

Indiana Department of Correction

Powerful solution improves safety and boosts prisor security rating - case study



Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) is a state wide organization, comprised of 21 adult facilities housing over 28,000* inmates. Safety of both inmates and the public is a top priority for IDOC and forms part of the organization's mission and vision.

The inefficiency and increased cost associated with managing multiple security technologies and systems led to IDOC's Director of Construction Services Kevin Orme to seek a solution that not only increased efficiency and reliability for the prison facilities staff but ensured that both inmate and public safety remained consistent with their organization mission and vision – the top priority.

Gallagher security monitored pulse fence systems are safe, effective, reliable, and safely deter and detect disturbances without triggering false alarms.

A vision for inmate and public safety

"Gallagher's system changed the way I think about perimeter security," says IDOC's Director of Construction Services Kevin Orme. "Gallagher is the specified standard for any correctional facility above minimum security."

A platform for increasing organizational efficiency and cost savings

Gallagher's perimeter security system is included in all new IDOC construction, as well as being retrofitted into existing facilities throughout the state. The efficient installation process of the Gallagher system meant IDOC could significantly reduce down time in comparison to other technology in the agency.

"The product is great, works reliably every day, and I don't have to worry about it," he adds. "We've been able to make more effective user of security resources too. Officers have been reallocated from the perimeter to in-prison offender contact areas."

"Hardware failure rate and recurrent costs are very low, and the software is operator friendly reducing human error," says Mr. Orme. "Maintenance is much easier; the prison's maintenance staff have the ability to fix any minor issues."

An integrated partnership and future-proof solution

Gallagher Certified Channel Partner Security
Automation Systems (SAS) is a valuable partner to
both Gallagher and IDOC. SAS has worked with IDOC
and Gallagher to design and manage the installation
and maintenance of the current system and to develop
further solutions to meet future requirements and
increase efficiency and safety.

An essential requirement for upgrading a number of low security level 1 facilities to level 2 is perimeter detection. Some IDOC facilities require up to 1000 feet of interior chain link fence to be covered by effective non-lethal perimeter detection. SAS worked with the IDOC requirements and proposed the Gallagher D21 disturbance sensors to provide the perimeter detection solution.



The D21 Disturbance Sensor measures and analyzes the impact on the fence when disturbed. The sensor raises an alarm only when specified limits are exceeded, preventing any nuisance or "false" alarms caused by disturbances such as wind or rain.

Ryan Tomlinson from SAS says the D21 sensor was suggested for two main reasons. "First, the D21 sensors integrate seamlessly with the Gallagher Command Centre software, which was a key factor in the decision process. We were already integrating non-lethal electric fencing, door control and video systems with Command Centre and the state preferred not to add another, separate system. The second reason we chose the D21 sensors was cost. Compared to other technologies considered by the state the D21 sensors were the most cost-effective solution."

Mr Tomlinson had confidence in Gallagher and its products to carry out the job successfully. "Although this was to be our first installation of the D21 product, we were confident that between the technical ability of our staff and the support from Gallagher, we would be able to provide a successful installation," he says. "The D21 sensors were simple to install. They easily mounted to fence posts and other structures the system was monitoring and installing the communications backbone was low-cost and straightforward."

"After the initial process of setting the address of each sensor, we were able to power-up each new zone of sensors and get them on-line with the Gallagher Controller 6000s. Next, we were able to individually adjust the parameters of each sensor, and monitor real-time data in Command Centre according to the particular characteristics of the structure the sensor was affixed to. Overall, I was impressed with the ease of installation, the adjustability of the sensors and how well the sensors integrate with the Command Centre software."

Following the installation of the Gallagher system, IDOC was able to reclassify the facility as level 2, thus allowing them to house a wider group of offenders using the cost-effective, yet highly secure perimeter security solutions offered by Gallagher.

Acknowledgements

Gallagher wishes to acknowledge our security partner, Security Automation Systems, whose ongoing support and involvement in the implementation of Gallagher products contributes to our successful relationship with the Indiana Department of Correction.

About Gallagher

A technology leader in both access control and perimeter protection, Gallagher's security solutions are in use with national and local government, mining, military, commercial, industrial, healthcare, transportation and academic organisations in more than 100 countries.

Gallagher delivers fully integrated electronic access control, intruder alarms management and perimeter security through a single integration platform – Gallagher Command Centre.

The scalable software platform centrally configures and manages access, intruder alarms, perimeter security, and compliance across multiple zones within a single site and multiple facilities.

Gallagher's security solution includes software controlled (networked) and standalone perimeter security electric fencing, no-feel sensor technologies and integrations with third party technologies.

Visit security.gallagher.com for further information.

"I'd like to get Gallagher installed at every above-minimum security facility in the next few years, and we're currently looking at the juvenile facilities too."



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