



Police Secure Global Meeting with Hexagon Incident Management Software

G7 Summit 2015

Elmau, Bavaria, Germany

The 2015 Group of Seven (G7) Summit in Elmau was the biggest police operation ever in Bavaria, Germany – and, most importantly, it was an extremely successful one. Due to the summit’s international importance, a strong police presence accompanied the 41st-annual event.

The goal was to protect attendees, citizens, and demonstrators, as well as ward off any protestors prepared for violence. With the exception of summit attendees, no one was allowed to approach the exposed venue at Schloss Elmau in the Bavarian Alps beyond the security zones. As a provider of public safety solutions to the Bavarian State Police and German Federal Police, Hexagon’s Safety & Infrastructure division was an important partner in enabling security capabilities for the 2015 summit.

Command & Control for Data Exchange

Much more than a vast contingent of police forces was necessary to implement these extensive public safety and security measures. To carry out their duties successfully, the Bavarian State Police and German Federal Police also worked with Hexagon to put a comprehensive IT plan in place before and during the summit.

To support the event, the Bavarian State Police deployed Hexagon’s industry-leading computer-aided dispatch (CAD) solution. Hexagon also installed nine full application seats

in the special operations room in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, which was set up fully equipped for the major event. With an additional CAD component from Hexagon, 1,000 other users had access to the command and control system via the web.

At the beginning of the G7 Summit, about 18,000 police officers from the Bavarian State Police and more than 1,950 operational units from fire and rescue services and the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) were assigned around the venue in the Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Mittenwald regions. There was a need to centrally coordinate these operational units. Using CAD, the Bavarian State Police established an extension of the regular command and control center at the South Upper Bavaria police headquarters, where 110 emergency calls are processed regularly.

“Some of the incoming calls via the 110 emergency number were directly connected with the G7 Summit; others had nothing to do with it,” said Anton Beierweck, head of the department for statewide IT procedures at the police headquarters of South Upper Bavaria. “The calls were documented and filtered, and the resources were allocated via the command and control system. The temporary special operations room in Garmisch-Partenkirchen was always informed of the operational picture around Elmau.”

To enhance its view of the operational area, the Bavarian State Police used aerial photographs and geographic information of security zones and barriers.

Digital Radio Integration & Multi-Agency Coordination

The CAD system also handled emergency call functions within the digital radio network of the Bavarian State Police. To make decisions quickly in the event of an emergency, it forwarded incoming emergency calls by police units via the digital radio network along with data and information on the incident location to the command staff.

“Luckily, we did not have to pursue any of the incoming digital radio emergency calls because no real case of emergency occurred,” said Beierweck.

The Bavarian State Police can point to positive results – thanks to the seamless operation of Hexagon’s solutions. IT leaders at the Bavarian State Police, as well as several experts from Hexagon, supported operations on-site in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

“The entire technical measures in advance of the G7 Summit were extremely complex,” said Beierweck. “The Hexagon solutions held their own very well during the onslaught of users. Not a single error occurred.”

A data interface developed by the Bavarian State Police, which facilitates close cooperation between the German Federal Police and its Bavarian colleagues, began operating for the first time on a large scale at the G7 Summit. When responding to joint incidents, the electronic data exchange between command and control systems accelerates and simplifies interagency coordination.

By pressing a few buttons, users can exchange and enrich incident information with more data, including suspect photos and maps, as well as monitor and confirm data transmission. The software then automatically documents and begins tracing the data exchange.

What could previously take several minutes – due to transmission errors and extra effort for manual

documentation – is now securely transmitted in a few seconds, monitored, and made comprehensible.

Employees in special operations rooms and command and control centers can now dispatch emergency personnel to sites faster, making these situations less stressful.

Planning & Response for Better Decision-Making

The German Federal Police also mastered areas of responsibility during the G7 Summit with support from Hexagon. One of the biggest police forces in Europe, the agency deployed Hexagon’s major event management software for command staffs and special operations rooms.

The goal was to portray complex conditions during this major event in an intuitive, easy-to-operate manner so command staffs could make smarter decisions directly. Within the German Federal Police, the solution acts as a modular extension of its CAD system and serves as the backbone for all decisions during planned or unplanned major events.

“Hexagon’s solution is the central decision-making system and was in operation in all of the command staffs during the G7 Summit,” said Jörg Meier, who oversees German Federal Police command staff IT systems throughout Germany.

A total of 5,000 employees were trained on the system over a few months. “That is record speed,” Meier said of the system’s implementation.

While the German Federal Police will remember Dresden, Stuttgart, and Elmau as rather calm major events, such situations can always escalate.

“The German Federal Police was also prepared for the worst-case scenario with Hexagon’s software,” said Meier.

The Bavarian State Police and German Federal Police can reflect on a positive outcome from the G7 Summit in Elmau. There were no mass protests, and violent demonstrators were kept away.

“Practical test passed,” said Meier.

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