

Rx for Security

at St. Francis Hospital

Founded in 1897, the St. Francis Hospital has grown to become one of the largest regional medical centers in Connecticut. Today St. Francis is spread out over two campuses with clinical concentrations in cardiology, oncology, women's and children's services, orthopedics, behavioral health, emergency/trauma care and rehabilitation.

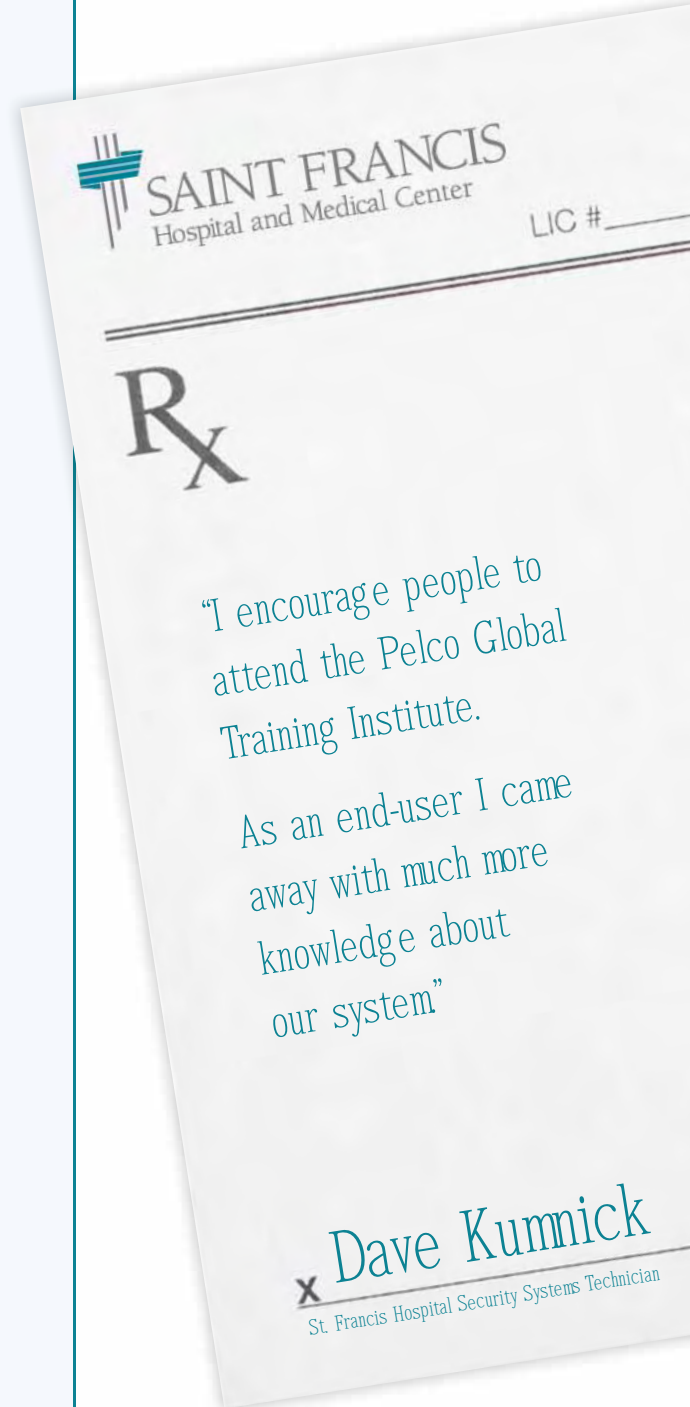
When St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut started plans to expand the facilities, they turned to Joe Marcucci of Strategic Security to update the Pelco security system protecting the medical center. Because the hospital is located in an urban setting, the security of patients, staff and visitors is a chief concern. "You can't put a value on human life," Marcucci explains.

Expansion plans included the construction of a new 10-story Patient Care Tower to be built where the original security building was located. Marcucci worked with the hospital security systems technician Dave Kumnick to redesign the system. "St. Francis has been using Pelco products for over 15 years with great results, so when it came time to upgrade they system, Pelco was the natural choice," says Marcucci.

Technicians from Strategic Security traveled to Orangeburg, New York with the hospital's security system technician Dave Kumnick for training at the Pelco Global Training Institute (PGTI). Kumnick says the education he received at PGTI was extremely valuable. "I encourage people to attend the Pelco Global Training Institute," says Kumnick. "As an end-user I came away with much more knowledge about our system."

During the free training, the team worked hands-on with Pelco equipment. Kumnick says they were particularly impressed with the capabilities of the CM9770 Series Matrix. This microprocessor-based switcher/controller is now the backbone of the new Pelco system protecting the hospital campus. After finishing the class, Marcucci says the team stayed in contact with the instructors at PGTI. "They were very helpful answering all of the questions that came up during the installation."

The main security control center was relocated to a new building, but because the hospital was open to patients during the expansion it was critical that the security system had minimal downtime, particularly in the Labor/Delivery unit. A demarcation room was created to house the digital video recorders, CM9700 switch, and fiber and twisted pair units. New video and fiber cables were run from the old security



St. Francis Hospital - Hartford, Connecticut



office to the demarcation room before the cameras could be reconnected to the new security office. Security officers were posted to monitor the hospital, as Strategic Security and St. Francis personnel worked around the clock to accomplish the job.

Kumnick says the Pelco system now protecting St. Francis Medical Center is working perfectly. From the new control center, security officers monitor over 150 cameras spread out over the two campuses. St. Francis Hospital continues to replace aging fixed and PTZ cameras with new Pelco imaging systems including Spectra IV SE and Camclosure IS systems. Kumnick says that because the hospital is so pleased

with the performance, reliability and customer service that Pelco provides they will stay with Pelco as the security systems manufacturer of choice as the hospital grows in the future.

Strategic Security has been a Pelco dealer since the company started in 1993. The owner Joe Marcucci has been on the Pelco President's Dealer Advisor Board.

Dave Kumnick has been with the St Francis Hospital Medical Center since 1994, starting as a locksmith and progressing to security systems technician for all of the security equipment.



ABOVE: From the redesigned security center, security officers keep watch over St. Francis Hospital's two campuses.