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For More Information:

Charles Thiel
General Manager/Security
610-439-1600
cthiel@comsysinc.com

Communications Systems Inc Partners With City Center, AlliedBarton For Arena District Security

Longtime Allentown Firm To Provide Electronic Surveillance, Access, Command
Controls For City Center Properties

Allentown, Pa. – Employees, guests and visitors to the new office buildings at the heart of Allentown's economic revitalization will be protected in part by a state of the art electronic surveillance system designed and installed by Communications Systems Inc., (CSI), the same firm that has helped lower the city's crime rates through its neighborhood surveillance cameras.

CSI, a long-time Allentown-area firm specializing in electronic security equipment and networks, is proud to partner with City Center Inc. and AlliedBarton Security Services to ensure the safety of those working in and visiting the new buildings, said CSI General Manager/Security Charles Thiel.

CSI is working with Northstar Construction to install the equipment in City Center II and the office buildings that will adjoin the new PPL Arena at the heart of the revitalization. A Honeywell Gold Partner, CSI's equipment will be the mainstay of the electronic security throughout the City Center projects, Thiel said.

The Honeywell Gold Integrated Solution provided by CSI will include video surveillance, access, communications and an emergency notification telephone system in all City Center properties, which includes City Center I and II, and the accompanying parking decks and several buildings yet to be erected, Thiel said.

One of the key aspects of the new system is an emergency telephone connection between the parking decks and the security command center that will be located in City Center II. Guests who feel unsafe can immediately contact security personnel and the closest camera will automatically turn toward the activated phone to give security a view of the nearby scene, Thiel said.

"They were not just concerned about security for a building but about building a system that is scalable as the new buildings are constructed over the next few years," Thiel said. "We competed against several companies and we appreciate the City Center and Northstar Construction for selecting a local company for this project."

Judy Woosnam, President of City Center Management Company, said the expertise and personnel CSI brought to the project made the company the clear leader.

"CSI took the time to listen to our needs and our security requirements, and they designed a custom system to meet those needs using a state of the art Honeywell system," Woosnam said. "They were on time and they delivered what they promised."

"CSI proved critical in helping AlliedBarton, City Center and Northstar design a system and a command center that will accommodate not only the immediate needs but also account for the projected growth," said Lane Donatelli, AlliedBarton's District Manager for the Lehigh Valley. AlliedBarton is providing the security officer services for the project.

"It would have been very easy to let it go and just make the sale, but Charlie took the high road and looked into the future," Donatelli said. "They really care about making the client look good."

In 2007 CSI designed and implemented the surveillance camera system for the City of Allentown that began with 12 cameras in the Center City business district and has now grown to a network of more than 130 cameras in high-crime and other strategic neighborhoods throughout the city. The system has been cited as a key factor in a dramatic reduction in crime in Allentown over the past seven years.

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Communications Systems Inc. offers a wide variety of integrated security and communications solutions, leveraging the latest technology and guaranteed to work both with each other and with existing systems. Our specialties include Intrusion & Perimeter Detection; Video Surveillance; Access Control; Fire Alarm/Mass Notification; Monitoring and Communications Solutions. To learn more, go to http://comsysinc.com/.