

Lebanese Canadian Bank installs advanced security network

The Lebanese Canadian Bank is a successful, fast growing corporate and retail bank. With its corporate headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, it has 23 branch offices across the country, and a single Canadian office in Montreal. Committed to quality, the Bank observes the ISO 9001-2000 standards and will shortly adopt the latest version of the International Quality Certificate referred to as Total Quality Management, (TQM).



Rapid expansion in recent years led to the extension of its branch network, with the Bank acquiring a number of new premises. However, at the time of purchase these buildings had no security systems. With the urgent need to install systems, the opportunity was taken to review the security of all branches.

The design work was undertaken for the Bank by Maison De La Securite sarl (MDLS), a member of the Syndicate of Security and Safety Professionals in Lebanon and one of the leading security specialists in the country. Their vision was to upgrade the Bank's security systems to a country-wide network, in which every branch has a local



system on a local network under local control, and a Wide Area Network provides permanent communications links between every branch security system and the Lebanon headquarters. The contract was awarded in two stages – first design and then implementation – and MDLS won both in competitive tenders.

Fadia Nassar, Assistant Manager at MDLS, explains how they set about the project: "We knew we could undertake the design phase ourselves, as we are experienced in these advanced security networks, and have a good track record. When it came to bidding for the implementation, however, we needed to partner an international equipment distributor with a good reputation here, and for that we selected Norbain."

“We know from past experience that Norbain’s Export Department can be relied on to supply to the Lebanon exactly on schedule, and on a big implementation roll out across a number of branches and a central hub, that is essential. We believe that including Norbain in our bid was a strong contributor to winning the installation contract.”

The installation in each branch varies a little in detail, but the basic model is the same, with four Vista cameras and a central DVR. Two of the cameras, Vista VC202C medium resolution colour with wide-angle lenses, cover the area of the bank tellers, and a further camera covers the entrance to the vault and security boxes. A fourth external camera, a Vista VC212C high-resolution colour camera, covers the entrance to the bank and the external ATM. The monitors are Vista PVD 1500 DGE (15” colour), and the DVRs are Vista Triplex™ Columbus VC 04Te-160, with 4 channels and 160 gigabytes of storage. The largest branch uses a 10 channel Vista Triplex™ Columbus VC 10Te-160.



The central control room is linked to all the branches by a leased line network. Any alarm status indicated by the fire, CCTV, or intruder systems at any branch initiates an alert at the central control room, to prompt the security staff that an event requires observation. This viewing takes place on a server using WaveReader

software, the proprietary software for remote viewing of Triplex™ Columbus DVRs. The central security staff can view both the live stream from the cameras, and recorded images. If further action is needed, they can burn CDs with images and video clips from a branch and, as necessary, email images to other parties such as the police.

At present the central system is manned during the day only, but a new headquarters building is being constructed in Beirut, with a control room designed for 24/7 operation.

MDLS summed up the project: “This is an advanced and important installation that compares favourably with any other commercial security installation in the Middle East. Obviously there is an advanced technical component to the project, but much of its success stems from getting the fundamentals right – selecting the right equipment from the right supplier. We are more than happy with the support Norbain has provided in this area.”