Best Practice: Backup Monitoring by Fully Capable Command Center

Category:	Access Control
Location:	Port of Callao, Peru
Date Observed:	July, 2005
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Description: Automated access points allowing entry into the facility are monitored through close circuit television (CCTV) by the security command center. Monitors in the command center display photo identification of the card user as their card is used to gain access.

Discussion: The proximity card, when swiped, immediately displays the holder's picture and pertinent information on a computer screen and allows for better coordinated monitoring of personnel movements. This photo may then be matched up with the live CCTV display as the person enters the facility. Access points where guards are posted were also monitored by the command center allowing for overlap in monitoring the busiest entrances during peak times.

This data is also stored for later use in the event of an incident where detailed access control records are needed.

Potential Down-side: If proper backup procedures are not practiced regularly and a problem develops with the automation, a delay in accessing the facility would be experienced

Conclusion: Collocation of CCTV and the access control system provides two primary benefits for ports: The ability to identify personnel access irregularities as they occur and the ability to quickly address each issue. The historic data captured by this system of monitoring would also prove very useful in the event of an investigation.

Cost: Costs include electronic access control system, CCTV, and space to collocate both.