

SECURITY Dealer

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR DEALERS & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS

The Methodology of Intrusion Detection



EXCLUSIVE ROUNDTABLE:
Leaders in Perimeter Protection

VIDEO ANALYTICS:
Going Mainstream?

ACCESS CONTROL DESIGN:
Critical Components

NEW PRODUCTS START ON PAGE 82





ANTRONICS, INC STILL GOING STRONG AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

By Karen Duane Johnson

What do you get when you combine an antenna with electronics? The answer is "Antronics." This security company, specializing in commercial installations, is now in its 49th year of business. Chris Karimbakas, president of Antronics, says he has seen it all. Located just outside Boston, in Waltham,

MA, Antronics' beginnings focused solely on installing television antennas on homes and running cable from the antennas back to the televisions. "Through the years as TV went from black and white to color, from tubes to solid state then onto satellite," explains Karimbakas.

*Chris Karimbakas of Antronics (l.)
with Chief of Stow Police Department,
Mark Trefrey (r.).*



MOVING FROM TV TO CCTV

Having been there from what Karimbakas refers to as the dawn of an industry, once the introduction of cameras came in, he knew right away where the focus of the company needed to head. Video is where he went.

“Antronics now focuses on the installation of CCTV and video surveillance systems, security systems, audio and video systems as well as satellite reception and distribution systems,” he says.

“Antronics now focuses on the installation of CCTV and video surveillance systems, security systems, audio and video systems as well as satellite reception and distribution systems.”

Chris Karimbakas

The move is paying off. The company handles some unique and spectacular projects all over the city of Boston, MA. Currently Antronics is at Boston’s Logan Airport Terminal E where many of the airport’s international travelers arrive and depart each day.

“We have furnished over 100 cameras and a matrix switch that can handle over 250 cameras with a sixty-four monitor output with a number of alarm points integrated with card access, duress buttons and call for assistance throughout the terminal,” he explains.

What is also unique to this project is that it was started before 9/11, put on hold until recently and is now under the guidance of Homeland Security. While the airport does have face recognition systems throughout the complex, this project does not include it at this point.



An operator at the Stow Police Station in Stow, MA views the video captured from the DVR on the monitor.

Anyone traveling through Boston’s main artery during the 1990s remembers the huge highway project to increase parkland and bury the roads leading through the city, underground while increasing capacity. The project is dubbed the “Big Dig” and was one of the largest highway projects undertaken in a U.S. city in recent years.

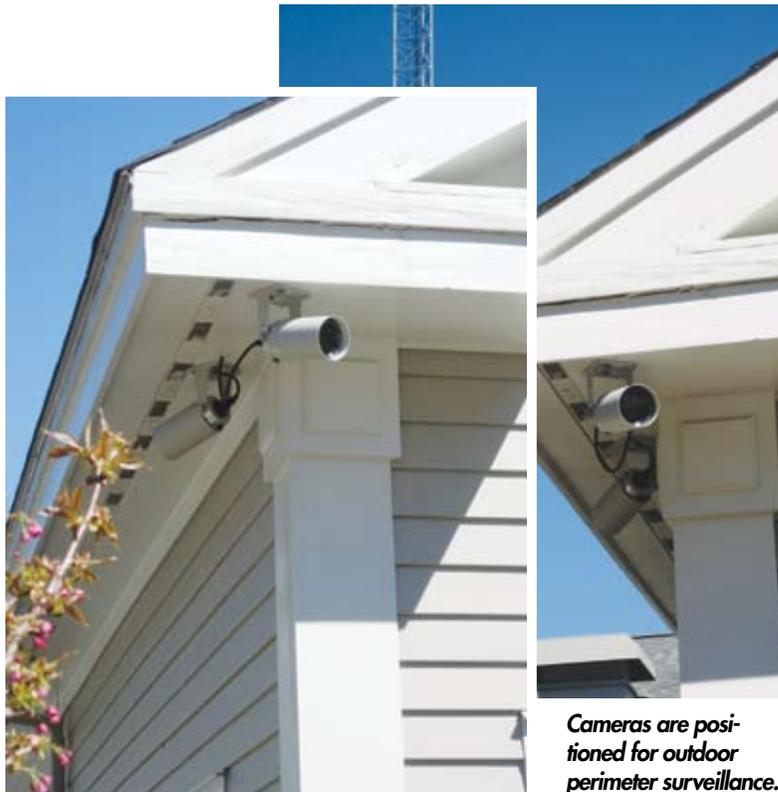
Preceding its commencement, Antronics was instrumental in assisting in the safety tests that were conducted underground in actual tunnels to determine

how to react to both fire and smoke emergencies, according to Karimbakas. “Just prior to the start of the Big Dig, Antronics furnished cameras for fire testing in the tunnels. This was done to observe the tests and to determine what the life safety standards should be,” he recalls.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Like many of the company’s projects, thinking outside the box was also applied here in the fire testing. “Unique to this was the fact that the cameras had to withstand

Profile of Proficiency



Cameras are positioned for outdoor perimeter surveillance.

A close-up view of the color cameras which covers entry doors and the parking lot.

160 degree temperatures for over four hours," Karimbakas states. "The cameras were specially insulated, had a cooling system and a fiber optic transmission system so the testers monitoring could do so as the tests took place."

According to him, 80-to 90 tests were conducted in this manner with the goal of determining how effective the tunnels were at getting rid of the smoke using real vehicles and tunnels. And as planned all the video information was transmitted back to the recorders. The project was a success, he says.

As technology continues to improve, it has become standard practice for older systems to be upgraded. The Stow Police department

located in Massachusetts realized the police station was no longer up to current standards with its security system and consulted with a local communications consultant Gerald Horne of Gerald Horne Associates. Horne and Karimbakas decide that a state-of-the-art video security system manufactured by TOA Electronics would be perfect for this application.

The installation performed by a team from Antronics is comprised of nine Digital Video Processing color video cameras covering the jail cells, the parking lot and all entry doors. These cameras are connected to TOA's state-of-the-art camera controller and digital video recorder. At the dispatcher's work station, which is staffed 24-hours a day, is a larger monitor that can be viewed by the dispatcher displaying all the cameras.

With a 50th anniversary coming next year, being in business this long takes a great deal of perseverance and the ability to adapt. But for Karimbakas, he feels, it is because they are not only good at what they do, but it also has to do with internal communications.

"When our technicians work on projects and when we work with clients, we don't have multiple layers; we know how to get the job done," he comments. "When you want to speak with the owner and president, it is not a problem. We don't put multiple steps into the decision making process. Our people have grown up in this industry so they are familiar with what has transpired in the past and how to adapt to a digital world...which is the future."

TOA EQUIPMENT LIST

4-TOA C-CV14-CS Indoor Color Camera
4-TOA C-BC21 Camera Bracket
4-TOA 13VG2812AS Vari-focal Lens
1-TOA VCM-2101 21" CRT Monitor
4-TOA C-CV44-3 Outdoor Color Camera
1-TOA C-DR161D3 16-Channel Digital Video Recorder



TOA Electronics, Inc.
601 Gateway Blvd., Suite 300
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Phone: 1-800-733-7088
Fax: 1-800-733-9766
www.toaelectronics.com