Bavarian Police Meet Security Challenges with Broadcast-Quality Live Video

CHALLENGE

Crowd monitoring at high profile events such as political rallies or conferences requires well thought out organization and execution to keep things running smoothly. A well-rounded crowd control plan with proper security can be the difference between a safe and controlled environment, or a security breach. This can become increasingly difficult when the crowds are large and public safety units are small. Take, for example, the Bavarian Police Force (BPF), who were responsible for controlling the premises during the Munich Security Conference. The world’s leading forum for debate on international security policy, the conference gathers over 600 international political decision-makers, more than 35 heads of government and heads of state, and more than 100 cabinet ministers. An event of this size can be difficult to surveil given the scope, political nature, and popularity of attending politicians. In addition, the cellular networks become highly congested with attendees and large crowds surrounding the location all vying for bandwidth. To ensure a successful event, the BPF sought out alternatives to heighten their security.

Traditionally, the BPF relied on RF solutions, low-quality CCTV footage, low bandwidth, and unreliable or sometimes absent cellular connectivity, limiting their timely reporting and decision making abilities in the field. Being outnumbered in an event like the Munich Security Conference, the BPF required upgraded technology to improve situational awareness for fast decision making and efficiently monitor large crowds in real-time, in the event there is a risk to public safety. This is where Dejero stepped in to help out.
The Bavarian Police Force were already comfortable using Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and bodycams, however by implementing the Dejero EnGo mobile transmitter, they were able to enhance their situational awareness in the field with broadcast-quality live video. With the use of the EnGo and GateWay mobile Internet connectivity—both featuring Dejero Smart Blending Technology—the BPF reliably streamed surveillance over the congested cellular networks at the conference back to their headquarters in real-time with no disruption and no security threats due to the feed’s encrypted nature. Dejero Smart Blending Technology blends cellular, satellite, or any other wired or wireless IP connection from multiple providers to form a virtual “network of networks” that’s optimized for speed and reliability. Not just a failover solution, Dejero intelligently manages the connections to provide always-on connectivity so the BPF could focus on keeping the public safe. With such a robust workflow, the BPF was equipped with high-quality visuals they required to identify potential threats, while also trusting Dejero to provide low latency services through the flexibility of blended cellular and satellite technology.

To monitor and secure such high-profile gatherings, the Bavarian Police combined streams from the EnGo mobile transmitter carried in a portable backpack, from up to five cameras and up to three drones. These feeds were streamed through the Dejero receiver, and output as an IP stream that points to the Bavarian Police’s encryption engine. From there, the encrypted visuals were duplicated at headquarters and streamed back to the field to any tablet or smartphone that was connected to the system.
It was quite a robust network setup and the Dejero GateWay kept the entire operation reliably connected eliminating downtime. The GateWay supported data communications in the field, VoIP, and secure communications across the network. It also allowed the BPF to use their Dejero receiver located in the field, commonly located in a nearby van, with GateWay keeping them online.

“Dejero’s GateWay is being used in vehicles to strengthen existing secure police networks, giving them more powerful and robust connectivity,” said Rob Waters, Director of Sales, EMEA, Dejero. “It has replaced legacy RF solutions and single modem solutions that are limited to single providers. By blending multiple networks, Dejero’s GateWay provides a faster connection from multiple providers.”

In similar scenarios, like political rallies, concerts, and sporting events, the BPF used the Dejero LivePlus mobile app, sending police personnel inside the gathering in plain clothes to perform live video streaming from within. This made the identification of individuals, on the police watchlist, possible through face recognition software based on the high-quality video returns through the Dejero tools. In the past, this proved difficult because of lower quality CCTV feeds.

RESULTS

The use of Dejero video transmission technology has been a game changer for the Bavarian Police Force. In comparison to its previous legacy solution, Dejero has enhanced the reliability, stability, and efficiency of monitoring and controlling congested network scenarios. In the case where the BPF were tasked with keeping a large crowd safe at the Munich Conference, they were able to remain in control. If for any reason there would have been a threat to the public or any high profile attendees, the team was enabled to make data-driven decisions based on heightened situational awareness made possible by Dejero’s reliable connectivity.

Dejero has made such a positive impact through supporting this high-profile event that teams in other departments within the police force are looking into similar investments so they too can benefit from the power of Dejero technology to keep their people and the public safe.