

Out with the old...

...in with the new...

A major public facility in Scotland has undergone renovation and modernisation that includes the installation of a new wireless officer/personal-alarm system.

Following a site demonstration and discussions, the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) decided to use the Bosch PS6000 system with personal security pager (PS-Pager) system. One of the largest facilities in Scotland, housing short-term adult male and remand service users, it is the subject of a modernisation project that will see its estate completely renewed by the end of this decade, with much better living conditions for service users, greater access to improved facilities and better working conditions for staff.

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Upgrading safety and security

At the start of the renovation project, SPS looked carefully into upgrading all security alarm systems within the facility, including an alarm system for staff. Traditionally, systems used throughout the UK prison service have included fixed wall-mounted alarm buttons and private mobile radios (PMRs). A wireless system with alarm mobiles carried by every member of staff was therefore an obvious option. Not only would this provide added personal security for all staff, but by

eliminating the wiring needed with the old wall-mounted alarm system, it could offer major cost savings during renovation and rebuilding.

Arno Klompers, Bosch Security Systems' UK Sales Manager for Personal Security, said: “With our personal alarm system we have around 60% of the prison market in the Netherlands. It’s a proven technology and the system has been on the market in Europe for over nine years, installed in a large number of prisons and other detention and mental health environments.”

The PS-Pager system is a flexible wireless personal alarm solution. All prison officers have their own PS-Pager mobile through which they can transmit an alarm to the Central Control Room. The status of all PS-Pagers is monitored and requests for assistance are automatically routed. And even if Central Control is unmanned, the system automatically forwards the alarm call to a response team.

The system also features an embedded location detection system, ensuring that the position of every officer can be tracked throughout the premises. Locations are sent automatically and with every alarm call, enabling response teams to be directed quickly to the scene of an incident.

Designed for quick and accurate response to prevent an alarm situation escalating into an emergency, the

PS-Pager is the main mobile device carried by the staff. Robust and water resistant, it features a manual alarm, a programmable second alarm, a reversible message display on top for hands-free reading plus a graphical front display for legible (alarm) messages and a vibrator for discreet alerting.

Moreover, officers carrying the PS-Pager are protected by the system’s scanning function. The system continuously checks all PS-Pagers and informs users automatically in case of malfunction. In





In addition, the battery of the PS-Pager has more than sufficient operating time of up to 60 hours, and a flat battery is fully charged within three hours.

Seeing is believing!

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The system was installed by Leominster-based dealer Alarm Radio Monitoring (ARM). Darren Swindlehurst, ARM's Sales and Marketing Manager, is very enthusiastic about the officers' Personal Alarm System. "We installed the initial system during one weekend in record time, without

disruption to the facilities operation and inconvenience to the staff, which numbers about 350. Since then, we have installed two further phases by extending the coverage of the system with a final phase scheduled for the end of this year. Since the first installation the prison's officers and management have been most impressed with the system, particularly the speed of response to alarms (two seconds) and the robustness of the handsets."

As the largest distributor of Bosch security products in the UK, ARM is actively involved in the design, installation and maintenance of radio-based personal security systems that included cordless telephony personal security and communication systems, paging personal security

systems, paging communication systems, radio fire alarm systems and radio nurse call systems.



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