Dejero Technology Aids Public Safety Control of Over 11,000 People on Canada Day

CHALLENGE

Crowd control at any public event requires organization and regulation to keep everyone safe. In cases where large sums of people are gathered in one location, security should be amplified as mischievous behavior can cause a threat. Add any political figure to the crowd and these risks are significantly heightened.

During the 2019 Canada Day celebration at Parliament Hill in Ottawa Ontario, a well-known public figure attended the special celebration which included a full day of free festivities to the public. When political figures are present, circumstances can become more volatile. During the Canada Day celebrations, which celebrated Canada’s 152nd birthday, residents and tourists pooled to Parliament Hill and Major’s Hill Park to partake in the celebrations. Roughly 11,500 patrons attended to celebrate and attend festivities which included a small concert featuring some well known Canadian bands, fireworks, and even a flyby of the Canadian SnowBirds.

First responders managing the premises of such an event are clearly outnumbered and rely heavily on technology and fast decision making to quickly and efficiently monitor the crowd in real-time in the event there is a risk to public safety.

"We were really pleased to see how quick and efficient the Dejero EnGo connected our devices to key decision makers monitoring the crowd on Canada Day. Monitoring and controlling a crowd as large as this one requires promptness. We can see how this type of connectivity solution has many different applications as far as public safety is concerned."

- Interoperability Coordinator, Public Safety unit
The public safety units responsible for managing this event began brainstorming reliable and real-time streaming solutions to monitor the crowds from various angles using Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Wi-Fi connected bodycams. Rather than just relying on footage captured from drones requiring wireless network availability, the units landed on real-time connectivity solutions provided by Dejero.

The crews were equipped with Dejero EnGo mobile transmitters that use Smart Blending Technology (SBT) for the ultimate connectivity and high-quality video known and trusted by broadcasters around the world. SBT blends cellular, satellite, or any other wired or wireless IP connection from multiple providers to form a virtual “network of networks”, optimized for speed and reliability. This allowed the mobile command units to view, monitor, and control crowd movement and potential threats in real-time, enhancing their situational awareness without relying on surrounding congested cellular networks likely to cause footage delays.

When a large number of people are gathered in one area—11,500 in this case—mobile networks can become congested with everyone fighting for bandwidth. Public safety officials prefer not to rely on such networks because not only is it unreliable, it can be insecure. Unlike network failover solutions, Dejero’s Smart Blending Technology simultaneously blends multiple cellular and satellite connections—including FirstNet—to deliver greater bandwidth, expanded coverage, and enhanced reliability. First responders, decision makers, and drone pilots were able to surveil the crowd using their resources connected to the EnGo transmitter which captures the content and then fed through the Dejero WayPoint receiver to distribute the mobile footage of the crowd across channels as it was happening.
Using drones at a large public event such as a gathering on Parliament Hill provided officials with an effective method of crowd monitoring, keeping attendees in check knowing they are being watched. The added benefit of being able to view and record drone footage in real-time through Dejero solutions armed officials and their teams to act fast should something occur.

RESULTS

Mission-critical connectivity and real-time video for improved situational awareness and faster response time

Real-time video is beneficial for public safety agencies who need to monitor large crowds or provide perimeter security. In the case of the agencies tasked with this on Canada Day, an outnumbered team of first responders were able to successfully take control of a large crowd and keep everyone on the premises safe. If there was a threat to the public or any high profile attendees, units were connected and ready to take action thanks to the real-time, reliable connectivity provided by Dejero.

This particular use case illustrates how crucial it is to be able to have reliable connectivity for field commanders in supporting time-critical decision making. Circumstances such as sporting events, parades, protests, and gatherings of political figures, where movement and situational awareness are key elements in making real-time decisions, Dejero keeps your critical communications connected.

Need help building the right solution to improve your situational awareness?

Start the conversation today with one of our sales representatives.

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