

case study



Honeywell and Remote Protection Systems Ensure Jewish Synagogue is Secure but Welcoming

Established in 1987, Temple Beth Tikvah (“House of Hope” in Hebrew) is a traditional Reform synagogue serving a congregation of 500 Jewish families. In 1992, the synagogue was built in three phases: a sanctuary that seats 350, a social hall, and a substantial education wing that houses a

preschool and provides elementary education as well as adult learning classes. The 37,000 square foot facility is open seven days a week to provide worship, education and fellowship activities for approximately 1,700 individuals in the greater Atlanta area.

Honeywell

The Situation

Temple Beth Tikvah's mission is to blend a synagogue family that thrives as a community and who individually find comfort and inspiration in a Traditional Jewish setting. To carry out that mission, it faces the same challenges as any other faith-based organization serving a large metropolitan center: Striking a balance between remaining secure, and being open and welcoming. "Whether Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, or Muslim, we all have concerns and issues that we have to contend with," said Paul Beckman, Vice President of Administration of Temple Beth Tikvah.

Originally, the security system of the Temple began with access control on a single door, but with the variety of programs going on it's important that the facility's leaders know what's happening in and around the building. The security committee turned to Remote Protection Systems of Atlanta to design and install a video surveillance solution that would expand the perimeter security around the synagogue and manage and monitor the numerous doors in the facility.

“Our primary responsibility is to provide a warm community. Remote Protection Systems and Honeywell have helped us feel safer and more secure, and make us feel like we're better equipped to provide a welcoming sanctuary.”

— Paul Beckman, Vice President of Administration,
Temple Beth Tikvah

The Solution

In the education wing, the latest in video surveillance technology provides full coverage inside and out. Remote Protection Systems worked with the security committee to develop a strategic plan for the placement of cameras. HCU484 cameras provide high-resolution, wide dynamic range functionality that monitors details of what is happening inside and out—even with a significant contrast in lighting. New high-resolution cameras watch the building exterior, and a high-resolution infrared camera solution was installed to capture detailed images in very low light conditions that exist in certain areas.

Remote Protection Systems installed three HRSD 16-channel digital video recorders (DVRs) that are connected to the data network so users can view live and recorded video from multiple viewing station locations throughout the facility by using Honeywell's RASPlus software.

Automation and Control Solutions

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The Benefits

Temple officials were introduced to Honeywell surveillance equipment at a church security conference co-hosted by Remote Protection Systems and Honeywell last spring. "They were dazzled by the demonstration of the True Day/Night camera," said Scott Hightower, president of Remote Protection Systems. "We had this camera sitting on a table and showed them the picture it was taking, and then we put that same camera under the table and showed them what a good picture it could take in the dark. They were blown away."

In addition to their mission of protecting the congregants and visitors to Beth Tikvah, the Temple's security committee must also be faithful stewards of Temple funds. "When we saw the demonstration, we realized Honeywell is a true leader in security. We decided if we were going to invest in security, we wanted long lasting, durable equipment," said Beckman.

Now, synagogue officials can sit in their offices and see live video. They're comfortable with the surveillance system and rely on the cameras to help them keep an eye on things.

According to Michael Gutkin, chairman of the security committee, "We welcome everyone who seeks spiritual growth, but we have to be realistic and remain vigilant. Remote Protection Systems and Honeywell have helped us feel safer and more secure, and make us feel like we're better equipped to provide a welcoming sanctuary."

The Products

- HRSD 16-channel DVRs
- HCU484 Wide Dynamic Range Cameras
- HCS544 High Resolution Cameras
- HB72 High Resolution IR Cameras



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