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Hawk and Owl Trust

"I am totally convinced that the i-Catcher based system was the right way to go!"

David Gittens - Hawk & Owl Trust

Case Study :

Hawk & Owl Trust – Peregrine Falcon

Customer Profile

The Hawk & Owl trust is a registered charity working for Owls and other birds of prey. The charity is dedicated to conserving birds of prey in the wild and increasing the knowledge and appreciation of these magnificent creatures.

i-Catcher CCTV Solutions

i-Catcher Console is the most functional/cost effective solution for digital CCTV available today.

Using i-Catcher products, you can build advanced CCTV systems using your company's existing I.T. infrastructure, getting the best value from your hardware investment. With over 10,000 systems installed worldwide, we are a market leader in this new technology.

Hawk & Owl Trust:
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Summary

The peregrine falcon is a rare bird for Norfolk, with only one breeding pair being recorded within the last 100 years. So when a pair were seen flying around Norwich cathedral in 2009 the Hawk and Owl trust approached the cathedral authorities with a view to putting up a nesting platform with cameras to record them.

The Requirements

The Hawk & Owl Trust and cathedral authorities had to reconcile the contrasting needs of nature conservation and architectural conservation to provide a new home for the birds, with high quality, full frame rate live video streamed constantly and recorded at the Hawk & Owl Trust.

Whilst power is available within reach of the proposed platform location, no data connections exist. To comply with the cathedrals architectural conservation rules, no additional cables could be run, highlighting a requirement for a high quality wireless connection.

The Choice

Being an extensive user of i-Catcher Console, The Hawk and Owl trust used i-Catcher Console 5.0 to take care of the full frame rate, broadcast quality recording and remote viewing requirements. The only decision required is what hardware would be used to stream the footage from these magnificent birds of prey.

Numerous hardware and wireless solutions were evaluated.

The Solution

With i-Catcher Console 5.0 controlling the recording and remote viewing, it was decided that high resolution external cameras, converted to IP using an Axis Q7404 H.264 Video Server would be utilised.

The full frame rate video would be streamed back to i-Catcher Console wirelessly using Ubiquiti's NanoStation. Only the NanoStation provided a robust enough link, in excess of 1Km.

Volunteers from Norfolk Fire and Rescue service gave up some of their free time, working with the cathedral's works foreman, to install the platform and hardware through a window in the spire. Great care has been taken to fit in with the Cathedral's architectural style, such as having the platform specially painted to match the cathedrals stone.

The Result

A breeding pair have moved into the new platform, providing a real time insight to the life of these magnificent birds of prey.

The high quality i-Catcher footage has been shown on television, including ITV news and has also proved to be an invaluable educational tool for The Hawk and Owl Trust.

You can view footage from the cameras on ITV's website below:

http://www.itv.com/anglia/falcons-new-home43368/

To learn more about i-Catcher, and solutions that can be built using i-Catcher technology, visit our web site at the address below or give us a call on +44(0)1329 835335.