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The Senedd, Cardiff

Project:

Fully integrated electronic security system

Client:

National Assembly for Wales

Value:

£700,000

Overview:

The Senedd in Cardiff Bay is home to Wales' National Assembly and is one of the cities, if not Wales', most recognisable and architecturally significant buildings. With such an important building it was essential to install and maintain a very hi-specification security system.

CDS worked with design consultants TPS and the National Assembly for Wales' security advisers to design and install one of the most challenging and sophisticated electronic security systems in Wales. Additionally, CDS had to be sympathetic to the building's unique architectural features and aesthetics and maintain accessibility to the building's public areas throughout the duration of the project.

Project description:

The system incorporates 120 internal and external CCTV cameras all linked via a high speed network of digital video recorders to a large, multi-screen video wall in the central control room. CDS also provided access control systems for 120 doors with unique ID codes; intruder detection systems, x-ray baggage scanning equipment and hand held scanning devices all linked to the security control room.

All security system elements were integrated to provide an automatic response and total system flexibility so that different parts of the building could remain secure whilst others maintained full or restricted access. The CCTV management system comprises the latest high resolution internal and external cameras featuring powerful and accurate zoom lenses enabling easy monitoring and tracking.

The on-site security control is linked directly to police headquarters to allow monitoring of the integrated systems using a unified graphic user interface allowing seamless control of the different system components. As the final part of the new security system, CDS also completed an upgrade of the electronic security system at nearby Crickhowell House, home to the Welsh Assembly members.