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Our Mission...

To source and supply the best quality and value for money office furniture, whilst ensuring that our social obligations are exceeded.

Our Values...

We strive to achieve Integrity, Service Excellence, Professionalism, Quality, Innovation and Creativity.

Recent Clients include:

African Life, Ernst & Young, Symantec, Marsh SA, National Bargaining Council Road Freight Industry, Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Aveng, Grinaker - LTA, Plessey and Egoli Gas



More than Office Furniture

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► from page 43 – On CCTV

Almost 70 years down the line, the face of CCTV technology has changed beyond measure. Affordability and reliability are among its many benefits, which also include: small and inconspicuous cameras; high colour image definition; clarity down to the smallest detail; system configuration to schedule recordings and to record motion only; and live camera recording (25 frames per second). In addition, since analogue gave way to digital (computer) technology, video cassettes have become obsolete. Instead, data is stored on a hard drive which can over write itself when full.

Other features include: a single recorder which can accommodate up to four hard drives; RAID (redundant array of independent disks) technology which allows for limitless hard drives to be installed; the advent of IP (Internet Protocol), which allows data and video to be sent from one computer to another over the Internet; accommodation of almost every commercially available product on the market; ability to e-mail recorded events; transmission of alarms via SMS (short message service); the arrival of video analytics, which is new technology where computers are able to manage and filter real-time CCTV video in accordance with intelligent traffic and security monitoring requirements; alarm systems which can be integrated into CCTV and access control systems; data and images that can be viewed from anywhere in the world using a range of formats; single monitoring points or multiple monitors via internet on a computer or cellphone; the simple and effective recording and storing of information on time lapse recorders, personal computers or DVRs; and ability to use CCTV records as evidence in criminal proceedings.

Increasingly used throughout the world in every conceivable sector, CCTV has a 24/7 presence that: reduce security personnel overheads; prevents or curbs employee and customer theft in every conceivable environment, whether retail, bank, casino or industry; is fast becoming a critical tool in the global fight against terrorism; recognises faces and number plates; can conduct individual and mass surveillance; monitors workplace performance; assists wardens with prison security and control; tracks suspicious behaviour; is the surveillance tool of choice for high-risk sites such as airports and train stations; is proving its worth as a method of traffic control; and is being used to help CBDs (central business districts) worldwide reduce inner city problems such as crime and drug trafficking. Call Fidelity on 072 771 1875 for more information/demo or to request a quote. ●

Securing an 8 km perimeter

Military grade technology for civilian safety

Xanadu Estate is a R21 billion eco park development situated at the foot of the Magaliesberg Mountains. The estate consists of 680 residential stands and sites for approximately 200 townhouses.

Executive director of the Xanadu project, Andries Bezuidenhout, explains that the estate is to be developed in seven phases over a seven year period.

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Property management feature

► from page 44 – *Securing a 8 km perimeter*



ioimage' intelligent video device

Keeping the fauna and flora secure is not the only security issue the developers had to worry about. Their goal was to create a secure estate for residents whilst not disturbing the eco friendly nature of the estate and avoiding light pollution. Xanadu Eco-Park is surrounded by 8 km of indigenous bush.

The south eastern perimeter borders an informal settlement. The park had unsuccessfully used traditional methods of security such as electric fencing, CCD high speed dome cameras and solar power, etc. These methods proved

inadequate and insufficient, resulting in occasional breaches of the estate's perimeter. Intruders also tampered with the electric fencing to gain access to the estate. The high-speed dome cameras were inoperable at night due to inadequate lighting.

The security solution adopted by Xanadu was a combination of two military grade technologies, namely "Opgal's" thermal imaging cameras and "ioimage" intelligent video devices. Both of these technologies are endorsed by the Israeli Defence Force. This system enables instant visual verification of every alarm, even in pitch black darkness, and requires no floodlights, thus maintaining the estate's eco friendly nature.

Control room operators can view the location of every alarm from the command centre control room and are able to make the necessary decision to send a response team to the location. With the previous conventional method, the control room operators were unaware of the location of the intrusion or the cause of the alarm until actually arriving on the scene.

"The ioimage solution has proven itself time and again and we've already seen a significant return on investment," said

Profit

"If you can still count all your money, you don't have a billion dollars." (John Paul Getty)

Manage Property More Profitably

Since Nicor came into being over 30 years ago, the company has remained true to its original goal: Providing IT services and solutions that enhance the profitability of its clients' businesses. Today, as one of Southern Africa's leading developers of property management software, Nicor continues to provide world class software, training, consultancy and the highest levels of support.

NiCOR
Property Management Software

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Property management feature

Nick Grange of C3 Shared Services, who installed the system. "Now when an alarm sounds, control room operators can quickly dispatch a response team to the area where the intrusion was detected. False alarms have been drastically reduced since 'ioimage' intelligent video filters out extraneous activity caused by small animals, swaying branches and flying debris."

The benefits of intelligent video are clear. It watches over areas that are too dangerous for security guards to patrol. It provides the ability to monitor wide areas and detect not just short range movements such as an infrared motion detector, but true behaviour scenarios. It can differentiate people from small animals, shadows and other objects, reducing the amount of false alarms drastically (in most cases by 99%). Security guards cannot be everywhere at once and all too often they discover the problem only after the damage is done and the criminals have already fled. With automatic intelligent video monitoring, security officers are tipped off rather than having to discover events for themselves during scheduled patrols. Thanks to intelligent video and its ability to automatically detect an intruder, security guards only need to view and respond to actual alarm events rather than watching hours of motionless video. Studies have proved that after 22 minutes control room operators miss 95% of scene activity!

C3 Shared Service designed, tested and installed the system while also assisting in the training and implementation of the final solution. ●

Beat power penalties

By simply upgrading lighting and control systems the proposed punitive tariffs that will be progressively imposed on commercial and industrial users of electricity in terms of the Energy Conservation Scheme (ECS) and Power Conservation Programme (PCP) of the Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) can be effectively combated – quickly and efficiently.

Lighting consumes about 14% of all electricity within South Africa (source Eskom), which, if one excludes the mining industry, will be closer to 20% for all other users.

During the last three years, Voltex Lighting has on average been able to reduce the lighting load by 40%, thereby potentially reducing the total load by 8% for many leading South African companies. The requirement of the DME is for an overall reduction of 10% in electricity consumption, otherwise a set of penalty tariffs will come into effect.

By proactively converting to modern lighting technologies through the introduction of improved optics, electronic ballasts, occupancy sensors, lighting controls and state-of-

the-art lamps, Voltex Lighting can ensure that electricity users will achieve a substantial reduction in electrical power consumption, with attractive financial pay backs.

Voltex Lighting is qualified to conduct in-depth lighting audits whereby a team of experts will quickly ascertain the level of savings which can be achieved. ●



Andrew Schaefer

New measurement for living costs

A new measurement for living costs that starts in 2009 could make South Africans "shed our obsession with house price and its delusions of wealth" says Andrew Schaefer, managing director of national property managers Trafalgar. "Rents and yields could become more important than price," he adds. "And that would be a healthy step forward in what could be the world's fastest growing asset class – buy to let."

Stats SA is dropping homeloan interest payments from its basket of goods making up cost price inflation (CPI) and replacing it with "Owners equivalent rent (OER)". Together with water, electricity, other service costs and repairs, OER will make up nearly 22% of CPI.

"Owners equivalent rent is the rent a homeowner is foregoing by living in his home and not letting it out to a tenant," says Schaefer. "It will be created by measuring the rent paid by the quarter of South African households who rent rather than own their homes.

"This could have a big effect on inflation. For instance, rents have risen by about 10% in 2007. This could add 1% or more to CPI. That will get our attention and South Africa will start taking a closer look at rental income in property and what is happening to it."

Schaefer says many property owners will realise that income is the dominant factor in property investment and wealth creation. "Recently risk manager Lightstone showed in a