

Our Lady of the Lake University

Securing a Campus with
a Legacy of Excellence





INDUSTRY

Higher Education

END USER

Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU),
San Antonio, Texas

PROJECT TYPE

Campus-wide Access Control and Video
Management System Installation

SCOPE

Deployment of Hirsch Velocity and Velocity Vision
Video Management System (VMS) across 200+
doors, residential halls, and multiple buildings at
OLLU's San Antonio campus

HIRSCH SOLUTIONS

- Velocity Security Management System
- Velocity Vision Video Management System
- Mx Controllers
- TS Readers

“Hirsch’s Velocity and Velocity Vision platforms have transformed the way we manage access and security across our campus. The ability to centralize control while integrating our existing infrastructure has been invaluable. We’re now able to ensure a safe environment for students and staff with seamless operational efficiency.”

Jeffrey Allen,
Director of Infrastructure
Services, OLLU





The Challenge

OLLU's existing access control system had become obsolete. The university required a modernized security platform that could integrate with its existing infrastructure, manage access across three campuses, and allow for easy lockdown and emergency procedures. The system also needed to reduce the administrative burden on staff managing residential hall access while improving the safety and security of the entire student body.



The Solution

Hirsch's end-to-end, high-security Velocity platform was selected for its ability to scale, integrate with legacy hardware, and provide comprehensive campus-wide access control. Velocity Vision was implemented for video management, enabling real-time monitoring and video-based entry control. The system was deployed in key locations across the university, including 200 doors, residential buildings, and high-traffic areas.



The Next Steps

OLLU continues to work with Hirsch to explore further security upgrades, including adding mobile credential capabilities. The university plans to expand the deployment to additional buildings and incorporate advanced video analytics in the near future.

Business Situation

Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU) is a private Catholic university located in San Antonio, Texas, with additional campuses in La Feria and Houston. Founded in 1895 by the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence, OLLU serves approximately 2,100 students and 900 faculty members. As an institution with a rich history, the university has continually evolved to meet the needs of its student body, with a strong focus on providing a secure learning environment.

With multiple campuses and residential halls housing approximately 500 students, OLLU needed a modern security solution that could enhance safety while streamlining campus access control. Their legacy system had reached its end-of-life, prompting the need for an updated, integrated solution capable of scaling across their facilities while allowing for swift emergency responses.

Technical Situation

OLLU's outdated access control system no longer met the needs of a modern campus environment. Additionally, OLLU's video surveillance systems lacked the integration necessary to provide comprehensive, centralized security management. The university needed a solution that could unify access control and video management, provide emergency lockdown capabilities, and integrate with their existing infrastructure to avoid a costly overhaul.

Solution

OLLU partnered with Hirsch to deploy its comprehensive, highly secure, and scalable Velocity security management system, allowing for seamless integration of their existing doors and infrastructure. Velocity Vision VMS was implemented to manage their video surveillance needs, providing real-time monitoring and enhanced security across the university. Together, the end-to-end access control

and video system provides data-enabled security and real-time intelligence on a single pane of glass. Key elements of the solution included:

- **Velocity:** Hirsch's Velocity platform allowed OLLU to manage access across 200 doors, including residential halls and other key buildings. Students and staff used their badges to access secure areas, reducing the need for physical keys and streamlining operations.
- **Velocity Vision VMS:** Velocity Vision provided a centralized video management system, enabling the university to monitor critical areas in real-time and support video-based access control for specific buildings.
- **Mx Controllers and TS Readers:** OLLU installed Mx Controllers and TS Readers, ensuring robust security across all access points. This system supported emergency lockdown capabilities and integrated with video surveillance for enhanced monitoring.
- **Residential Hall Access:** Students could now use their badges to enter residential buildings, suites, and common areas, simplifying access while improving overall security. The system replaced the need for physical keys in most areas, easing the administrative load on Residence Life staff.

Conclusion

Hirsch's Velocity and Velocity Vision platforms have provided OLLU with a unified and scalable security solution that enhances the safety and security of its campuses. The combination of access control and video management has streamlined operations, enabling faster emergency responses and reducing the need for manual key management. As OLLU looks to the future, the university plans to continue expanding its Hirsch security system to new areas and explore advanced analytics to further enhance campus safety.