



MAYOR ANNOUNCES AVRIO RMS GROUP SELECTED TO DESIGN AND DEPLOY CAMERA SYSTEM FOR CITY'S PORT SECURITY PROJECT.

Will also deploy camera systems in neighborhoods, starting with Mexican War Streets

PITTSBURGH, PA, MARCH 27, 2009 Mayor Luke Ravenstahl announced today that Avrio RMS Group has been selected to design and deploy a Citywide wireless network and camera security solution to be as part of the City's Port Security Project and the Mayor's Neighborhood Camera Project. The solution will collect video from around the City and allows for integration with existing video systems including license plate recognition, gunshot detection and many other technologies.

"I am excited to give our officers and communities yet another tool that will help help prevent and solve crimes and keep our neighborhoods safe," Ravenstahl said. "We're using 21st-Century technology now more than ever – whether it's computers in police vehicles or cameras in our neighborhoods – we are improving the safety of our residents."

In June 2008, the City received a Commonwealth grant for \$625,000 to purchase digital video camera systems for City neighborhoods and business districts, which will integrate with port security cameras. The city has identified 34 locations driven by crime data, for coverage and plans to purchase between 20-80 camera systems, based on network expense as it pertains to topography and other factors. The first neighborhood camera will be installed in the Mexican War Streets neighborhood on the North Side this spring, and move to more communities throughout the summer.

"I am glad the Mayor is throwing more of a 'safety spotlight' on the North Side," said David McMunn, president of the Mexican War Streets Society. "In order for us to promote and grow the North Side, potential residents and businesses need to know that someone is paying attention to our neighborhood's safety and quality of life. I believe these cameras will greatly improve them at all times should definitely deter criminals."

Avrio RMS Group was selected after a yearlong, competitive RFP Process. "After a great deal of due diligence, and speaking with Avrio RMS Group's customer around the country, we were very impressed with Avrio RMS Group's track record of exceeding customer expectations," said Public Safety Director Michael Huss.

The Avrio RMS Group developed solution is easily scalable, can be redeployed as the City's needs change and has the ability to provide fluid, high-resolution video. "It was important that we selected a solution that provided the highest possible video quality and would be an effective tool not just today, but for years to come," said the Mayor.

Video will be able to be viewed by designated public safety officials from anywhere on the City's network – even from mobile police cruisers. In addition, during high volume events, such as parades, police can monitor the cameras to keep the public safe. A privacy policy was introduced by the Mayor in September, 2008, after discussions with the ACLU and Constitution Project. As per the policy, only those public safety officials authorized by the public safety director will be



able to view the video. “We will closely monitor access to camera footage to ensure that our citizens’ privacy is protected,” said Public Safety Director Michael Huss.

Numerous cities have brought in Avrio RMS Group to design and deploy surveillance systems, including Phoenix when that city was dealing with a serial murderer, and St. Paul and Denver, when they were preparing to host the Republican and Democratic National Conventions. Avrio has designed and deployed systems for Federal Agencies including the FBI, Army, Department of Homeland Security and Federal Protective Services who used the system during the Presidential Inaugural Parade.

“Under Mayor Ravenstahl’s direction, Pittsburgh is on the way to being a national leader in leveraging technology to maximized their public safety resources,” said Mark Jules, president of business development for Avrio RMS Group. “We’re proud to have the opportunity to support this initiative.”

In January 2007, the Department of Homeland Security awarded the City of Pittsburgh \$2,587,513.11 to develop a comprehensive digital video camera platform. The primary objective was to form a “Ring of Steel” around the central business district utilizing bridges, river rescue boats, corridors leading to the central business district and corridors within 2 miles of any river. The City was required to provide 25% in matching funds of \$862,504.37. Port Security grant funded items to include: 32 cameras to be placed on 16 bridges; 5 cameras for river rescue and coast guard boats; 48 license plate recognition camera systems for high traffic corridors connecting to downtown; Knowledge Center Software for integration with six police zone facilities; software and hardware to integrate 120 downtown or strip district cameras and new Port and City-wide systems; and 4 mega pixel cameras to replace USX cameras.

About Avrio RMS Group

Avrio RMS Group is a national leader in IP-surveillance solutions for the public safety market. The company designs, engineers and deploys turnkey wireless security solutions for municipalities and organizations with wide area surveillance needs. A pioneer in the space, Avrio RMS Group created the nation’s first pole mounted wireless surveillance camera systems known as PODSS® (Portable Over Digital Surveillance Systems) and developed the nation’s most sophisticated wireless IP video network covering over 200 square miles. Avrio RMS Group deployments protect several US cities, the Northern and Southern US Borders and have secured VIP events such as the Presidential Inauguration, Democratic National Convention, Republican National Convention and the Superbowl. With offices in Buffalo Grove, IL and Easton, MD, the Avrio RMS Group is privately held and its customers include government and private organizations around the globe. www.avrioRMSgroup.com

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