



## **PRESS INFORMATION**

### **CONTROLLING THE COMPLEX - ATHENS NEW AIRPORT**

**The CCTV installations at any major new airport are inevitably extensive and complex, yet to operate efficiently they must also be extremely flexible and controllable. These apparently conflicting requirements have been reconciled at the new Athens airport by combining conventional analogue video with digital software control in the form of plettac open security architecture.**

The new Athens airport 'Eleftherios Venizelos' which opened in March 2001, boasts no less than three separate CCTV systems. Each has a different role to play in the operation of the airport but all were designed by plettac electronic security GmbH, who also supplied the equipment and supervised its installation under contract to airport constructors ABB.

As you might expect, the biggest CCTV system in the airport is the one used by security staff to monitor and guard the whole complex - all its public and non-public areas including the departure and arrivals halls, the check-in and waiting areas, as well its access roads. Achieving complete coverage of the whole establishment involved the installation of 145 plettac electronics fixed head colour cameras, 79 SpeedVisionDomes and 36 PTZ cameras. Glass fibre and conventional video cables carry their pictures to one of the four sub-centres which are responsible for monitoring particular buildings, areas and operations, and from there onwards to the main security control centre.

This extensive analogue system is controlled via a dedicated (Ethernet) LAN using plettac open security architecture - software which runs on conventional PCs and is uniquely able to provide the high level of flexibility and control required for efficient operation of such large and complex installations. The network link between individual CCTV control centres provides capacity for 80 video transmission channels and the control system for these channels was specially developed to ensure that all camera pictures can still be accessed even if a local control computer fails. Staff in the main control centre have access to pictures from the whole system. Those they select are recorded on eight digital recorders and routinely retained for six days.

A second smaller CCTV system solves a visibility problem for air traffic control staff. They use it for guiding aircraft movements on the ground in an area which cannot be seen directly from the tower. This system has 17 FAC 830 PTZ cameras and is also controlled using plettac open security architecture software. It has a guaranteed power supply, 21" TFT flat screen monitors and its own recorders.

The third CCTV system is dedicated to monitoring and controlling the airport's luggage handling operation. It includes 124 fixed head colour cameras, uses the plettac electronics LE90 transmission system, a VAZ 300 video matrix, and is also complete with its own recorders and printing facility.

**ENDS**

447 words approx