

Isis Central Sugar Mill, Australia, Case Study – Asset Management

Isis rely on iDefigo to save time and money through monitoring their assets remotely

Isis have been processing raw sugar and molasses since 1894. The construction of the Isis Central Sugar Mill in Brisbane, Australia, was completed and the first crush commenced in 1897.

At present, there are approximately 300 growers supplying sugar cane to the Mill and the cane is harvested from an area of approximately 13,000 hectares around western Australia. All the cane is delivered to the Mill over 153 kilometres of narrow gauge (610mm) railway. The Mill, in a single season, processes around 1,505,400 tonnes of cane to produce 223,874 tonnes of raw sugar.

Issue

Due to the remoteness of the sugar cane plantations which can be hundreds of kilometres away from the Mill the raw sugar cane is transported by train which uses hundreds of containers during the harvesting season in winter (May-November). Historically managing these assets has been a challenge. The containers when not in use are held in yards on the plantations. To discover where each of the containers are located and whether they are empty or full is a logistical issue as physical checking was costing the company a lot of time and money by employees having to drive or fly out to the plantations to check numbers and status.

Solution

With the remoteness of the plantation's container yards camera surveillance seemed like a natural solution to the issue so that the trains and containers could be remotely viewed, counted and a full or empty status verified. As electricity was not present in these remote locations wired CCTV was not possible. Over the past six years iDefigo has been supplying Isis with its IDPRO CAM wireless remote smart cameras. IDCAM PRO is a high-quality camera that can operate anywhere capturing High-Definition images that are sent over the mobile network to be accessed or processed in the iDefigo Hosted platform.



The cameras, which are solar powered, monitor five yards so that remote analysis can be conducted at any time, day or night, to check the location and state of the containers. The containers each have reflective strips on them which can be viewed at 100m away by special high-power lights are used in darkness to enable counting of the containers. There are five cameras across five sites, and these cameras are operated in winter and taken down and stored in summer when they are not used.

As the cameras are solar powered, they do not require battery changes and are usually maintenance free. The cameras can be set up to be active at certain times of the day or night and to also use computer vision software to detect if there is a person in the live or recorded footage so that an alert can be raised.

Result

Since the cameras have been installed Isis have been able to remotely view and verify the containers' locations, the number at each site and their status. This has resulted in Isis saving hundreds of man hours per season and associated transport costs on their asset v management as physical inspection is no longer required. Isis are also able to monitor the yards to obtain the information they need instantly rather than waiting hours, or often days.

About iDefigo

iDefigo, a UK-based specialist in hardware and software solutions for remote surveillance, has a Smart Camera solution which directly addresses the challenges that come with monitoring the most common sites for fly tipping. Unlike CCTV, the Smart Camera offers high-grade cameras that are easily installed anywhere at low cost.

The Smart Cameras capture events that matter and transmit images to any device, 24/7, with no on-site power, networking, or integration required. Importantly, the cameras send alerts when a trigger event has occurred, such as an act of fly tipping.



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Anywhere.**

