



MASONS



Masons, specialist legal advisers to businesses in the construction and engineering, energy and infrastructure industries and to users and suppliers of information and technology, is implementing a comprehensive set of NetBotz physical location and environmental monitoring appliances to protect mission critical IT assets.

THE PROBLEM

Masons has almost 100 partners and 650 staff working in 11 offices located in Europe and the Far East. However, a number of offices do not have dedicated IT staff to monitor mission critical IT assets.

“We have, for some time, been conscious that environmental factors such as high temperature or faulty air conditioning could lead to IT systems failures in any of our remote computer suites.” says Jim Eblett, Technical Services Manager for Masons, “With a centralized IT help desk, we felt that the inability to physically inspect a remote IT room or cabinet was an unacceptable operational and security risk.”

THE SOLUTION

NetBotz offers a series of self-contained monitoring devices, each with a motion sensor and a digital camera for monitoring movement at entrances such as doorways and windows combined with a suite of environmental sensors for detecting smoke, temperature and water saturation. Each NetBotz device has no moving parts and can store images and data on a remote computer via normal structured cabling or across a wireless link.

Netbotz Central will give us a powerful, centralised, yet compact and easy to manage toolset for environmentally monitoring a dispersed computer infrastructure.

Eblett adds, “Prior to Netbotz we hadn't come across a device that did this simply, in accordance with our existing IP infrastructure, and provided a central console from which to manage the devices. The Netbotz 320 and 420 range are particularly attractive given the improved camera capabilities, the compact design and the consistency of architecture across the newer model range.”

THE BENEFITS

The NetBotz 420 is a fully featured monitoring solution ideal for small to medium-sized spaces that require comprehensive monitoring capabilities with moderate expandability. This next-generation solution has a modular architecture that gives the user tremendous flexibility along with rich image graphics and integrated environmental monitoring.

The web interface provides immediate sensor readings, real-time camera images, and immediate configuration. The



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appliance can also be wirelessly connected to an 802.11b wireless LAN. SSL encryption is standard on the NetBotz 420, providing secure transmission of alerts to prevent potential interception and misuse of camera and audio clips. Alerts can be sent via email, SNMP, or text messaging. Customisable thresholds and alert policies include specialized threshold types such as rate-of-change and above-value-too-long. Alerts can now include graphs as well as pictures, and separate alert actions can be triggered at different alert severity levels.

“This allied to Netbotz Central will give us a powerful, centralised, yet compact and easy to manage toolset for environmentally monitoring a dispersed computer infrastructure.” Eblett concludes. Mason's are currently implementing 6 NetBotz appliances at 6 locations with the project due for completion in November of 2004.

CORE BENEFITS

- ◆ Modular architecture allows tremendous deployment flexibility.
- ◆ Rich image graphics and integrated environmental monitoring.
- ◆ Immediate sensor readings, real-time camera images, and immediate configuration.
- ◆ SSL encryption.
- ◆ Alerts can be sent via email, SNMP, or text messaging.
- ◆ Powerful, centralised, yet compact and easy to manage toolset for environmentally monitoring a dispersed computer infrastructure.



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