

Silent Knight Protects Schools, Both Old and New

Pasco, Washington's School District One recently constructed a new \$72 million, 324,370 square-foot school to resolve space constraints within its existing high school and accommodate a growing student population.

The new Chiawana High School is split into wings all linked together by technology. When choosing this high-tech school's fire protection system, life safety was always paramount in the eyes of the facility's management, but operation and maintenance costs had to be kept to a minimum.

"Because this new high school is the largest in the state, and the distances between some locations and the main [fire alarm] control panel are extreme, we needed a system that was cost-effectively expandable and scalable," says Robert Fleshman, Project Manager for Moon Security Services, Inc., a local fire alarm/security integrator.

Due to the job's large scale, the Farenhyt line of IFP-2000 fire alarm systems by Silent Knight were chosen to provide a fast, reliable fire protection network for the entire facility.

"We didn't want a system that required troubleshooting, and the IFP-2000 has exhibited fast and rock-solid communication," says Fleshman. "Because this system is so scalable, we were able to connect additional power modules throughout the school and expand the number of devices without worrying about distance limitations. That makes for a more reliable system while also allowing us to scale back the power for energy efficiency."

Two remote annunciators are included for authorized personnel to view real-time information on system status and events in two remote locations. Nearly 1,000 SLC devices,

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including pull stations, heat sensors, smoke detectors and beam detectors were installed to provide fast, thorough detection throughout the expansive property and particularly within its high ceiling areas.

Fire alarm pull stations include a cover that sounds a local alarm to prevent tampering by students. The entire system is monitored off-site by Moon Security, who is also responsible for all system maintenance and testing.



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“We’ve moved towards remote monitoring and maintenance of our fire and security systems. When something can be corrected off-site, it is much less expensive and safer than waiting 24 hours for maintenance personnel to come to the school,” says Tom Brandon, the school district’s Project Manager. “The Silent Knight IFP-2000 system is able to pinpoint exactly where an alarm is going off to ensure an immediate response. This is especially important in a school the size of Chiawana High. We’ve been very pleased with the operation of this system.”

Pasco School District One is also remodeling several areas in its original high school where an IFP-2000 system from Silent Knight will be deployed by Moon Security.

“The IFP-2000 doesn’t require any special wire, so it can easily work with existing systems and devices,” says Fleshman. “We’ve upgraded Pasco High School with the IFP-2000, and as they remodel, we’ll ensure that each space is brought up-to-code.”

The IFP Series control panels are compatible with most types of wire, including shielded, twisted-pair and fiber optic cable. In many retrofit applications, this flexibility allows IFP control panels to utilize existing

wiring as well as many conventional and addressable detectors from previous fire alarm systems.

Whether new construction or an existing space, Pasco’s School District One took advantage of all the scalable, cost-saving benefits Silent Knight’s Farenhyt Series of IFP systems offer to obtain a fast, reliable life safety solution.

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Silent Knight • 12 Clintonville Road • Northford, CT 06472
203-484-7161 • www.farenhyt.com