

Adelphi's New School of Nursing Gets Clean Security Bill of Health

University implements video surveillance and identification card solutions to protect its massive new complex.

By Monique Merhige

IN THE SUMMER OF 2016, Adelphi University's School of Nursing, based in Garden City, N.Y., opened a massive building to house its college of nursing and public health. The LEED-certified Nexus building — also known as the Center for Health Innovation — also houses Adelphi's offices of admissions, alumni relations, advancement and student affairs; the learning center; writing center; and office of academic services and retention. This 90,000-square-foot, three-story facility includes underground and topside parking for 300 vehicles. It also contains high-tech laboratories and learning spaces, five seminar and conference rooms for classes and students/faculty.

On the second floor of the Nexus building, students will find the nursing instruction space that is used solely by nursing students and includes classrooms and ultramodern simulation labs. There are 10 examination rooms designed for different nursing scenarios, including an intensive care room, a delivery room and even a "home care" room set up to look like a person's home. Each exam room has a closed-circuit TV camera to observe the student's performance.



(Left to right) Timothy Burton, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration at Adelphi; Gene Palma, Assistant Vice President of Adelphi Department of Public Safety and Transportation; Andrew Schonzeit, President of Idesco; Michael Troiani, Service Manager at Idesco; and Robert Hughes, Associate Director of Adelphi Department of Public Safety and Transportation. All photos courtesy of Idesco.

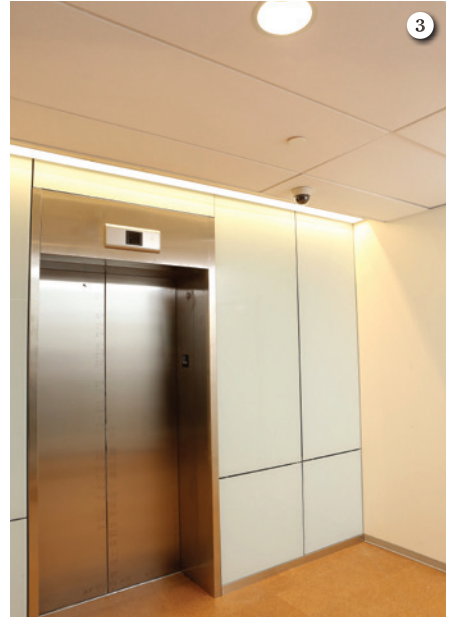
Needless to say, a state-of-the-art facility such as this requires state-of-the-art security. Fortunately, Adelphi University has built a solid reputation and position of strength when it comes to safety due to its proactive philosophy and building the right team of people around them that consists of security professionals and electronic security contractors that are true experts in the field. One of those partners includes security integrator Idesco Corp., which has been the school's trusted security advisor for nearly a decade.

ALL AREAS OF NEW BUILDING UNDER WATCH

Adelphi University officials were looking to protect every entry point of the new Center of Health Innovation building. To accomplish this, Idesco installed a combination of fixed cameras, pan/tilt/zoom (PTZ) cameras and license plate recognition IP cameras in the hallways, lobbies,

sitting areas, elevators, roofs, parking areas (exterior and underground) and exit ramps. The underground parking garage is now covered by six 180-degree cameras, while the parking deck has two PTZ cameras installed with two units housing four fixed and one PTZ camera at both entrances. This provides the university with views of all areas at all times, which keeps all entrances covered. The outdoor cameras used were Axis 6000-e IP models.

In addition to video surveillance, Adelphi requires all staff and students to wear ID badges while on campus. The school's access control system is integrated with the public safety database system, allowing access based on privileges permitted; providing an extra layer of security. The university purchased two ID badge printers from Idesco (XID 580IE) that offer lamination in addition to pre-printed ID cards. Idesco pre-prints the emergency numbers on the back of the ID cards, while Adelphi prints information on the



❶ The interior of Adelphi University's Center for Health Innovation. ❷ There are 10 examination rooms designed for different nursing scenarios. Each exam room has a closed-circuit TV camera to observe the student's performance. ❸ Video surveillance cameras monitor the new building's elevators. ❹ Adelphi University's public safety officers patrol campus 24/7. ❺ Security cameras also monitor the parking lots. ❻ An Adelphi University public safety officer enters a campus parking lot.

front of the cards in-house that includes the person's name, identification number and new school logo.

As with any security installation, encountering unexpected challenges are part of the process. From the public safety point of view, a huge challenge included ensuring all cabling and installation was coordinated with drawings, general contractors and subcontractors. There were several changes that occurred with requirements that were different from the original plans, but having Idesco there to collaborate with and handle all issues helped keep the project on track.

Another challenge was a camera coverage gap that was not considered during the planning phase of the project.

"During the building construction, there was \$600,000 worth of equipment delivered that needed to be protected from theft," says Robert Hughes, Adelphi's associate director of public safety and transportation. "We were missing a camera at an important entry door and called on Idesco to help. Idesco quickly came to our rescue and installed the camera the same day."

CAMPUS QUICKLY CAPITALIZES ON CAMERA INVESTMENT

Despite these challenges, which the systems integrator was able to quickly overcome, the new system has already proven its value. A few days after the exterior parking lot cameras were installed, Adelphi was able to assist the police by

pulling footage from the exterior PTZ cameras after there was a vehicle accident on a street in front of the new building. In addition, the cameras have been used to capture video of motor vehicle thefts and prevent larceny and theft of items located in parked cars.

With no new construction projects on the horizon, future plans for Adelphi include upgrading older buildings with newer security technology and continuing to educate other campuses on how to improve safety and security. Idesco and Adelphi will continue to work together for years to come and be the pillar of the community when it comes to safety. **CS**

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