BWI Airport Deploys Integrated Safety & Security Solution

Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport
United States

The Maryland Aviation Administration's Baltimore/ Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI) Airport, located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, is a leader in airport safety and security. With more than 21 million annual passengers, BWI Airport handles over 70,000 annual calls for service through its Consolidated Dispatch Center (CDC).

CDC's mission is to process and dispatch emergency calls for service for all airport police, fire, and emergency medical services. It also serves as a secondary public safety answering point (PSAP) to support airport emergency calls initially received by Anne Arundel County. The airport maintains numerous mutual aid agreements with various jurisdictions.

Integrated Command & Control

Through the CDC project, BWI Airport has improved passenger, visitor, and employee safety and security. Powered by computer-aided dispatch (CAD) and security solutions from Hexagon's Safety & Infrastructure division, the CDC has a fully integrated public safety and security platform, including all necessary software, hardware, and integration services for multi-system and multi-agency coordination.

The Hexagon solution provides dispatchers and first responders with complete situational awareness – from

detection through assessment and response – via the integration of communications, dispatching, and video and sensor system monitoring and control. With it, the CDC monitors and responds to several thousand alarms generated from campuswide safety and security systems.

The solution includes automatic vehicle location (AVL) technology, mobile data computers, enhanced 911 emergency call processing with instant recall/recorder functionality, NENA-standard master clock, closed-circuit security, telephony, fire alarm monitoring, fire station alerting, and more.

MicroAutomation's Next Generation 911 solution was able to efficiently integrate all system components, including the airport's existing 7 NEC phone switches. The solution also includes a complete Standalone Automatic Location Identification (SALI) component that lets BWI Airport integrate its unique location information with traditional address information and deliver it to dispatchers.

Award-Winning Safety & Security

With Hexagon's products and experience, the Maryland Aviation Administration can achieve not only its near-term goal of enhancing emergency response processes at BWI Airport, but also its long-term goal of statewide public safety communications interoperability. The agency's efforts

were recognized by Government Security News, which presented the airport with two awards: "Most Notable Airport Security Program, Large Airports" and "Best Physical Security Information Management System."

"This highly successful project provided our security and public safety personnel with cutting-edge emergency response technology," said Paul J. Wiedefeld, chief executive officer, BWI Airport. "The improvements to the consolidated dispatch center help ensure increased responsiveness and situational awareness."

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