

Cook County Department of Corrections (CCDOC)

Executive Summary

- Active millimeter wave technology reveals the broadest set of metallic and non-metallic threats and contraband.
- The need for physical searches is dramatically reduced, increasing the safety of inmates and corrections officers.
- Harmless millimeter wave scans require as little as 2 seconds making ProVision ideal for high throughput requirements.
- ProVision's durable design can handle the demanding corrections environment.

L-3 ProVision deployed at CCDOC



L-3's ProVision™ Safeguards High Volume Intake Facility

The Challenge

Cook County Department of Corrections (CCDOC) in Chicago, Illinois, covers 96 acres, 10 divisions and is the biggest single-site county pre-trial facility in the country. Housing 10,000 inmates and transporting as many as 1,500 to and from court every day is an ongoing, constantly evolving, challenge. The officials at CCDOC dedicate their time and energy to keeping their charges, staff and visitors safe. In a correctional facility, an object as innocuous as an earring wire can become part of a weapon or escape plan.

The ideal checkpoint solution would need to conduct thorough inspections while processing a high volume of traffic. In addition, durability and ease of operation were very important. Above all, the CCDOC was looking for a supplier who understood the complexity of their population, their challenges as an agency and their needs for the future. Although CCDOC had a backscatter X-ray screening system in place, officials engaged L-3 to conduct a pilot.

The Proposal

Make checkpoint screening for weapons and contraband thorough, fast, safe and effective with L-3's innovative ProVision Whole Body Imaging System.

The Pilot

L-3 was invited to participate in a pilot program at the CCDOC Level 1 intake facility. The pilot program enabled the department to evaluate ProVision's durable design, which resisted kicking, punching and other attempts by inmates to destroy or disable the screening portal. Because it reduces the need for physical contact, ProVision increased the safety of inmates and the corrections officers tasked with screening them.

Another key consideration was the ability to find concealed objects. ProVision's active millimeter wave technology differentiates virtually every kind of material from the human body. The tiniest amounts of plastic, wire, metal, ceramic, wood—anything that can be used for a potential threat—can be spotted quickly. ProVision reveals concealed currency, software, drugs and contraband. During the trial visitors were seen dumping banned substances in the waiting line to avoid detection by the ProVision.

The painstaking process of correctional facility screening can be at odds with throughput goals, so the CCDOC was eager to find a screening solution that would keep traffic flowing while maximizing operational efficiency. Other imaging technologies take only a single-frame scan from one direction at a time, requiring multiple scans for a complete picture of the person being screened. The time it takes to position the person being scanned and to examine the resulting images significantly lowers throughput rates. With the ProVision system, subjects can be scanned in approximately 2 seconds and rapidly assessed by an analyst resulting in the highest throughput available.

The Results

ProVision proved to be the ideal screening technology for the CCDOC. The combination of rugged design, superior imaging technology, safety and ease of use greatly impressed CCDOC officials, as did L-3's understanding of and responsiveness to the unique and evolving challenges faced by the correctional system. The CCDOC purchased 10 ProVision systems to be used throughout their facility, as well as L-3's PX™ series X-ray systems for screening mail, hand-carried items and packages.

ProVision enabled CCDOC officials to:

- Rapidly identify potential weapons components, despite size or composition
- Deter visitors from smuggling contraband
- Maintain a highly acceptable traffic flow without compromising safety or effectiveness
- Safely inspect inmates with reduced 'hands on' contact
- Reduce the cost of replacing screening equipment damaged by rough use

ProVision Capabilities

ProVision eliminates the need for intrusive 'pat down' searches, and provides superior quality images of concealed objects of any type of material. L-3's patented active millimeter wave technology which uses common radio frequency signals is safe.

ProVision's operator workstations are easy to operate, providing screeners a full complement of information to help them make fast, accurate decisions. L-3's technology is housed in a durable casing that resists dents and scratches and keeps both the screening subject and the inspector safe.

PX Capabilities

Designed to screen small and medium-sized objects, L-3's durable PX X-ray system provides a combination of detection capability, high throughput and flexibility. Ideal for correctional facilities, these units feature streamlined footprints to make the most of available space.

L-3's PX 6.4 features:

- Best image resolution in its class
- Compact design
- Configurable conveyor lengths
- Patented, user-friendly touchpad operator controls

PX series screening systems are deployed around the globe. L-3 technology is backed by one of the industry's largest service and support organizations, and protects critical infrastructure in some of the world's most security-conscious countries.



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