

Idesco's High-Rise Act

New York integrator Idesco has taken its craft to new heights – outfitting the world's tallest residence hall for Pace University with a comprehensive security and communications solution. And now the company is sky-high after winning an SSI Integrated Installation of the Year award. **By Scott Goldfine**

SECURING THE HIGHEST college dormitory in the world is a tall order, but New York-based systems integrator Idesco Corp. was up for the challenge. The company elevated its game to install a massive security solution at Pace University's (N.Y.) new 34-story, 384-room residential hall, which was designed to house 770 students.

"Pace is always looking to keep its students safe, and constantly adding to the infrastructure that is in place," says Michael Troiani, service manager for Idesco, which has been providing access control and video surveillance systems to the end user for more than 10 years. "They really look at the quality, and if they would like to further enhance the system down the line it is very scalable."

The project included installing an S2 access control solution inclusive of 390+ ASSA ABLOY PoE locksets, more than 160 Axis IP cameras, in excess of 1,200

voice and data cable runs, 400 cable-TV runs, and Bogen paging system throughout the building. Additionally, five turnstiles were installed in the lobby.

"This installation was a unique opportunity for Idesco. Within an 18-month period, we designed and installed a comprehensive system to secure the tallest dorm in the world. From access control to cameras and voice & data, we covered all security aspects of the project," says Troiani.

Idesco had between eight to 10 employees on hand during the building construction to ensure the project ran seamlessly. The company's demonstrated expertise in system design and deployment in a job of such scope and complexity allowed Idesco to capture the 2016 SSI Integrated Installation of the Year (single site solution). Let's see how the firm rose to such lofty heights.

'Trusted' Integrator Wins Bid

Founded more than 70 years ago, Idesco offers a full range of security products including digital ID badging systems, access control, biometrics, turnstiles, visitor management and digital video surveillance. The company began as a pioneer in ID badging and has evolved into a full-service integrator that designs and manages high-scale system installations for approximately 2,500 clients, including universities, television networks and municipalities.

Founded in 1906, Pace University has campuses in New York City and Westchester County. It has almost 13,000 enrolled students in bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in its College of Health Professions, Dyson College

of Arts and Sciences, Lubin School of Business, School of Education, School of Law, and Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems.

Idesco has developed a longstanding relationship with the university, working on multiple security projects and enhancements at both Pace campuses. In late 2013, the firm learned about the school's plan to erect a new 172,000-square-foot dorm and the RFP for a comprehensive security and communications solution. Idesco then submitted its bid to New Line Structures, the project's construction management provider, and was awarded the job in March 2014.

"The safety of our students always comes first, so we wanted to make sure that we would keep every one of them safe and secure at all times in their new dorm," says Tom Tresselt, associate director of safety and security at Pace University. "Working with Idesco in the past on multiple security projects gave us the confidence to know we only wanted our trusted integrator to handle security in the tallest residence hall in the world."

Security Last, Not Least

A key component to the project for Idesco was having the ability to manage all phases of the technology. This afforded the integrator greater scheduling flexibility, the ability to control the amount of resources onsite and, most importantly, communicate effectively and directly with the general contractor, consultant and end user without delays or holding up general construction work.

"The good thing is that we were the only trade for security, voice & data, and



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(l-r) Idesco Service Manager Mike Troiani, Pace University Associate Director of Safety and Security Tom Tresselt, Idesco President Andrew Schonzeit, Pace University Executive Director of Safety and Security Vincent Beatty and Idesco Project Manager Jack Warren in front of the school's new 34-floor residence hall.

Pace University Project Partial Equipment List

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
ASSA ABLOY ACO1S110G77PAB26D Sargent cylindrical PoE sets	393
Axis TV015502361 drop ceiling mounts, P33 Series, clear	155
Axis TV010467001 P3354 (12mm) fixed domes, 720P, WDR	4
Axis TV015502321 P33-VE Series pendant kits	4
Axis TV010291004 Q7404 video encoders	2
Bogen ACO1SEC4T cone speakers	156
Bogen ACO1MPS1W mini pendant speakers, white	4
Bogen ACO1SD72W sound cone speakers	4
Bogen ACO1CK10W hanging kits, cable & clamp, white	4
Bogen ACO1DDU250 dektop PTT microphones	2
Bogen ACO1M450 power amplifiers, stereo, 450W/channel	1
Bogen ACO1MAX1R mono aux input, RCA	1
Bogen ACO1MIC2S mic input module	1
Boon Edam Trilock side gate	3
Boon Edam TST 75 Trilock 75	3
CommScope PC01370COMOM2TBA12 CS-COMMSCO 760127704	6,000
CommScope CB01QR540JCAR CS-UNIPRIS 5526402/27/N/NO	3,700
CommScope ACO16644115201 two-port flush mount unloaded single gang	1,304
CommScope ACO16644122201 two-port surface mount box unloaded	800
CommScope PC01CMP05024MAX31K CS-SYSTIMX 107766040	4
S2-RLI ASSA ABLOY RLI licenses	393
S2 ACO1S2NDMN reader edge devices	2
S2 ACO1S2NNE4RWM network node with four readers	1
S2 ACO1S2NNE8RWM network node with eight readers	1

TV. So we were able to control our own pace, and thusly didn't have that many problems," says Troiani.

However, the fact that construction of the building was well under way by the time the integrator gained access to carry out its role presented challenges. Idesco was the last major trade to bring in its systems.

"When we started, we were already behind electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc. so it was a race to catch up, but we also

could not pass," says Troiani. "Three weeks before the building was to open, we had to cut the Terrazzo flooring in order to anchor our turnstiles and gates. The foreman from the construction company was very 'observant' on how delicate we were."

Idesco would end up logging more than 10,000 regular work man-hours plus 2,500 hours of overtime carrying out the job. The installation veered little from its budget of just over \$2 million, with around \$85,000 worth of change orders.

"Since we have a direct relationship with Pace, we kept the end user very involved during the construction process," adds Troiani. "We were in constant contact with Pace's security and IT staff to ensure all standards and requirements were met throughout the installation. Pace's IT department had guidelines and standards for labeling equipment, and we developed a scheme that identified buildings, mapped entry points and video."

Suppliers Step Up

Throughout the project, Idesco's team maintained constant contact with its distributors and manufacturers to ensure a smooth process. Being that this was such a large-scale project with an enormous quantity of products, timing played a crucial role during the multiphase enterprise. For example, each lock required an approximate 12-week lead time, and Troiani says the suppliers were exceptional in their ordering and shipping coordination.

"While we had done similar projects, they were not of this scale," he says. "The main challenges lied within the lead times and programming of the electric locks. That portion of the project was completed in stages."

Specifically, the access control system is based on an S2 platform with 393 ASSA ABLOY PoE locksets, three lanes of Boon Edam turnstiles with card readers and three ADA-compliant gates with card readers. There are roughly six doors that contain traditional HID readers, with either a magnetic lock or door strike tied into the S2 panel. A verification station, which contains a red/green LED for guards on duty, was added for after-hours access.

Elsewhere, the intrusion detection component of the solution includes door contacts and sounders at entry stairwells and roof doors, which send alarms to the command station. The video surveillance system incorporates two S2 NetVR 700 recorders with 162 Axis IP cameras and three analog elevator cameras. Idesco also installed more than 150 Bogen speakers for paging and emergency communications.

The cameras and access control devices are integrated within the S2 system, which also includes Cisco 2160 48-port PoE switches, some 6,000 feet of ComScope 10Gbps fiber and approximately 205,000 feet of Category-6 cable for locks, cameras and voice & data.

"One challenge we faced was certifying cable," says Troiani. "We would test and certify a cable run, and sometimes another trade would come in and accidentally cut or damage it. This resulted in unanticipated extra time in order to repair and recertify the broken cable run."



Idesco spearheaded implementation of security systems at Pace University's new 34-story residence hall that houses 770 students within 384 dorm rooms. The project included installing an S2 access control solution inclusive of 390+ ASSA ABLOY PoE locksets, 160+ Axis IP cameras, 1,200+ voice and data cable runs, 400 cable-TV runs, and Bogen paging system throughout the building.

According to Troiani there was never much question what type of platform the high-rise dorm project would be based upon. "Pace already houses IP-based access control and video systems, and Idesco has made it a standard to use all IP-based systems across the board," he says. "IP locks have been used at other Pace installations with Idesco as well."

Solution Is In Session

The now installed system is monitored by Pace's full-time staff from the guard stations and fire command room. The end user is also able to view the system from its remote offices. Any intervention from

a training or technical standpoint can usually be handled from offsite by Idesco through its network connectivity.

"Since it's an integrated system, it's a one-stop shop; one place to view all assets. The systems are easy to learn for new guards and employees," says Troiani.

Ironically, according to Troiani, one of the most noteworthy aspects of this project was its speed — or *pace*. All the floors had to be finished in a timely manner to meet the deadline of students moving in during July 2015.

"Going forward, the only aspect we would like to see done differently is having the ability to be onsite sooner," he says. SSI

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