

Norbain cooks up a security solution for Baxters' flagship store



Baxters Food Group is probably best known for its strong Scottish roots and wide range of canned and fresh soups, but it also manufactures many other premier food products including condiments and pickles made under some of the UK's best-known brands, such as PizzaExpress, Peppadew, Simply Delicious, Olivaise and Mary Berry.

In 2000 Baxters ventured into something slightly different by opening its first retail outlet at Aberdeen airport. Today, the retail side of the business continues to grow – there are now five retail outlets at the company's Highland Village in Fochabers and a large store at Ocean Terminal in Edinburgh.

The latest venture is a new flagship store, providing a unique visitor attraction and shopping experience, sited at picturesque Tullibardine in Perthshire and opened in September 2005.

Baxters at Tullibardine boasts excellent restaurant and café facilities and provides a showcase for Scottish fine food and malt whiskies, clothing and gifts. Providing security systems to cover this prestigious new complex was a unique challenge, for which Baxters chose the Blue Rock Security Group and a range of security solutions from Norbain SD.



Blue Rock, which provides security solutions for a number of blue-chip and high street names, installed CCTV through Blue Rock Security Solutions as well as EAS tagging systems through another subsidiary, Blue Rock Security. EAS tagging systems commonly provide security at entrances and exits to most major stores, enabling tags attached to items that have not been paid for to be detected and an alarm activated.

Blue Rock Security Solutions Managing Director Anthony Penny says: "The EAS tagging systems at Tullibardine cover the centre's main entrances and the internal doorway that leads to the restaurant. They were integrated into Norbain's Vista CCTV equipment, so that when an alarm goes off from the EAS system it will position the internal high speed dome cameras to look at the relevant location and also speed up the record rate on the DVR."



The security installation took place during construction, which was undertaken by one of the country's major contractors, Balfour Kilpatrick. Discreet vari-focal Vista VFD4V9CWE mini domes cover the main and front entrances, the restaurant entrance, the meat and cheese till and chocolate till areas. Vista VFD4V9CE mini domes cover the cook shop and food hall tills, as well as the jewellery till areas and the main entrance till area. Three Vista PVD1700DG 17" colour monitors are sited at the main entrance, restaurant entrance and front entrance to

ensure customers are aware the store utilises comprehensive security solutions.

Three stylish Vista VPD-1 series fully-functional Power Domes cover the fashion and gift areas, the cook and food areas, and the food hall. A Samsung SDN520-P colour/mono camera c/w a Vista VDD35V814e vari-focal lens, installed within a heated Vista housing is sited at the front exterior of the building. 'We've found these cameras very reliable and of very good picture quality,' comments Mr Penny.

Vista VPD-3 series fully-functional colour / mono high speed Power Domes are also attached to two rear external lighting columns. Two Vista PVD1510G 15" monitors are sited in the control room, from where security is centrally monitored. Also in the control room are a Vista Triplex Columbus VC16TE-320-CDR DVR teamed with a Vista NPXKBDJ3DE keyboard.

Adrian Griffiths, Baxter's Operations Manager on the Tullibardine site, says that he believes there may have been a perception when the centre was envisaged that its rural location might mean it would not suffer greatly from theft, but that the past month has proved that perception wrong.



He says: "We have seen a number of organised gangs actively surveying the premises and testing our security. Originally I think the thought was that a security system of this quality would be a nice to have, but in reality there is going to be a lot of monitoring and it will get a lot of use."

As Tullibardine is close to Perth and Stirling, and on a main access route from Glasgow, the potential for theft is considerably larger than for some other remote, rural parts of Scotland.

Mr Griffiths adds that the security system will help with health and safety issues as well as in prevention of theft. 'It is a very good system,' he concludes. "I think it is something that will serve us very well. We are keen to ensure that more staff are fully trained to enable us to use it to its optimum at all times."

About Blue Rock Security

Blue Rock Security was formed in January 2002 by a group of security industry specialists in response to customer requests for a reliable, professional organisation to look after their loss prevention and security needs. With over 100 years shared experience caring for hundreds of retailers EAS tagging requirements, BRS is ideally positioned to fill this niche.

In June 2003, Celtic Blue Rock was formed to cover EAS tagging installations in Ireland. Since then, the company has grown and now also covers CCTV and access control. In February 2004, Blue Rock Security Solutions was formed to add a new dimension to the Blue Rock Group. BRSS specialise in CCTV and Access Control Installations, and has successfully grown in a very short space of time. It has a portfolio of clients that includes many blue chip, high street retailers and large commercial businesses including Coca Cola, Sainsbury's and Baxters.

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