

Intergraph Enhances Shreveport Police's Surveillance Video Capabilities



Shreveport investigators use Intergraph's Video Analyst System to enhance video footage of crimes in their city.

INTERGRAPH VIDEO ANALYST® PROVIDES CRITICAL CRIME-SOLVING EVIDENCE

THE CHALLENGE:

The City of Shreveport, Louisiana, known for its many casino gambling boats, is similar to any other American town – it has its share of crime. The Shreveport Police Department works tirelessly to prevent, deter, and combat crime and serve and protect the citizens of Shreveport. One of the ways they do this is through surveillance cameras strategically placed at crime-ridden areas of town or probable crime locations, such as convenience stores, restaurants, banks, ATMs, etc. However, the resulting surveillance video footage can often be too dark, jumpy, or poor in quality to provide police with any hard evidence.

For example, Lil' Joe's, a popular bar and grill in Shreveport, installed surveillance cameras throughout their building. Their primary camera pans over a good portion of the restaurant – covering the most trafficked area. But even the owner knows from experience that those cameras won't stop a robbery. More than two months ago, Lil' Joe's was robbed by gunmen. The blurry and indiscernible surveillance video footage made it impossible to distinguish any distinctive marks of the culprits – allowing them to get away with the \$2,200 robbery.

THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Increase crime-solving through enhanced video analysis
- Improve the use of surveillance cameras to deter crime

THE SOLUTION:

To help combat crime, the Shreveport Police Department purchased Intergraph's Video Analyst System, a comprehensive, effective, affordable, and user-friendly solution for video enhancement and analysis. The standard in forensic video analysis, Video Analyst offers features found nowhere else – including NASA's Video Image Stabilization and Registration (VISAR*) technology. Shreveport Police Crime Scene Investigator Michael Armstrong says his unit is now better equipped to enhance surveillance video – enough to get a clear picture which should

PROFILE:

Name – Shreveport Police Department, Louisiana

Web site – www.ci.shreveport.la.us/dept/police/index.htm

The Shreveport Police Department handles more than 250,000 calls for service each year. It patrols the city's 100 square miles with officers in 18 police districts. Roughly 500 sworn police officers are employed, handling everything from patrols to investigations.

KEY BENEFITS:

- Ability to capture, analyze, enhance, and edit nearly any type of video
- Provision of critical evidence to crime investigations

PRODUCTS USED:

- Intergraph Video Analyst® System

lead to identifications and arrests. For example, Armstrong took robbery surveillance video of a dark room and made a few adjustments using Video Analyst's brightening, sharpening, and magnification tools. As the picture revealed a shadow, and then a person, Armstrong commented, "We can actually see the guy. Before, it was totally dark."

Video Analyst can separate dozens of cameras, like those used in casinos, through a tool called demultiplexing. This tool can isolate data from one to 128 cameras from a multiplexed surveillance or security tape, and allows quick differentiation between multiple cameras in a multiplexed video tape.

In a recent string of robberies at Shreveport area restaurants, Video Analyst was put to the test. Surveillance cameras placed within one of the restaurants provided only dimly lit, black-and-white video footage, making it difficult to distinguish details of the robbery. Using Video Analyst, Shreveport police brightened and demultiplexed the tape, which clearly revealed the perpetrator's face, allowing investigators to positively ID the suspect and bring him in for questioning. Once presented with the powerful video evidence against him, the suspect fully confessed to robbing not only the one restaurant, but all those that had been recently hit.

Video Analyst's powerful toolkit can also enhance license plates, stabilize jumpy and jittery video, and slow down time-lapse video. Shreveport Police had video footage of a recent break-in at the local First United Methodist Church. In the original footage, the suspect moved so quickly across the screen that he was rendered unidentifiable. Investigators used Video Analyst to slow the video footage from the church, allowing them to see the suspect walking slower and more clearly so they could make a positive identification. In yet another example, Video Analyst was used to put an area bank robber behind bars.

STRONG CRIME-SOLVING EVIDENCE

The Shreveport Police Department now serves as the video enhancement and analysis hub for the entire state of Louisiana thanks to Video Analyst's suite of tools. Police departments from all over Louisiana send their obscure video footage to Shreveport investigators to analyze —

and the result is strong crime-solving evidence. With Intergraph's powerful video analysis and enhancement tools on their side, Shreveport police have a resounding statement to criminals in Louisiana, "Smile, you're on camera. And we're going to catch you."

For more information, visit www.intergraph.com.

ABOUT INTERGRAPH

Intergraph Corporation is the leading global provider of spatial information management (SIM) software. Security organizations, businesses and governments in more than 60 countries rely on the company's spatial technology and services to make better and faster operational decisions. Intergraph's customers organize vast amounts of complex data into understandable visual representations, creating intelligent

maps, managing assets, building and operating better plants and ships, and protecting critical infrastructure and millions of people around the world.

