Carman 610.644.8300	U.S. & International	\$8.8 million	\$1.2 million	\$5.6 million	24	16	
	Esitech Inc. Richmond, Va. www.esitechinc.com	Jeff Power 804.672.3223	Continental U.S.	\$6 million	\$1.3 million	\$11 million	8	22	
REVENUES \$5 MILLION AND LESS	Sweeper Metal Fabricators Corp. Drumright, Okla. www.sweepermetal.com	John Schiffmacher 918.352.2133	U.S.	\$5 million	\$1.7 million	\$6.2 million	16	12	REVENUES \$5 MILLION AND LESS
	Simpson Security Systems Inc. Alexandria, La. www.simpsonsecurity.com	Keith Simpson 318.443.3391	Southern U.S.	\$3.8 million	\$1 million	\$1.8 million	16	60	
	Unique Security Inc. Montgomery, Ala. www.uniquesecurityinc.com	Gary Hart 334.239.8343	Eastern U.S. & International	\$2.5 million	\$465,000	\$6.5 million	3	14	

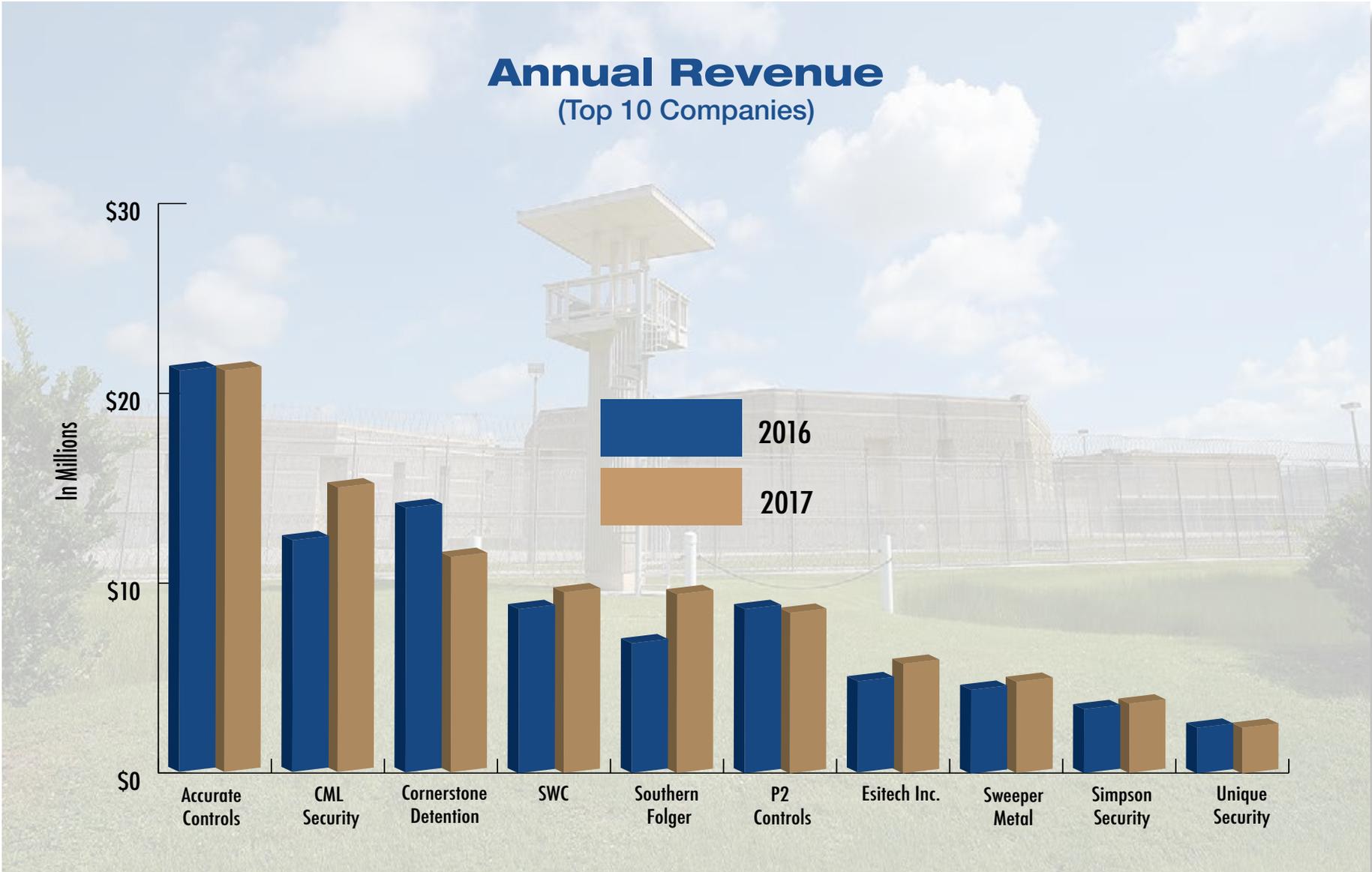
*The SEC List was compiled using information that was self-reported by the companies listed above; a bulk of the data for the 2018 SEC List is based on information collected from 2017 records.

Additional SECs
Argyle Security San Antonio, Texas www.argylesecurity.com
Justice Systems Corp. Kent, Wash. www.justicesys.com
Montgomery Technology Systems LLC Greenville, Ala. www.montgomerytechnology.com
STANLEY Security Fishers, Ind. www.stanleycorrectionalservices.com

* Additional SECs include SEC companies that did not provide information for the 2018 SEC List.

Value of Current Jobs Under Contract	
1 Accurate Controls	\$41 million
2 Cornerstone Detention	\$21.6 million
3 CML Security	\$19 million
4 SWC	\$13.85 million
5 Southern Folger	\$11.8 million

Largest Contract in Past Year	
1 Cornerstone Detention	\$7.7 million
2 CML Security	\$4.5 million
3 Accurate Controls	\$3 million
4 SWC	\$2.95 million
5 Southern Folger & Sweeper Metal	\$1.7 million



*Bulk of data for 2018 SEC List is based on information collected from 2017 records.

The new Kern County Justice Facility benefited from a design team that knew how to leverage its expertise to get the most from its budget.



Photo Credit (top photo only): Kern County Sheriff's Office

TALENT IN TEAMWORK

Photo Credit (all other photos): Chip Allen Photography



The new jail will endeavor to reduce recidivism through an array of inmate services and support programs.

California's new Kern County Justice Facility debuts functional design BY DAEDALUS HOWELL



The Kern County Justice Facility was underwritten by California's Assembly Bill 900, which provided the project's nearly \$100.5 million budget.

HOK was able to incorporate sliding doors into the facility using savvy design techniques.

Assembling the right team at the right time may sound like a plot point in an Avengers movie, but it's the way the recently completed Kern County Justice Facility came to fruition.

Located on a 24-acre site in Bakersfield, Calif., the new 822-bed, 222,478-square-foot correctional facility is now a sibling of sorts to the existing Lerdo Detention Facility, which is located nearby.

Comprised of four housing pods, with a main control post in each, the new adult detention facility provides housing, inmate services and support predicated on an efficient staffing model and an eye to satisfying specific functional and aesthetic needs that benefited from firsthand experience of those on the ground floor.

"The facility design was driven by decades of staff experience that was detailed in our jail-needs assessment plan," said Lt. David Reynolds, Kern County Sheriff's Office, Detentions Bureau, Lerdo Inmate Services Section. "Numerous employees of the Kern County Sheriff's Office, ancillary staff members and stakeholders came together and provided the documented narrative that provided the information needed for the schematic design of the physical facility and all the systems that support it."

Naturally, any functional or aesthetic need driving final construction design was based on a combination of providing for the needs of the user while also meeting myriad legalities and code requirements inherent in corrections projects, Reynolds added.

"Throughout design and construction, the safety of the lives for all of the staff working in the facility and the inmates housed there came first," Reynolds said. "In addition to that, inmate programs, the programming space and all of the ongoing challenges that are associated with reducing recidivism were also major driving factors in the design and final construction of the project."

Likewise, according to Reynolds, finding efficiencies that could be baked into the actual building that could improve morale and working conditions became as important. Among these improvements were the implementation of natural lighting built into



many of the security and administrative areas that allow for "an improved working and living environment for both the staff and inmates," said Reynolds.

Also driving the project were funding mechanisms the county received from the state of California to expand its jail system — namely Assembly Bill 900, a law authorizing \$1.2 billion in state lease-revenue bond financing for county jail construction, to be released in two phases to increase county jail capacity. The legislation required that the first phase of funding be expended by the end of June last year. Kern County was awarded \$100 million by the state for the project in 2012 (the final design-build stipulated sum was just under \$100.5 million). The facility is the most expensive and complex project ever attempted by the county. Consequently, securing the participation of the right team of partners was crucial to its success.

"The collaboration between the stakeholders was the key factor in being able to produce a facility that is successful in meeting the needs of all the different

users," said Reynolds. "The collaboration began with the support from our sheriff and administration, the large amount of time and effort that all of the Kern County stakeholders put into the jail needs assessment plan and continued throughout the design and construction with the contracted designers and builders."

Among the partners were HOK Architects and design-build general contractor Balfour Beatty — both of which have offices across the nation. Construction management was overseen by national firm Kitchell, and civil engineering was the purview of QK Inc., with offices in Bakersfield, Calif. The detention/security design was overseen by Erie, Colo.-based CML Security and Columbia, S.C.-based Buford, Goff and Associates. National firm DLR Group also created the initial bridging design.

"The collaborative meetings that took place between the county stakeholders and our partners — DLR Group, HOK, Kitchell and Balfour Beatty —



Construction on the facility began in December 2014, with completion accomplished in March 2018.

set the positive tone and structure to collect the huge amount of information that was needed to make the facility a success,” said Reynolds. “The individual and collective efforts of each stakeholder and team member added to the value of the collaborative process and the quality of the completed facility.”

HOK Vice President, Regional Leader, Justice, April Lenkey, AIA, agreed with Reynolds’ appraisal of the successful partnering of the various parties. HOK was particularly interested in working with Balfour Beatty, a leading international infrastructure group with whom her firm had been seeking a project upon which to collaborate.

“The Kern County Justice Facility project was the right opportunity that allowed us to qualify and start establishing a working relationship together. Our combined portfolio of county justice work and our local, Southern California office locations were contributing factors in our decision to team,” said Lenkey.

The Kern County Justice Facility was the first partnering with Balfour Beatty for the HOK Los Angeles office. With the team in place, the start date was set for December 2014, with completion accomplished in March 2018.

“I think the county wanted to get moving,” said Lenkey of the county’s timeline. “Once you’ve worked so long to get something out, you just want to find your final builder and architect and go in. I think that [due to the] level of the bridging documents, they weren’t asking for a design from scratch.

“We analyzed the RFP documents and determined early on that the county and sheriff’s office invested a significant amount of work into their bridging documents,” she continued. “By recognizing and acknowledging this at the onset of design, we focused our efforts on improvements to staff and operational efficiencies through very thoughtful tweaks to the plans and standardizing the construction as much as possible. This demonstrated to the county and sheriff’s office that we respected the time already invested with the bridging architect, yet had our own, unique ideas on how to improve the design and planning that they

had already developed to a schematic level.”

Though HOK often enjoys more design authorship, working within the parameters established by the county did not prove at all difficult for the firm, according to Lenkey.

“Because our team strategy was established as a ground rule at the onset of the design-build proposal phase, we were able to demonstrate design restraint by limiting our focus and efforts to understanding the relationships of the spaces and the plans, and make them significantly better without fundamentally changing the overall planning concepts,” said Lenkey. “By doing so, the design improvements in turn also resulted in cost benefits that were reinvested into the project. We knew that cost was a concern and that the county issued the project as design-build in order to maximize the funds they had available to build probably more than they could afford.”

With the county’s budgetary considerations in mind, HOK endeavored to find meaningful ways the monies could be used to best effect — often extending beyond the client’s expectations.

“In addition, the design solutions allowed our team to realize cost savings in constructability that could be re-invested into the county’s wishlist of enhancements,” said Lenkey of how HOK leveraged its expertise to bring added value to the project. “We submitted our proposal not only with all of the county’s desired enhancements, but also a handful of added enhancements unique to our team’s final proposal.”

An example of HOK’s ability to manifest hitherto unaffordable enhancements include the cell doors in the housing units, which were originally designed as swing doors.

“High on the sheriff’s office’s list of enhancements were sliding doors for the housing cells,” recalled Lenkey. “That’s probably the biggest ticket item that we gave them by finding cost savings through areas of the design.”

HOK helped the facility not only save money,

project data

Facility Name: Kern County Justice Facility

Facility Type: Detention Center

Construction Budget: \$100.5 Million
(Design-Build Stipulated Sum Contract)

Number Of Beds: 822

Area (Square Feet): 222,478

Start Date: December 2014

Completion Date: March 2018

Owner/Operator: County of Kern

Owner Representative: Kitchell

Project Manager: Kitchell

Bridging Architect: DLR Group

Architect Of Record: HOK Inc.

Structural Engineer: Buehler & Beuhler

Mechanical Engineer: Southland Industries

General Contractor: Balfour Beatty Construction

Detention Equipment/Security Electronics Contractor:
CML Security

Security Electronics Engineer: Buford Goff & Associates

product data

Security Systems: Omeron (PLC), Phoenix Contact
(Door Control)

Video Surveillance: Genetec Inc. (VMR), Bosch
(Cameras, Equipment)

Video Visitation System: Securus

Intercom/Communications Systems: Harding Instruments

Touch Screen Access/Control Systems: Indusoft (HMI),
Open Options (Access Control)

Watch Tour Systems: Timekeeping Systems

Security Screening Systems: Ketec Inc.

MATV: Blonder Tongue

Security Fencing: Sentinel Fence & Contracting

Security Glazing: Global Security Glazing

Security Windows: Trussbilt

Security Cell Doors: Trussbilt

Security Locks: Southern Folger

Detention Accessories: Viking Products

Lighting Fixtures: Kenall, Lithonia, Hydrel

Plumbing Fixtures: Acorn, American Standard, Sloan,
Elkay, Chicago Faucets

Electrical Systems: General Electric

Fire Suppression System: Viking

Smoke Detection System: Honeywell

Roofing: Carlisle

Insulation: Owens Corning

Cell Wall Panels: Trusswall

Ceiling System: Trussdek/Secureddek

Ceiling Panels: Armstrong

Interior/Exterior Finish:

Orco Block W/ Korfil Insert, Centria Metal Wall Panel

Landscape/Irrigation Systems: Rain Bird

Food Service Equipment: Thermalrite

Refrigeration Equipment: Trane

Correctional Furniture: Norix

See *Facility of the Month*, page 37 ➔

Kordia Solutions Jams Mobile Phone Signals in Prisons

NEW SOUTH WALES, New Zealand — Everywhere in the world, people strive to get good mobile coverage — even in prison, where, by and large, inmates are not allowed to have such communication devices. Since mobile phones have become ubiquitous, however, something of an arms race has been occurring between those who smuggle devices into correctional facilities and those tasked with eliminating their use.

In California, for example, it's a misdemeanor to possess a cellphone in prison or even attempt to smuggle one into a prison. Introducing an unauthorized wireless device into a correctional context can result in prosecution and a \$5,000 fine per device. In New Zealand, the New South Wales Department of Justice is fighting wireless technology with wireless technology — or should that be anti-wireless technology?



New Zealand plans to block illicit phone use by inmates with the installation of a mobile phone jamming system in two of its correctional facilities.

Australian-based network provider Kordia Solutions has been awarded a contract to design and install a mobile phone jamming system at a pair of New Zealand correctional facilities in an effort to block illicit phone use by inmates.

The \$7.25 million (U.S.) contract will follow upon a previous contract from five years ago in which Kordia Solutions jammed phones at Lithgow Correctional Centre after the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) created an exemption to a law that otherwise bans mobile phone jamming. In addition to continuing its jamming service at the Lithgow facility, the company will also jam illicit signals at the Goulburn Correctional Complex under a three-year contract.

A trial use of signal jammers indicated a significant reduction in contraband mobile phone seizures by Correctional Services New South Wales (CSNSW) in the past five years at Lithgow Correctional Centre. Last year, they seized 110 mobile phones.

Antennas are used that emit a low power-jamming signal that prevents mo-

bile devices inside the prison from successfully connecting to nearby phone towers, according to CSNSW. New Zealand's Minister for Corrections David Elliott said the system has been successful at thwarting illegal phone use by inmates.

“CSNSW is at the forefront of developing and implementing technologies to combat contraband mobile phones, and phone jamming is considered the ultimate solution, rendering all mobile phones in the target area useless,” Elliott said in a statement on the NSW justice

website. “To ensure the continued success of Lithgow Correctional Centre’s phone jamming trial, we are now upgrading the existing technology at the center and further extending phone jamming equipment at Goulburn Correctional Complex.”



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Chike

How New Technologies Are Changing the SEC Market

By Jessie Fetterling & Daedalus Howell

With new technologies consistently becoming available, the security electronics market is always evolving. Correctional News spoke with Donald Rochon, executive vice president for the Warranty Service & Supply Group of Cornerstone Detention; Keith Simpson, president and CEO of Simpson Security Systems Inc.; DuWayne Verch Jr., vice president of operations at Accurate Controls; and Michael Chike, director of the Security Electronics Division for Southern Folger Detention Equipment Company, about this evolution and what facility managers can expect from security electronics contractors (SECs) in the coming years.

Q: What trends do you see emerging in the corrections space regarding security electronics?

Rochon: In the old days (I've been doing this for 48 years, visiting 519 facilities), we would install a system, it would run for years and the maintenance staff could service it without much training. Over the past several years, the IP/IT world has evolved security electronics into a complicated configuration that requires advanced training for a facility staff maintenance person. Plug-and-play or hot-swappable devices are emerging, and while we are doing more with less, the KISS [Keep It Simple, Stupid] method is trending back.

Simpson: All systems are becoming all IP based and seeing more PLC specifications. The owners do not want proprietary systems. Most owners want more choices for service, and with proprietary systems, they are limited to whom can service them. We are seeing that the owner desires open platform PLC and HMI, so they can have choices when additions are done and when not, if changes are to be made to the program application. In a proprietary-type system, the owner has to use that supplier.

Verch Jr.: Every correctional facility either is budgeting for or already has an IP video system either to improve security or because of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) concerns. Since IP video is now the standard, the following trends are emerging: Panoramic/360-degree cameras are being used much more frequently. Audio recordings of cameras increase each year. The resolution of cameras increases each year. Camera storage retention increases each year. IP video systems are being installed as part of the facility network, which requires close coordination between the security contractor and the facility IT staff. All of the above items force IP video networks to become much

more complicated to set up and maintain.

Chike: Currently, the biggest trend I see is the growth of IP technology in jails. There is a significant increase in facilities' demand for edge devices, which enhance interconnectivity amongst various systems. This provides system owners with deeper integration stretching beyond just camera systems and all the way to creating a unified system where all devices are directly connected to the edge (thus eliminating the need for third-party integration applications). It is a concept very similar to the Internet of Things (IoT) concept but on an air-gapped network.

Q: What precautions can be taken to ensure that security electronics aren't hackable or aren't being manipulated by inmates or staff — in short, who's watching the watchmen?

Rochon: First and foremost, best practices are to have a closed private network that is not connected to the World Wide Web, with a distinctive separation of video and all other IP-based systems. Second, is the use of security screws or other tamper-proof means such as ventilated locked enclosures for the computers and equipment cabinets/racks, and finally, the disabling of DVD, USB and serial ports.

Simpson: Signal locators and jammers for cellphones are key technologies that facility managers can use to better support their security electronics. This is moving and changing very fast and some laws do not allow it, but as the problem grows with contraband cellphones, technology is being developed to combat it.

Verch Jr.: Three precautions are necessary. The first precaution is to keep the security electronics (door control and intercom) network separate from the IP video network. The second precaution is to remove the keyboard from the control stations and lock the computers away so that a keyboard cannot be plugged into them, which eliminates the ability of hacking by inmates or staff on the control stations. The third precaution is to install a firewall to prevent outside computers from gaining access to the security electronics network.

Chike: The commonly held belief in security is that nothing is ever completely secure; however, steps are taken to increase security posturing and limit vulnerabilities. Administrative steps such as employing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that require regular system checks and an overall increase in employee awareness of system security are strong measures that help reduce vulnerabilities. On the

technical side, introducing an appropriate IDS (Intrusion Detection System), regularly reviewing access logs for anomalies, performing regular system audits to monitor overall system activity (and confirm the absence of network intruders/malware), performing periodic structured comprehensive security assessments and finally ensuring that all critical systems are on an air-gapped network [also help with security]. These are all steps that will pay dividends in limiting exposure to the risks of system compromise.

Q: Does your firm use proprietary or nonproprietary technology, and why?

Rochon: Cornerstone, 90 percent of the time, uses standard off-the-shelf nonproprietary products that have become detention industry standards driven by the owners, design professionals and a proven track record of reliable performance. We retain our clients through best-in-class customer service, pricing and not proprietary (you can only buy it from me) products. Equally important, proprietary products do not always keep up with the latest OS operating versions or other improvements that could benefit the client.

Simpson: We use nonproprietary equipment due to most specifications, which are all software based and must be licensed through the owner. Most if not all A/Es accept nonproprietary applications.

“The biggest trend I see is the growth of IP technology in jails.”

Verch Jr.: Accurate Controls uses nonproprietary technology because this allows our customers to troubleshoot and maintain our systems after they are installed. Our customers can choose whether they want to continue their relationship with us based on our performance, whereas companies that use proprietary technology basically force their customers to sign a service agreement simply because no one else can help them. [Using nonproprietary technology] isn't the most profitable way to do business, but it is the right way.

Chike: We primarily use nonproprietary technology. This is strategically done to provide the end user with total control over scalability, system upgrades and expansions. Proprietary technology introduces exclusivity and can limit such options for our clients.

Q: What technological advances are on the horizon for security electronics?

Rochon: I would suspect that would include the advances of inmate or staff tracking, facial recognition software, megapixel or panoramic cameras, inmate health monitoring, IoT of common devices, drone detection, retrofit locking hardware and lower-cost fiber-optic/secure Wi-Fi communication. Thin clients and all-in-one computers will also advance replacing the traditional PC workstations. Progress is being made on extending the 100-meter limitation of Ethernet runs without remote modules.

Simpson: All systems are already bundled under low voltage, and we see CCTV as adding extended protection with the use of software. With the use of analytics, CCTV protection is becoming more cost efficient where now you can get an alarm from a camera with simple pixel change.

Verch Jr.: From a technological standpoint, IP video advances will continue each year. Video analytics will improve to the point where they become an integral part of the security system. Touchscreen technology will advance to the point where touchscreen monitors will be replaced by touch walls or touch desks. IP audio systems will become the standard rather than the exception.

Chike: The new smart lock by Southern Folger will be the industry's first smart detention-grade lock. It is also an edge device powered over the Ethernet. I truly consider this to be a huge addition to the industry from a security electronics standpoint. It is an ONVIF-compliant lock with the capability to seamlessly integrate with video and access control systems, increasing safety and security with its smart features as well as reducing construction cost based on its network capabilities.

Q: Given a long view of the industry, where will security electronics be in the next five to 10 years?

Rochon: This ever-changing world of electronics is allowing facilities to cost-effectively improve their operations, better protect or safeguard their staff, comply with PREA requirements and do more with less. [It also allows] for automation of operational tasks, such as an incident video display that brings up a camera viewing the area that also brings up a looping "prior 30 seconds" of the same camera so the operator can quickly see what happened, what caused the duress alarm or door breach and who did it.

Simpson: I predict we'll see more touchscreen wireless controls and audio

as well as all IP-based and more CCTV and perimeter enhanced systems. The perimeter systems are also becoming IP based, and the technology is geared towards the reduction of false alarms on a fence or border.

Verch Jr.: I see continued growth for security electronics in the corrections market for the next several

years. There are many new facilities being planned for, and there are many upgrade/replacement projects for antiquated systems forthcoming. It will be crucial for owners to get involved with the selection of their security electronics contractor to ensure that they are getting a system that will last 20 years and not be charged an expensive service agreement

to maintain.

Chike: I firmly believe we are headed towards more network-based systems; it will be all about edge-based devices and about getting all security electronic devices on the edge. This would enhance the use of data collection, aggregation and analytic tools for security systems in correctional facilities. ■

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The Latest in the Evolving SEC Market

By Keith Thoene

The past year has been a challenging but rewarding year for our community. We have all faced the excitement that comes with a strong economy and tax revenue stream, but have also faced the daily challenges finding and keeping good people and families, which allow us to get this work done in a professional manner. This coupled with the fact that technology consistently changes faster than corrections and/or staff can keep up with it has kept up the excitement and energy at our firm as we brainstorm on new and effective ways to deal with these ever-changing obstacles.



Thoene

In terms of new tech, some of the most interesting trends are emerging on how institutions are coming up with new ideas for old problems. Cellphones have and will continue to be a major issue inside of any long-term housing facility. Because facilities are not allowed to use cellphone jamming technology, most have relied on shakedowns to find contraband. More recently, there has been a push to accept and implement Manage Access Systems (MAS), which route calls through a system that mimics a cell tower, used in conjunction with portable or stationary ferromagnetic or radio frequency detectors. Like any solution, it has limitations and is only effective through the active management of the administrators managing the system. Due to the severity of this contraband problem, we see more and more budgeted money set aside to deal with the issue and only see this market sector growing in complexity.

Another trending threat that continues to plague correctional facilities is the increased use of drones as a method of bringing contraband into facilities. There have been documented cases of deliveries not only from above, but also delivered directly to open vertical windows through rec yard screens. The solutions to this growing problem are emerging and not always fully vetted, but there seems to be traction with a couple different solutions.

The first solution is sound detection units that focus on the particular noise generated by the propeller and motors from the average drone. If proven, this method seems like the most cost-effective way to add security devices off of an existing PLC-driven security system. Other technologies for drone detection are focusing on the detection of the radio frequencies used to control drones. Both methods of detection have only been tested in real-life environments over the past couple of years, and time will tell how effective they are. That said, there are six-figure budget allocations happening across the country to study and address the drone problem, so the technology will progress at lighting speed.

The increased reliance on video in correctional facilities continues to grow in all areas. We are seeing more and more cameras per square foot and also seeing the expectations for the quality and length of video retention increasing. While this is probably to be expected, one of the more interesting trends concerning video is the integration of body cameras into the local video retention policies at correctional facilities. The main focus of the use of these body cameras is to bolster cases and deter false claims or curb aggressive behavior on the part of both correctional officers and inmates. But the privacy debate surrounding police body cameras also surfaces in jails despite the lower expectation of freedom or privacy. Many facilities are starting to integrate these devices through the emergency response teams only. Unlike the officers who patrol the detention centers' housing units and interact with inmates every day, the emergency response team typically only deals with urgent situations such as fights, out-of-control detainees or medical emergencies and suicide attempts. This technology has its flaws; it can be very hard to capture a focused image through a device attached to loose clothing. But the thought process is that typically there are multiple responders, so four-to-eight camera views provide a well-rounded archive of events from many different viewpoints.

These are just a few of the most recent trends in our industry. This year is shaping up to be another challenging yet exciting one, as we tackle these and other needs for our clients. We look forward to seeing how the industry as a whole continues to grow and develop technology to adapt to a rapidly changing environment.

Keith Thoene is president of Erie, Colo.-headquartered CML Security.

California Report: Mental Health & Jails

By Cory Salzillo

Mental health and criminal justice issues have become linked, and this connection is a major driver of policy considerations for lawmakers and stakeholders. This is true for states across the country and especially so in California. While not a new development, the complexity of this reality defies simple or concise explanation, but the bottom line is that nearly every part of the criminal justice system and every step of the law enforcement, prosecution and corrections process is entangled with questions of how, when and where to properly address mental illness.

The state's hospital system provides a helpful starting point to highlight the issues California faces when it comes to criminal justice and mental health. Just a few decades ago, more than 30,000 patients were found in state hospitals. Today, the patient census is approximately 6,800 — a significant drop made more telling considering the massive increase in the state's overall population. More than 90 percent of the state hospital population comes from forensic commitments — patients who come from the criminal justice system. Despite recent increases in physical capacity, the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) will likely soon reach its maximum population. Mental health services are also provided in various community and county settings

hospital exceeds 900.

To address this growing waiting list of persons whose legal proceedings are paused pending the restoration of competency, the DSH has added bed capacity throughout the state and has implemented jail-based competency treatment (JBCT) programs at several jails. Pursuant to this arrangement, a



Salzillo

jail facility lends space for competency restoration services and oversees this program while a contracted entity provides the medical treatment. These jail-based programs allow more rapid response to mental health issues while avoiding the cost and time delay inherent in waiting for a state hospital bed. Additionally, jail-based treatment eliminates the need to transport defendants to and from a state hospital, which reduces the likelihood that a patient will decompensate between

How do we treat growing mental health caseloads?

(including jails), and the use of these options is likely to grow.

The state hospital population and capacity dictate downstream criminal justice and mental health interactions. Felony defendants found by a court to be incompetent to stand trial (IST) must be treated until competency is restored or otherwise provided for if restoration is not possible. These patients are held in county jails as they await state hospital beds. At press time, the backlog of IST defendants awaiting transfer to a state

the end of restoration and the resumption of legal proceedings. This state-county partnership has yielded encouraging results — some cohort of patients is



restored to competency more quickly and less expensively than defendants who are ultimately transported to a state hospital.

As promising as JBCT programs have been, not every jail can accommodate this arrangement either because of a lack of capacity or defendants suited for this type of treatment. Advocates also argue that a jail setting is not appropriate for restoring competency or providing any type of mental health treatment. Indeed, there are jail inmates whose mental health issues extend beyond competency restoration. Community placements are not always available to close the gap because they do not always exist in sufficient numbers, may not contain secure treatment options or may not meet the needs of the current patient census.

So what do we do? If additional state mental health bed space is unlikely to be created, which is probable given state priorities and the realignment of the responsibility to provide most mental health services to counties, how do we treat growing mental health caseloads?

Even if there was a robust state and county mental health system that could address most mental illness challenges, there is still a universe of persons with mental illness who violate the law. In addition to local competency restoration programs, jails have made progress toward not only adding and improving mental health treatment programs, but also reconciling the need for physical space within jails by repurposing infrastructure and building new correctional facilities with dedicated space for mental health services. Jails were not designed to hold offenders long-term, and California realigned a significant felony population to county jails for incarceration. As such, jail facilities

D/C, from page 13

measures were installed; the materials and flooring were made from recycled materials; and the rear-chase modular steel cells are 100 percent recycled steel.

In addition, automatic light switches with motion sensors were installed that can be programmed to turn on and off at specially chosen times. Water-saving plumbing control systems were installed, as was pre-wired detention equipment. These features are now standard for every GGA correctional project, according to Goldberg.

“The best thing about our work is the effect these projects have on their communities,” said Josh Walker, owner of Loyd Builders. “This facility will help make the residents and visitors of Miami County safer — not just by detaining offenders, but by helping to make staff safer and more efficient and by improving community engagement. It was an honor to be a part of it.”

across the state are being refurbished or replaced to accommodate their new mission. Other community treatment options, private hospital capacity and diverting persons with mental illness before they enter the criminal justice system are being discussed as ways to de-link mental health and jail issues.

Correctional mental health issues are

not new, simple or likely to be resolved any time soon. Mental health providers, jail professionals and advocates representing many interests are working together to address this growing problem. Progress will take increased collaboration and creative outputs, given the frequency with which persons with mental illness interact with the justice

system and our capacity for diagnosing mental health issues.

Cory Salzillo is a partner of Warner, Pank, Salzillo & Sanchez, a California legislative advocacy and governmental relations firm representing several public and private entities involved in the criminal justice/corrections space.

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Elevating the Workplace Environment in Corrections

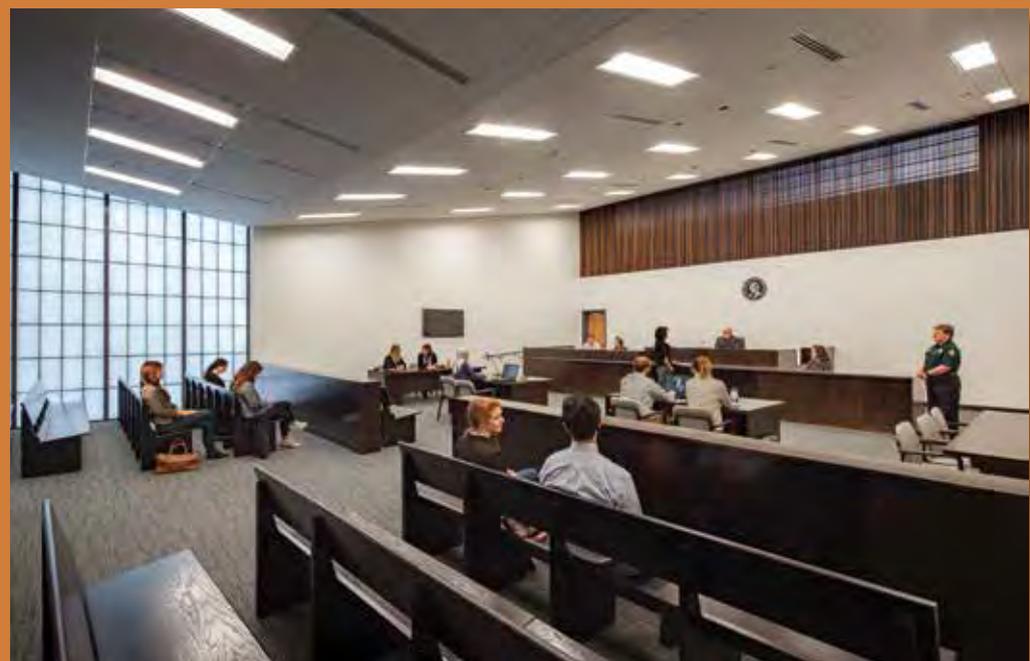
By Darrell Stelling

Close to half a million correctional officers serve in prisons and jails across the U.S., according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. These men and women typically spend more hours in a detention center than the average inmate spends. To be more specific, a correctional officer who has been working for 25 years spends 56,250 hours or six years of his or her life in the facility by the time they retire. This reality is always on our minds as we design new or update existing facilities.

Typically, several factors drive the need for a new or improved jail or prison. Improving the working environment usually isn't one of those driving factors. Top ranking needs include overcrowding, lack of accessibility, need for treatment space for medical and mental health issues, or simply an aging building that could potentially diminish the health and safety of all. But myriad additional factors come into play when we consider the importance of space and its impact on "officer wellness."

Why is officer wellness an important consideration? Because working in a detention facility can be both stressful and dangerous. Correctional officers have one of the highest rates of injury and absenteeism due to illness than any of the 800 occupations reported on by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. And with these high levels of stress come significant challenges to retain staff. As a result, government agencies are considering design solutions to improve the working experience of their labor force at the same time they are expanding or renovating their facilities to address restorative justice models.

The Skagit County Community Justice Center in Mt. Vernon, Wash., is an example of a new jail designed to improve the workplace environment to enhance officer wellness. DLR Group's Northwest Justice Leader Erica Loynd, AIA, LEED AP, shares the guiding principles for that facility that helps define it as a leader in elevating workplace design.



Skagit County specifically named its facility the "Community Justice Center" because it also houses courtrooms, community resources and transition education programs.



Photo Credit: Skagit County photos; Sam Van Fleet Photography

The Skagit County Community Justice Center provides spaces that include access to natural light, views to the exterior and incorporation of plants in secure outdoor environments.



Skagit County Community Justice Center in Mt. Vernon, Wash., features a new jail design meant to improve the workplace environment and enhance officer wellness.

Officer Wellness

Three concepts related to staff interface made a big difference to the Skagit County client and its staff. These included the following:

1. Design for inmate rehabilitation rather than incarceration. That means the type of materials used in the facility incorporate a softer color palette and natural elements like wood trellises, wayfinding signage and colors reflective of the natural environment in lieu of the past tradition of "institutional grade" tones of gray or beige. These changes in attitude toward a more normative environment, positively



Photo Credit: DLR Group

At the new Sonoma County Behavioral Health Housing facility in Santa Rosa, Calif., officers train alongside mental health professionals, since officers are working in these units round the clock.

affect both the inmates as well as the officers working within those spaces. Additionally, attention to acoustical controls can help reduce tension for all. Detention facilities designed to be secure and durable, typically rely on materials that result in poor acoustics, which potentially heighten tension levels. The use of acoustic management systems wherever possible should be at the forefront of all justice design decisions.

2. Enhance officer and employee wellness experience. Another shift in attitude involves civic presence and perception of detention facilities. In the past, communities have hidden their jails in a remote, desolate area of a region, seeing them as a liability rather than a potential asset. This was important to Skagit County, which named its facility the "Community Justice Center." In addition to focusing strictly on detention, these buildings are also housing courtrooms, community resources and transition education programs. What does this shift in attitude have to do with officer wellness? When a broader element of the community experiences the facility as a place of pride rather than shame, then these workers find a more positive experience coming to work for a greater purpose than simply keeping inmates in order.

3. Create staff areas as efficient, but meaningful space. These spaces include access to natural light, views to the exterior, incorporation of plants in secure outdoor environments and use of natural colors and materials. These spaces offer areas to decompress or to gather for internal meetings. A central light well is a private officer outdoor area where they can relax without being in the watchful eye of the public. This same space connects to the front reception area, officer break room and briefing conference rooms. These types of amenities help to promote staff recruitment and retention.

Other Workplace Design Trends

In addition to the elements noted above, state and counties are adjusting the type of training correctional officers receive, particularly in the expanding design for medical and mental health units. At the new Sonoma County Behavioral Health Housing facility in Santa Rosa, Calif., officers train alongside mental health professionals, since officers are working in these units round the clock. They are the first-line observers and responders to inmates

with mental health issues. This elevated responsibility and training potentially can improve long-term career development, offering specialized knowledge that will help agencies retain their skilled staff.

The strategies for improving the work environment for correctional officers are the same design elements used at office buildings around the country.

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correctional facilities is the goal. These spaces equip correctional officers to do their best work in the best environment possible, making the hours of their work-life a point of pride.

Darrell Stelling, AIA, is the global leader for the Justice+Civic studio at DLR Group.

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iWebVisit
www.iwebvisit.com
Reader Service #200

Medical Gas Tubing

OmegaFlex, a global manufacturer of metal hoses, announced MediTrac as the world's first corrugated medical tubing (CMT) for distribution of medical gases. Unlike rigid copper tubing, which is installed in numerous brazed sections and elbow joints to accommodate a facility layout, MediTrac semi-rigid tubing installs in a single, bendable length that can be routed around existing structures. Made from copper alloy and sold in continuous-length rolls, MediTrac includes a fire-retardant jacket and axial swaged brass fittings. Developed for the healthcare industry, the product can be used in hospitals; ambulatory care centers; dental, physician and veterinary clinics; laboratories; and any correctional facility that may use medical gas.



OmegaFlex
www.meditrac.us
Reader Service #202

Paging Device

Model RAD-1A from Viking Electronics is a ring-trip paging device that answers incoming phone calls and converts audio to a 600 Ohm output. This is the standard for most paging amplifiers today. The RAD-1A is compatible with phone line emulators such as cellular-to-analog adapters, FXS ports on an ATA connecting to VoIP/SIP phone service as well as CO lines and analog PABX extensions. When activated, the RAD-1A can trigger built-in relay contacts to activate the connected paging amplifiers. Using the optional RAD-1A security code can help prevent unauthorized access to your paging system.



Viking Electronics
www.vikingelectronics.com
Reader Service #204

Ballistic Barrier

Visual display and writing surface manufacturer Claridge Products, located in Harrison, Ark., recently launched PRO-TACT Ballistic Barriers, an extensive range of bullet-resistant, modular, space-dividing panels for public spaces where increased safety is required. Designed for secure environments such as military installations and recruitment centers, airports, courtrooms and schools, PRO-TACT Ballistic Barriers integrate discreetly into any interior environment while providing enhanced protection for a building's occupants and visitors. PRO-TACT panels are available in stationary and mobile versions.



Claridge Products
www.claridgeproducts.com
Reader Service #201

Software Solution

STANLEY Security, a global manufacturer and integrator of comprehensive security solutions, introduces STANLEY IntelAssure, powered by Viakoo. It is the first and only service assurance software solution for physical security systems on the market today that uses automation to continuously detect and diagnose problems and recommend solutions. This new software solution for video and other physical security systems helps solve the problems of downtime and missing video evidence while also addressing cyber hygiene and audit compliance needs. STANLEY IntelAssure detects and tracks issues across IP security infrastructure and presents both problems and solutions on a user-friendly dashboard — either through a browser interface or mobile app. When a failure, potential failure or vulnerability is detected, the solution automatically sends an alert with the component, location, problem, event time, severity and solution to specific administrators.



STANLEY Security
www.stanleysecuritysolutions.com
Reader Service #203

Inmate Telephone System

Reston, Va.-headquartered GTL recently announced that it has integrated Video Relay Service (VRS) into its inmate telephone system (ITS) platform, providing a better user experience for both inmates and correctional facilities. VRS is a video-calling service for the hearing impaired that uses video to allow for American Sign Language (ASL) conversations between parties or through VRS interpreters. Available on the Flex Link multi-service units, VRS is used as a complement to traditional teletypewriter (TTY) devices.



GTL
www.gtl.net
Reader Service #205

Facility of the Month, from page 28

but the local environment, too.

“The surrounding landscape and the final design and construction were intended to integrate the facility into the natural surroundings, while taking into consideration the climate and economic responsibilities to the public,” said Reynolds, making a nod to HOK’s landscape architecture. “The design used drought-tolerant landscaping and design to bring a natural and professional feel and look for the facility, while blending it in with the natural surroundings. Bringing in elements of shade, while keeping overall water use in consideration, was also part of determining the final landscaping design.”

Given that each correctional facility is going to be unique in its needs and eventual deployment, the Kern County Justice Facility is no exception. Intrinsic to its particular envisioning was an emphasis on the interaction between corrections staff and the inmates in their custody. This was key to the experience administrators sought for their employees and borne out in the design.

“Each county has specific needs, staffing and resources that drive the needs of their physical facilities. The Kern County Justice Facility is different from other correctional facilities in terms of the inmate and officer experience based on the fact that it was planned, designed and built to meet the specific needs and requests of the past and current staff,” said Reynolds. “[These include] not only the past and current needs, but also the projected needs of the future.”

To this end, a decentralized programming facility design was employed to orient the medical, mental health, religious and programming services closer to the inmates. Moreover, the aim was to increase the number and quality of these services while also increasing the operational efficiencies for staff. For example, video surveillance technology was installed not to replace observation by personnel, but rather to complement direct lines of sight. This approach is representative of an overall approach to maintaining the established and proven security methods of the past while integrating technological advances.

“The tailored facility, based on its use and user, will prove to be the difference in the Kern County Justice Facility,” said Reynolds.

Among its other amenities, the facility includes 26 special-use beds consisting of 12 suicide watch cells and a 14-bed

infirmary unit. Additionally, the facility boasts a clinic with full dental and X-ray services. There are satellite medical rooms assigned to each housing pod as well.

Video visitation, property storage, jail and medical, administrative offices, not to mention receiving and release, are among the facility’s support functions.

(Food and laundry services are provided by a central location already integrated into the nearby Lerdo Jail Facility Campus.)

The new facility isn’t only a boon to inmates, however.

“Staff is extremely excited to have the opportunity to open and operate the new facility. Kern County has not opened

a new jail in over 30 years. Opening and operating the new facility is a once-in-a-career type of opportunity. The new Kern County Justice Facility is representative of the decades of professional leadership, services of the employees of Kern County and the incredible work of our partners DLR Group, HOK, Kitchell and Balfour Beatty,” said Reynolds. ■



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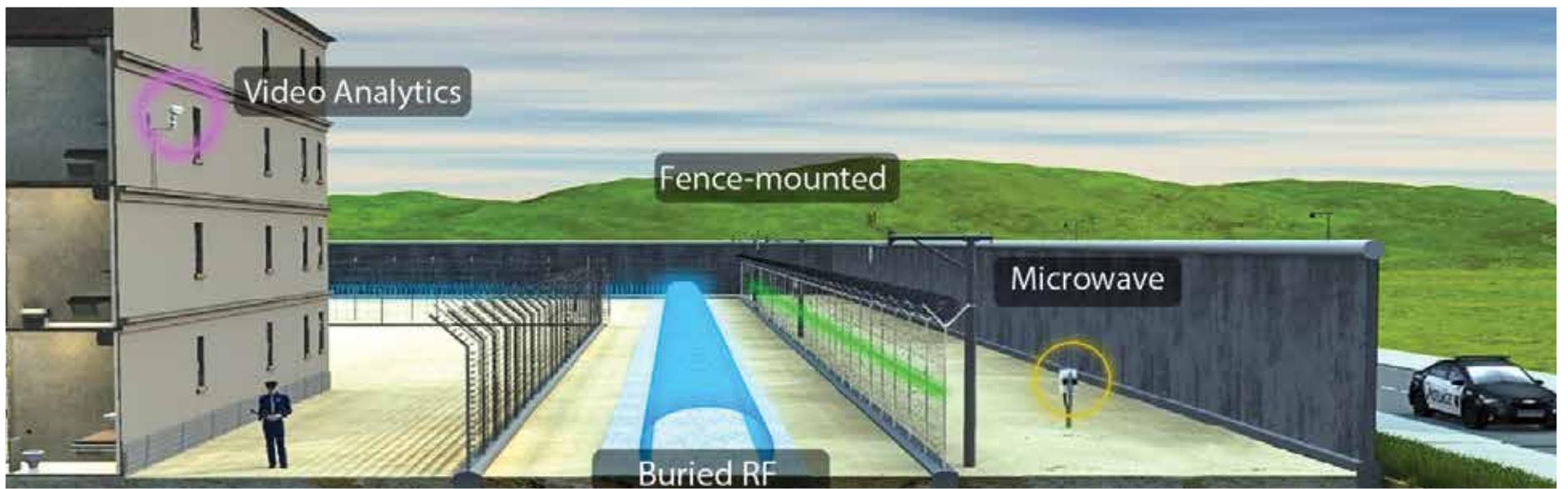
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Buried RF consists of a set of buried cables that form a virtual fence of electromagnetic energy.

Intelligent, low-voltage lighting is a new trend in correctional perimeter security.



Technology Advances in Perimeter Intrusion Detection Systems

By Stewart Dewar

The end goal of using perimeter intrusion detection systems (PIDS) in correctional environments is to augment the effectiveness of both physical infrastructure and security personnel. When the technology works well, it becomes a force multiplier, freeing up officer resources and alerting staff to inmate escape attempts.

Technology that works well is the key. PIDS have been in use in correctional environments for over 35 years, and a lot has changed over time. Advances in technology have made these systems more effective, easier to install and dramatically lower in cost. This article examines which PIDS technologies are the most effective for correctional environments and how new advances can solve application-specific problems.

Protecting the Perimeter

While there are many types of sensor technologies that protect perimeters, some are more suitable for correctional facilities than others. When looking at different systems, consider these factors:

- Probability of detection: Does the system quickly and accurately detect attempts to breach the perimeter each and every time?

- Nuisance alarm rate: Does the system only generate alarms for real or simulated escape attempts? If the system generates alarms during normal conditions or high winds, security may start to suffer from complacency when responding to alarms.

- Ease of installation and configuration: How easy is the system to install and configure? Can the system be configured remotely from an equipment room, so maintenance staff can avoid travelling out to the perimeter whenever an adjustment is required?

- Integration with Security and Video Management Systems (SMS/VMS): Does the system generate information for correctional officers that improves situational awareness? For example, can the SMS use the sensor data to display the precise location on a map? Are related alarms grouped together to avoid overloading officers with redundant information? Can the alarms be integrated with the VMS for automated camera control?

Fence-Mounted Sensors

Fence-mounted sensors consist of a coaxial cable, fiber-optic cable or set of accelerometers attached directly to the fence, and detect any attempt to cut, climb or lift the fence fabric. Older systems (sometimes called “shaker systems”) use electro-mechanical movement and are notorious for a high-nuisance alarm rate, leading to operator overload in the control room and alarm complacency.

Modern systems use a variety of sensing techniques (time-domain reflectometry or accelerometers, for example). These advances allow for features such as environmental compensation algorithms, precision ranging, cut immunity and low-voltage power over sensor cables.

Coaxial-based sensors are generally

highly economical and easy to deploy. Fiber-optic sensors require zero electronics on the perimeter and may be more cost-effective for larger facilities.

New fence sensor products can report the precise location of a disturbance. This ranging capability is a major improvement over previous “block” sensors. Not only can ranging information be used to direct surveillance cameras, it enables sensitivity levels to be adjustable for specific areas of the fence (for example, to accommodate for changes in fence construction). Ranging capabilities can reduce nuisance alarms as well, since the system can distinguish between site- or area-wide disturbances caused by high winds and a legitimate escape attempt. Finally, ranging reduces operational costs by enabling maintenance staff to quickly locate and resolve issues.

Sliding gates have always posed a problem for cable-based sensors. Traditionally, a mechanical cable retraction system is used to manage the routing of the sensor cable from the fence to the sliding gate panel. These systems are expensive, cumbersome and prone to failure. Fortunately, there is now a much better solution: wireless gate sensors. An embedded accelerometer analyzes gate movement in three dimensions, enabling the sensor to distinguish between gate

activity, intrusion/escape attempts and environmental conditions. The sensor communicates with a nearby processor over an encrypted and monitored wireless link. If any suspicious event occurs — an intrusion or escape attempt, communication link failure or an attempt to remove the sensor from the gate — an alarm is immediately generated.

Volumetric Sensors

Volumetric sensors emit an RF/microwave energy field between a transmitter (Tx) and receiver (Rx) pair. The most common type is microwave, which generates a cigar-shaped field between a pair of post-mounted units. The main advantage of current microwave systems is that they typically perform well in extreme weather conditions such as heavy snowfall or dense fog and are easy to retrofit within existing sites.

While their coverage makes microwaves well-suited for open areas, such as the secure area between inner



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and outer fences, their primary use is to monitor sallyports. When designing the sensors for a sallyport, integrators should be aware that a single event (e.g., the entrance of a delivery truck) can trigger alarms on multiple microwave pairs if used in close proximity. In these cases, the SMS should be able to merge the related events together to avoid overloading the control room officer with redundant alarms.

Buried RF, on the other hand, consists of a set of buried cables that form a virtual fence of electromagnetic energy. Being covert, it is considered impossible to defeat and is highly suited to detecting the presence of intruders in no-go buffer areas, such as near the fence or in the space between fences. Buried RF systems work well when the area is clear and there is good drainage. Because of the need to bury the sensor cables, an RF cable system is one of the more expensive systems to install.

Video Analytics

Video analytics have greatly improved over recent years, benefiting from today's higher-performance, lower-cost computing resources as well as HD cameras with impressive low-light, IR and thermal capabilities. Advances in computer vision research have led to the development of sophisticated video analytic software optimized for outdoor/indoor people tracking, left/removed object detection, auto PTZ, face and license plate recognition, crowd detection and much more. These software modules may be included as part of a Video Management System (VMS) or embedded on individual cameras.

Rather than being an alternative to traditional PIDS, video analytics offer an exciting new set of technologies that greatly enhance perimeter security at relatively low cost. For example, video analytics can leverage a facility's existing camera infrastructure to detect and track people near both sides of the perimeter fences, providing early warning of potential security events before they can occur.

Intelligent Lighting

Intelligent, low-voltage lighting is a new trend in correctional perimeter security. Installed on the fence, the LED-based luminaires provide uniform, wide-spectrum illumination targeted along the fence line. This improves the quality of video feeds by avoiding hot spots while a high Color Rendering Index (CRI) value means colors are accurately shown (greatly assisting officers with identification). LED-based lighting also dramatically reduces electrical consumption while a 10-year-plus lifespan virtually eliminates maintenance.

These benefits are useful, but how do they relate to perimeter sensors? This is where the word "intelligent" comes into play. Sensors embedded in

the luminaires themselves can detect the fence vibrations caused by someone attempting to cut, climb or lift the fence fabric. In addition to notifying the SMS/VMS, the lights in the immediate area can instantly switch to full power or strobe. Knowing they are detected, potential escapees may rethink their actions.

New- and future-generation

perimeter sensors (and accompanying video analytics) can certainly meet the goal of reliably detecting attempts from inmates to bypass perimeter fencing and gates. The key concerns when evaluating these systems are to ensure that they are cost-effective, do not burden correctional staff with large numbers of nuisance alarms and can be properly integrated so

as to enhance overall security response capabilities.

Stewart Dewar is the product manager for Senstar, a global company that provides one of the largest portfolios of perimeter intrusion detection products.



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The new facility incorporates a pod model, which affords continuous observation of inmates by staff via multiple clusters of cells that surround a living area.

Top: The dorm rooms in the new jail benefit from natural light from skylights.

Middle: The entrance of the new facility is more campus-like than its 50-year-old predecessor.

Below: The new 49,000-square-foot jail boasts 158 beds as well as administrative offices and also serves as the new Wexford County sheriff's office headquarters.



Wexford County Modernizes Jail

By Daedalus Howell

CADILLAC, Mich. — Granger Construction Co. of Lansing, Mich., broke ground on Michigan's new Wexford County Jail in August 2016, and the project was completed in November 2017.

The original half-century-old facility only had capacity for 32 beds and suffered from supervision issues due to the nature of its rectilinear design. The new 49,000-square-foot jail, however, boasts 158 beds as well as administrative offices and also serves as the new Wexford County sheriff's office headquarters.

Designed by Hooker DeJong Architects of Muskegon, Mich., the new facility incorporates a pod model, which affords continuous observation of inmates by staff via multiple clusters of cells that surround a living area — or pod — that contain tables, chairs and televisions, and other amenities.

"It maximizes visual supervision of each housing block and eliminates blind spots as much as possible," said Steve Moe, AIA, senior project manager at Hooker DeJong Architects. "The pods are sized for staff supervision efficiency. It is very compact so it maximizes the utilization of the space."

Another consideration regarding space utilization was managing the flow of inmate and personnel traffic. By bringing programs and services to inmates — through video visitation, adequate dayroom space within each cell block, in/out activities and meals served within cell blocks rather than via a central dining facility — inmate movement and personnel traffic between the jail's various locations have been enhanced. To that end, the pod system helps separate minimum-security inmates from inmates incarcerated for felonies, which greatly benefits inmate safety and correctional facility culture. Likewise, there are varying cell-block sizes, capacities and security levels to provide flexibility, depending on the needs of the population.

Corroborating the jail's campus-like aesthetic, emphasis was also put on creating a classroom for inmates. To create a functioning learning environment within the facility, the team decided to design a dedicated classroom space rather than a multipurpose room. Not only does it honor the intention of the space, having a dedicated classroom also cuts down the time lost to rearrange it.

"A dedicated classroom, appropriately sized, was provided rather than sharing the room with other functions. Therefore, furniture and technology are always set up for the classroom environment, eliminating the need to rearrange," said Moe,



Photo Credit: [all]. Hooker DeJong Architects



who added that the room has “good acoustics.”

Additionally, the new jail has improved health-related services with a full-time nurse on staff. A doctor will also pay weekly visits to the jail (versus the previous fortnightly schedule). Also, inmates’ personal effects are stored through a new conveyor system, which will be kept in a locked room. Speaking of storage, the new jail features a large building designed to stow patrol cars and marine patrol vehicles.

Another interesting highlight of the new design is the use of a mechanical chase behind all of the cells. “This chase falls outside of the secure perimeter and allows for all of the utilities to be run through. It also allows for all maintenance to plumbing fixtures and access to ductwork from this space,” explained Moe. “This eliminates the need for maintenance staff or repair people to access most things from within the cell blocks, reducing the need to move



A mechanical chase runs behind the walls of the cells to facilitate building maintenance.

inmates or escort anyone while they are working on repairs or maintenance.”

Inmates also get plenty of daylight, which is directed in the cell blocks through skylights. Moreover, inmates are not brought outside for recreation — rather, “the recreation requirements are met with an in/out activity room where, on non-rainy days, an overhead door located in a clerestory can be opened to provide fresh air and a view to the sky,” said Moe.

New industrial appliances such as washers and dryers and kitchen gear have been installed with an eye to boosting housekeeping efficiencies. There is also a basement with elevator access for locker rooms, electrical/

mechanical rooms, evidence storage and processing as well as future expansion space.

Perhaps most intriguingly, the facility is equipped with a “muffin monster,” a device that can “chew up anything that could possibly be flushed down the toilets,” said Moe. This eliminates clogging of pipes downstream of the jail.

Throughout the entire process, working with stakeholders such as Granger Construction Co. and Wexford County proved satisfying and productive, according to Moe. “During the design process, we met regularly with Wexford County staff to determine their needs, discuss design options and specifics on various spaces, materials, finishes and

colors,” he said. “During design, monthly OAC meetings were held to discuss project status, payment applications, RFIs and submittals. Granger’s staff was always looking ahead and anticipating issues well before they were hot items, so there was always ample time to respond. And the project was completed on time and on budget.” ■

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What Keeps Me Up at Night:

Physical Security, Electronic Security & Human Behavior

By Gregory Offner

Back in 1961, President John F. Kennedy, when speaking about travel to the moon, said, “Some people ask why; I say, why not.”

Sometimes, we decide to take the same approach with methods of security; it’s available in the market, so we should use it. Seldom do we ask ourselves, do we really need it?

A dilemma in our industry is, “How much security is too much, and how little is not enough?” We typically think about security as two distinct elements, physical security and electronic security, and likely spend countless hours in bed with our eyes wide open considering what works best for our facilities. We ask ourselves questions like, “Do I use one element more or the other less? A balanced combination of both? Or is there something else out there that I am missing?”

In correctional settings, many public buildings and most secure treatment facilities, we usually find a range of components involved in security, plus one, knowledgeable and highly trained staff. Many times these highly trained staffers are equipped with electronic surveillance monitors, smart keys, electronic locks, voice and facial recognition devices, and metadata-loaded tablets to control the living environment. They typically have electronic gates; multiple pan, tilt, zoom and fixed high-resolution cameras; sallyports; microwave detection; taut wires; and motion sensors incorporated into a 12-foot high perimeter fence. Even regular aerial drone patrols accompany the officer driving perimeter patrols. The list can go on and on. It’s no small wonder we toss and turn at night with all that is available for security.



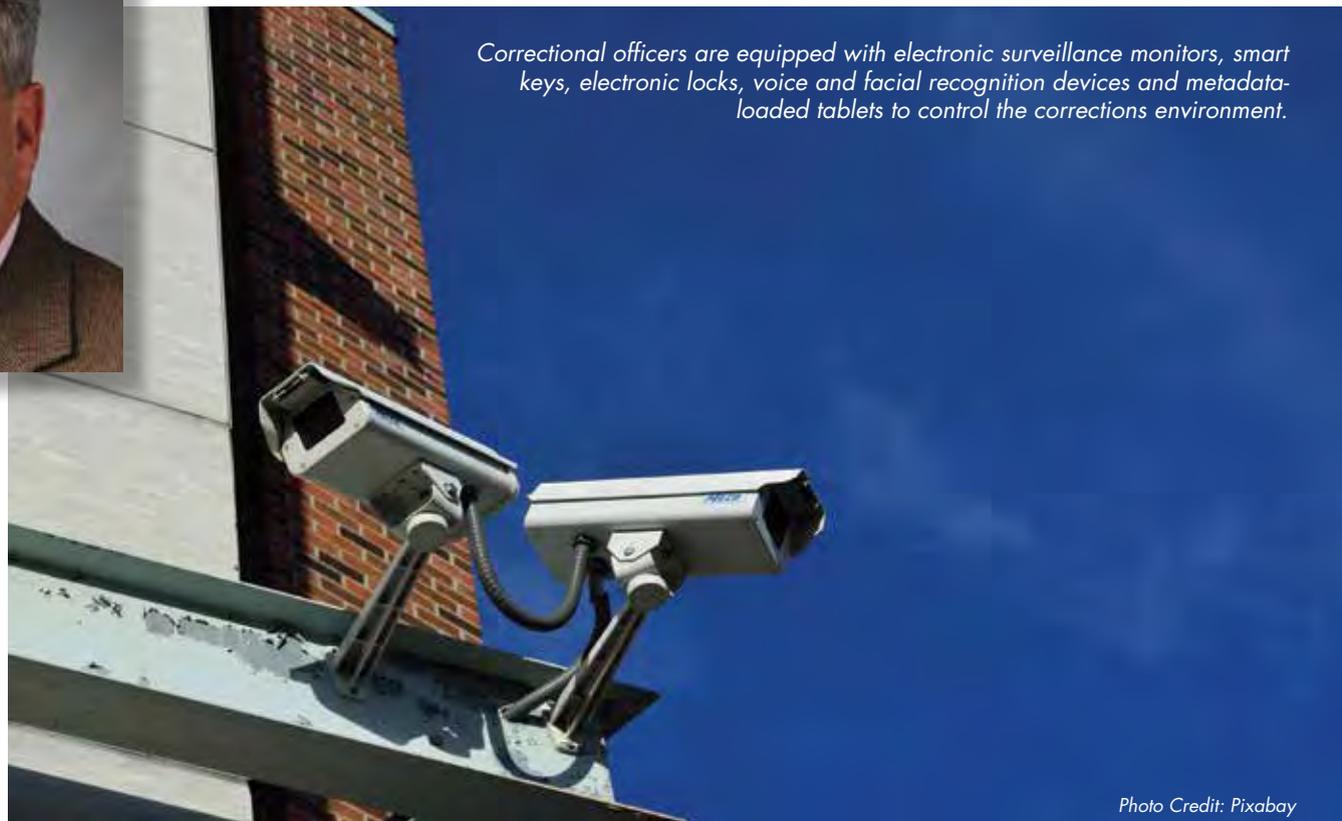
Offner

outside the secure perimeter? I do, and it keeps me up at night.

Many years ago, the direct supervision method of inmate management was rarely used. Direct supervision then grew in popularity, in order to humanize incarceration and have corrections officers become a partner in inmate rehabilitation rather than functioning as a security guard. In light of the rise in assaults, some jurisdictions are considering backing away from direct supervision to move toward direct observation, enhancing the use of both visual and electronic observation. Some facilities have increased the use of administrative segregation to lower the number of

or electronic security. Perhaps it includes another dimension.

Another threat to security exists in our dependence upon IT. I haven’t even begun to discuss the vulnerability of our criminal justice electronic systems. Regardless of how many crypt keys and biometrics we apply, systems still use a password for authentication, and an attacker can skip the biometric part and go straight to the back-end application. Even voice recognition is not the fail-safe it used to be. Audio manipulation, if Alexa can record it, can be hacked. Or if the password is known, then the acoustic track can be manipulated by a hacker to get the voice pattern. I can’t even catch a cat nap wondering how vulnerable



Correctional officers are equipped with electronic surveillance monitors, smart keys, electronic locks, voice and facial recognition devices and metadata-loaded tablets to control the corrections environment.

Photo Credit: Pixabay

What Do I Use & Why?

More so than years ago, it is now more common for office buildings, retail establishments and even private residences to use some method of security to prevent or deter break-ins. Home and business owners are using alarms, cameras, dead-bolt locks and the like. What keeps me up at night is that we sometimes apply elements of security and protection without performing a realistic threat or vulnerability assessment. There has never been a home invasion or burglary in my brother’s neighborhood, yet he has all the bells and whistles a high-security facility could have in the event of a break-in, fire or household emergency.

There is always much discussion regarding the expanded use of cameras and electronic monitoring in correctional facilities. Within the confines of our prisons and jails, there is a clear and present vulnerability to the staff and inmates, and the public at large is also vulnerable in the event of an escape. According to statistics, over the last 10 years, assaults on staff seem to be increasing, while inmate-on-inmate assaults and escapes seem to have remained about the same. Yet despite all of the advances in the security industry, do you ever wonder why we haven’t figured out how to better protect the vulnerable inside and

assaults on both officers and inmates. This “out of harm’s way” approach is one method of protection, but is it practical given the mission of our correctional and rehabilitation systems? Is it “convenient” to use locked doors as a method to lower the number of assaults in our correctional facilities?

The question of how much is too much security and how little is not enough is one that has facility managers counting sheep. For example, do we really need a combination of facial recognition and voice recognition for entry control? Are these security elements really enhancing security, or just adding convenience? Do we need an officer on every unit with a rover, unencumbered sightlines from control rooms and cameras in housing areas in order to prevent assaults? Are all three — officers, sightlines and cameras — enough of a deterrent to the aggressor to prevent violence? Will knowing the inmate is being watched act as a deterrent? In fact, ask yourself this question: Has the presence of a camera ever deterred an active shooter from entry to a building? Has the presence of a corrections officer prevented every physical assault? The answer is, of course, no. Perhaps the answer to the dilemma of what works best isn’t just about better physical

we may be. So how can we talk about security electronics without discussing IT network security as well as physical security in the same conversation?

The Human Factor

Security begins with a component that is a constant to our protection: people. Let me provide some evidence of why the biggest vulnerability may start with us.

Hawaii: In 2017, a patient with a history of violent behavior walked out of a Hawaii psychiatric hospital at 9 a.m. on a Sunday morning, took a taxi to a chartered plane in Honolulu bound for the island of Maui and then boarded a Hawaiian Airlines flight to San Jose, Calif. Thanks to some observant citizens, the patient was taken back into custody a few days later in California. The facility that housed mental health patients who have committed violent crimes was not considered a secure facility. The escape was not reported by the hospital until 7:30 p.m., more than 10 hours after the event occurred. After the incident, the Department of Public Safety conducted a security audit for the facility. Their security recommendations included adding technology to better monitor patients, changing reporting procedures and putting up a 12-foot-tall perimeter fence

around buildings that house higher-security patients.

Florida: After February's tragic loss of life in Parkland, many schools are again looking at risks and vulnerability to shootings. The school shooter knew the campus' weaknesses better than the faculty and staff, and gained entry to the school without challenge. For many years, post Columbine and Sandy Hook, vulnerability assessments on our schools were performed. Regretfully for Parkland and many other schools, all possible exposures and threat potentials may not have been addressed. I am certain there are schools that will argue against 100 percent lock-down operations, metal detectors and armed security. One wonders if this hesitance is because these measures are inconvenient? Would having heightened security interfere with the learning environment? After the earlier school shootings many schools started protecting their schools by implementing enhanced communications with law enforcement.

The commonality to these incidents is the human factor. This can be the best and worst security system out there.

Checking Vulnerability

Years ago, I worked alongside a New Jersey-based firm examining risk and threats to a public building campus. This firm used The Ballentine Beer method to develop risk assessments. Ballentine Beer had a three-rings logo, with each ring representing a value: purity, body and flavor. The assessments performed for this campus used a three-ring method, each ring representing a perimeter to be considered as a vital component of the vulnerability assessment. Simply explained, the outer ring of assessment would be the area of the neighborhood in which the campus existed. Naturally, the campus had little if any control over the goings-on beyond the buildings. Regardless, a component of the assessment included interaction between the neighborhood, campus and local police department in their security protocols.

The next ring assessed what was around the campus. If you have ever driven the Baltimore Washington Parkway, you probably noticed the entries to our National Security Agency (NSA) offices near Ft. Meade, Md. There are checkpoints at entries, quite a distance from the buildings. How many of our schools or public building use perimeter protection? Like the NSA campus, the actual buildings within the campus became the next circle of protection. The buildings themselves had many of the controls a high-security building would employ. Working with the knowledge that what happens in the neighborhood could impact the campus and that what occurs on campus has an effect on the building, an effective plan

will help determine what elements of physical, electronic and human security need to be put in place.

In the final analysis, we should consider our security solutions building out, without overlooking the campus and the surrounding neighborhood. Had the Parkland shooter been stopped in the neighborhood at the entry to school

grounds and had the perimeter security been tighter around the psychiatric hospital, perhaps neither of these incidents would have occurred. Building security has a higher dependency on campus and neighborhood security than ever before. Once we discipline ourselves to examine a total security solution using vulnerability

assessments, we will all be able to get a good night's sleep.

Gregory Offner, CCM, is a project executive and design and pre-construction services manager at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based Moss Construction Management.



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ENSCO Advances Heartbeat Detection Technology

By Vernon Joyner

Perimeter security is of paramount importance for preventing inmate escapes from walled facilities. Millions of dollars are spent every year equipping prisons with state-of-the-art perimeter detection systems. Fencing, surveillance cameras, microwave, taut wire and ground sensors are commonly used to fortify the perimeter and alert staff to breaches. Countless vulnerability assessments reveal the perimeter and vehicle sallyport as the weakest links in prison infrastructure. It's estimated that vehicles ingress and egress tens of thousands of times daily in the U.S., seriously compromising the perimeter. It's easier than one might think for an inmate to hide inside a truck, and any escape is one too many when it comes to public safety. Although policy may require vehicle searches, it's exceedingly labor intensive and the margin for error is high. Visual inspections alone don't ensure the vehicle doesn't have a person inside, simply because they're often filled with piles of boxes, materials or even garbage.

As experts in perimeter vulnerability analysis and protection, ENSCO has a deep understanding of the challenges faced by corrections. For more than 50 years, the company has provided R&D, engineering, science and security technologies to the Department of Defense, governments, corrections and private industries internationally. The ENSCO group of companies deliver advanced technology solutions in the national security, infrastructure protection, human presence detection, defense, transportation, aerospace and intelligence sectors. They have had a long history of solving the most challenging and complex security problems through technology to guarantee mission success, safety and security.

ENSCO has been a leader in signal processing and sensor technology for five decades. One of its flagship advanced technologies is the Chemical/Biological/Radiological/Nuclear/explosive (CBRNe) detection and warning system, which monitors multiple sensor platforms and alerts when an incident is detected. This technology is used by a prominent government facility to protect its assets and people. In addition, ENSCO specializes in technologies related to Open Source Scientific Data Collection and Analysis, Positioning/Navigation/Timing (PNT), counter-WMD and cybersecurity. ENSCO has also conducted hundreds of vulnerability assessments of high-risk government and public sector structures, including military installations, embassies, commercial sites and nuclear facilities.

ENSCO's vast expertise in threat mitigation and signal processing has led to the development of the patented heartbeat detection technology that powers MicroSearch, the company's human presence detection system. ENSCO recognized individuals hiding inside containers and vehicles posed a serious risk that compromised national security, and it was confident in solving this problem by remotely detecting people inside them. The challenge was transforming technology into something that was useful in solving the problem. MicroSearch is now used extensively for military, cargo, border control and prison security. Today, there are more than 500 prison installations worldwide.

There's no question an escape from a walled facility is the ultimate security breach, and the corrections market must do all it can to mitigate the threat. Ensuring that vehicles exit prisons without

stowaways is not an exact science, but MicroSearch technology vastly improves the accuracy and reliability of human presence detection. MicroSearch is a proven solution that employs heartbeat detection technology to find individuals hiding inside vehicles. The system uses seismic sensors to detect the subtle vibrations of the human heartbeat that are transmitted through the vehicle surface. It's sensitive enough to identify human presence even inside a heavily loaded truck. In less than a minute, it detects and alerts if there is a person inside. As a force multiplier, MicroSearch far surpasses human inspection of difficult-to-visualize areas. This dramatically increases detection of escape attempts before the perimeter is breached.

Heartbeat detection technology has come a long way since its inception. Like any technology, it's become more robust over time. Compare this growth to the cell phone revolution. Early versions were large, clunky and offered limited features. Today's cell phones are essentially smart handheld computers. Similarly, heartbeat detection technology has grown exponentially in accuracy and ease of use and no longer resembles the early versions. ENSCO holds the U.S. patent and is the only company that can continue to innovate and develop the technology. It has pioneered many critical advancements that are not available in any other system.

The first iteration of MicroSearch was a battery-operated unit placed on top of the vehicle. ENSCO found the results could sometimes be affected if it wasn't completely level. To resolve this issue, the company incorporated sensors that made MicroSearch "intelligent." In the next version, it added ground sensors to mitigate vibrations that might sometimes affect the results. Additionally, it developed more-intuitive user interfaces to make operation easier for officers. Management features, reports and biometrics were also added for greater accountability.

ENSCO recently developed the most revolutionary advancement in heartbeat detection to date. A past reservation expressed was that environmental anomalies occasionally caused false positives. The company tackled this challenge head on and engineered wireless sensors that virtually eliminate the problem. By eliminating cables, the system is no longer affected by movement. ENSCO is confident this technological breakthrough will change the landscape and lead to more widespread use. Increasingly, customers are upgrading to the latest

G4.0 version, and wireless systems are consistently well received.

The Pennsylvania Department of Correction (DOC) has been using MicroSearch for 10 years at all 27 facilities. It's been so effective that they recently upgraded to the latest version. As one representative observed, when you have vehicles coming in and out of the facility daily, you need to make sure they're searched thoroughly. The last thing you want is a breach that would allow an inmate to escape by secreting themselves in a pallet in the vehicle. Administrators view MicroSearch as a tool to speed up the process and make it more efficient. It's also proven helpful in keeping the chain of evidence correct. If used the way you're supposed to, it's 100 percent foolproof.

ENSCO is looking toward the future with great enthusiasm as it continues innovating for the corrections, defense, intelligence and security industries. The company's long-term vision for MicroSearch is to develop an integrated and automated enterprise level security system. It's already begun engineering a system that has even less staff involvement, is quick and easy to use, secure and cost effective. It envisions that, instead of placing a sensor on a vehicle, it would simply drive in and the system would provide a go/no-go alert.

ENSCO believes technology needs to be married to the customer's needs and requirements. It is not looking to develop and sell a widget in a vacuum, but rather to create technologies that solve real problems. The company invests heavily in R&D to continuously advance technology and bring ideas to reality. ENSCO feels it's imperative to always engage with its customers to learn what they see as a threat. Technology moves so quickly, and in the security and intelligence worlds, it sometimes becomes the threat. Twenty years ago, who would have worried about cybersecurity or inmates unlocking electronic cell doors or using an inexpensive drone to drop drugs and phones into the prison yard? We can't afford to wait for a crisis to happen. We must look ahead to anticipate and counter threats posed by adversaries and evolving technology.

Vernon Joyner is vice president of the National Security Solutions Division at Falls Church, Va.-headquartered ENSCO Inc., which provides advanced products and services for security applications, including enterprise protection, human presence detection, cyber superiority and CBRN solutions.



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Dropped Calls: Cellphones in Prisons

By Stephen Carter

Until about a decade ago, electronic security in prisons mostly dealt with remote door controls, surveillance cameras and perimeter detection. Integration of all the low-voltage systems and devices birthed a new division within the standard specifications that all architects use to describe the design intent of a correctional facility. Evidence would suggest that as an industry, as the technology of electronic security systems improved, so did the security of our facilities.

In the last decade, conversations, whether in legislative lounges, Department of Corrections conference rooms or housing units, have now included the existence of contraband cellphones as a growing security risk that rivals homemade shanks. The issue is at once controversial, emotional and political. But why would we be surprised? Since 2007, the number of cellphone subscriptions in the world has increased from 50 per 100 residents to more than 100 per 100 residents. In the U.S. alone, we now have more than 300 million devices, and that's climbing exponentially every year.

At least two political leaders (Mandela and Churchill) suggested in a sobering sort of way that, if you want to get a sense of social norms, look into the prisons. With that view, estimates by the International Telecommunication Union place worldwide cellphone numbers at 6 billion this year. The fact that some of these have found their way into our prisons should not be startling. Every day, the majority of citizens use their mobile devices for lawful purposes, but a percentage do not. The same is true for inmates, and Czech criminal psychologist Dr. Jozsef Vegh even suggests that the availability of cellphones in prisons can actually improve the lives of inmates and staff.

But many opinions differ from that of Dr. Vegh. One method that is being considered by a number of states to prevent the effectiveness of cellphones in prisons is managed access. A study by the nonpartisan California Council on Science and Technology raises "significant concerns" about plans to install "managed access technology" in the state's 33 adult prisons. "Managed access as proposed will not do the job that the [California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation] wants done," said Susan Hackwood, the council's executive director.

A subcommittee of the South Carolina Senate Corrections and Penology Committee also recently voted to advance a bill — sponsored by Katrina Shealy,

R-Lexington — that increases penalties for inmates who possess a cellphone or people who provide cellphones to inmates, to the full committee for a vote.

What Are We Trying to Prevent?

Not for one moment would I argue that the security risk of cellphones (think smartphones) in prisons is overstated, but I do feel the discussion should consider making programmable cellphones available to a portion of the prison population. Currently, correctional administrators have limited options, including implementing strict and expensive contraband screening methods, installing controversial managed access technology and issuing programmable cellphones to some of the population.

All three approaches are expensive, but the cost-benefit and risk analyses have to begin with basic questions about the availability of cellphones in prisons: What are we trying to prevent? And what are we trying to encourage? Clearly, through the control of cellphones, we are trying to prevent inmates from operating criminal activities from inside prison and from initiating threatening behavior among other inmates.

One of the major requirements for incarceration is to prepare inmates to return to their communities and become law-abiding members by staying in touch with approved family members and support organizations. I recognize that this sounds Pollyannaish to under-resourced and over-stressed staff whose simple goals are to keep the facility and themselves safe. But the inertia associated with corrections management often limits any initiative that could be taken to thoroughly investigate complicated problems.

Exploring a solution to the illegal and illicit use of cellphones in prisons should at least involve examining other approaches, and two non-traditional case studies deserve attention. Both examples are from Europe, and while the practices within European prisons are often quickly dismissed in America, useful metrics often emerge that can assist us in an objective analysis of system changes.

The first example is from Hungary, where under European Union rules that encourage fostering continued regular contact with the family, all inmates — from thieves to murderers — will be given cellphones. Having spent years attempting to rid prisons of cellphones, correctional officials have decided to introduce a cellphone that is capable of making calls to known and approved members of the public,

according to the news service Borsonline. The phone is basic and has none of the features of a smartphone.

According to information on the Hungarian Prison Service website, "There is no opportunity to manipulate the phone's capabilities. Keeping in touch will [also] be bound by strict rules. Detainees have registered contact persons who mainly come from the kinship circle. From the phone, only the designated person's contact number can be called, which means the device will be available to call the given five to six numbers. The device is calibrated only for outgoing calls and cannot receive calls. As in the case of conversations conducted by landline telephones, the penal institution eavesdrops [on] the conversations of the detainees."

The second example comes from a new prison in Northern Wales in the United Kingdom. HMP Berwyn was designed to accommodate 2,100 Category C (medium-custody) inmates. According to published information about the new prison, each two-man room will have a computer, telephone and ensuite toilet and shower. The facility's Deputy Project Director Nick Dann was quoted in InsideTime, a national newspaper for inmates and detainees in the U.K., saying, "If they start off with the mindset that this does not feel like a prison, we are hoping they will act like it is not a prison as well. When Nelson Mandela was in custody, he wrote about the importance of normality. The more normal you make it on the inside, the easier it is to transition when they get out."

This new prison has taken the approach of providing a landline telephone in each room as well as a computer that encourages the offender to remain in touch with family members and learn the skills that will be necessary to obtain employment, even before release. Controls on both devices are integral to maintaining security protocols.

In the years ahead, more examples will be available that demonstrate that controlled communication with the world to which most inmates will eventually return need not compromise security. What we should want to do is at least explore what is working in other jurisdictions and consider if the cost to control electronic communication devices may be greater than permitting some form of controlled access. This discussion is critical to personal and public safety.

Stephen Carter is the executive vice president and global strategic development officer at Miami-based CGL.

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Projects pictured top to bottom: Pinellas County Jail Expansion, FL; Architects: CGLRicciGreene Design and Mason Blau & Associates | Marion County Judicial Center Expansion, FL; Architect: HOK | Tuolumne County Jail, CA; Architect: Lionakis



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justice public safety projects

151^{K+}

inmate beds

60.2^M

square feet completed

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in successful projects



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