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**Contact**

ABUS Security-Center

GmbH & Co. KG

Florian Lauw

Public Relations

+49 (0)82 07 959 90 0

presse@abus-sc.com

Linker Kreuthweg 5

86444 Affing

Germany

www.abus.com

**Celebrate safely – ABUS video surveillance at the Electrisize Festival**

**Incidents at international music events, such as those in Paris and Manchester, have unfortunately shown that enjoying a concert is no longer the carefree experience it once was. Major events organisers therefore have a responsibility to ensure that their visitors are as safe as possible. This means that security technology and staff need to work together even more effectively so attendees can really enjoy themselves. The organisers of the Electrisize Festival in Erkelenz, Germany, one of the largest dance music festivals in the region of North Rhine-Westphalia, therefore rely on the combination of ABUS video surveillance and trained personnel to provide comprehensive round-the-clock protection for their visitors. With the help of Outdoor IP Tube Cameras and Outdoor IP PTZ Dome Cameras, which can zoom in to look at individual people, criminal behaviour is detected quickly and prevented effectively. Video recording ensures that even unresolved cases can be cleared up at a later date.**

Colourfully painted faces, extravagant outfits and an irrepressible party atmosphere await over 15,000 music fans who attend the Electrisize Festival at the lovingly prepared festival site over the course of two days. The line-up includes internationally renowned DJs on the electronic scene, such as Aka Aka, Da Tweekaz and Danny Avila. The grounds of the former monastery at Hohenbusch, now re-purposed as an event venue, extend over four hectares and, in addition to three impressively designed stages, include an entrance and refreshment area, as well as several hidden paths.

As the crowds of revellers gather at dusk, it is particularly difficult to keep an eye on everything. This is why festival organiser Raphael Meyersieck relies on state-of-the-art ABUS video surveillance, which, together with security staff, allows him to intervene directly if anyone is acting suspiciously, if dangerous items are spotted or any thefts take place. For professional and cost-effective installation of the video surveillance system, he contacted Philip Deteren, Managing Director of the local specialist security company CDD GmbH & Co. KG.

**Quick, no hassle installation**

After a professional inspection of the festival site, it took two working days to install the Outdoor IP Tube Cameras and the Outdoor IP PTZ Dome Cameras. This process involved quickly identifying suitable inconspicuous locations and then installing the cameras. Meyersieck says, “I am particularly pleased that the security technology is integrated discretely throughout the site. This means that the party atmosphere among those attending the festival is not affected by the feeling of being watched.” One challenge during the installation was laying the cables to the festival site: the team, led by security expert Deteren, laid a total of 1700 m of network cable in order to ensure that the video surveillance system worked smoothly.

**Potential party spoilers: suspicious characters, dangerous items and fire hazards**

In the entrance area in particular, the aim is to carry out thorough safety checks on attendees so close cooperation with the security personnel is essential. With a trained eye on the surveillance images, any suspicious people or pickpockets, along with any dangerous items or substances they may be carrying, can quickly be detected and separated from the crowds. Larger bags and backpacks are also reliably detected and separated out. “Dangerous items include, for example, glass bottles which could cause injuries if they break, as well as lighters and flammable liquids”, explains Meyersieck. In the event of a fire, dangerous situations can even escalate into mass panic – this is one particular area where surveillance technology can help save lives by enabling lightning-fast reaction times. In any event, the ABUS IP Cameras are indispensable to the security staff at the entrance as they enable instructions to be passed from the control centre so staff can take the necessary action. The video material captured, which has an image quality of up to 6 MPx, can subsequently be used to clear up any incidents.

**Centralised round-the-clock surveillance of large areas**

The ABUS video surveillance system covers the majority of the festival site, including the entrance area, the three stages and the footpaths. Thanks to their outstanding night vision, the outdoor cameras provide sharp and high-contrast images even in tricky light conditions such as at dusk and during the night. Due to their IP66 protection class, they are also suitable for use in all weather conditions. This is particularly helpful during the main festival season in August, when the weather can change between sunshine and summer storms on an hourly basis.

In order for the security personnel to utilise the many camera angles available, the camera controls are situated in a central surveillance station with recordings made using an ABUS 8-Channel Network Recorder. The high-resolution material captured can then be used to clear up any incidents.

**The entire festival in the palm of your hand with the app**

In addition to the central monitor, the app now also provides access to the live images from all cameras at any time, meaning that, as well as providing security, the ABUS video surveillance system allows you to check what is happening while you are on the move. This is particularly useful for the organiser, who is never in one place for very long during the festival. “I am extremely satisfied with the ABUS video surveillance system,” states Meyersieck. “With ABUS, I can ensure, as the organiser, that our guests are kept safe and can return home from the festival with their favourite songs still ringing in their ears.”