

Danish Police Department



Industry

Law enforcement

Location

Copenhagen, Denmark

Products

AutoVu

Partners

ITS Teknik

ANPR has met the Police's expectations

Automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) is used around the world to manage parking. But ANPR is also an effective method of combating crime and fraud. In 2014, the Danish Police Force decided to implement the Security Center AutoVu™ ANPR solution and installed 48 mobile cameras and 24 permanent cameras around Denmark. The results achieved by using ANPR have been so positive that the police now intend to increase the number of both mobile and stationary cameras.

Following a round of bidding in 2014, the Danish police decided to move ahead and invest in the Security Center AutoVu ANPR solution from Genetec. The solution had already been tested and implemented in various regions around the world and achieved great results. The decision to go with AutoVu was based on the test results and the fact that AutoVu was able to read number plates from the countries, required by the Danish Police. The solution was then delivered and implemented in 2015, and fully operational by the summer of 2016.

The Implementation Prize

The implementation phase went so well that the project was awarded the Implementation Prize at the Digitalization Awards Ceremony in 2018. "Naturally, certain adjustments were needed. All of that was carried out in a professional manner. Both Genetec and their Danish distributor, ITS Teknik, did everything in their power to resolve any challenges," says Morten Vasegaard Larsen, Senior Advisor Business Owner at

the Danish Police. "For example, there was an issue with the Personal Data Regulation, which was due to be implemented. In cooperation with Genetec and ITS Teknik, we managed to develop and integrate solutions, so the application were compliant with the Law Enforcement Act"

Train the trainer concept

The ANPR system was well-received internally. "We held a roadshow across the whole country to show the police districts how it works, what the system can do, and last but not least, how to operate it. The system was very well-received by everyone. Very early on in the process, we trained a number of "super-users" in the police districts, as part of a 'Train the Trainer' concept. This meant that the users had to take responsibility for ensuring that the solution was a success, for example by conducting local training sessions for their peers. It also meant that we were able to implement the solution more quickly. We communicated well throughout the project and had a common understanding that, together, by using this

solution, we're helping the community," says Morten Vasegaard Larsen.

"When it was originally decided that we would install the ANPR solution in Danish police cars, the project was met with a fair amount of skepticism from the general population. Now, we find that the public has become more positive. I think we've managed to communicate the idea that ANPR is there to fight crime, rather than to monitor drivers in general. If a so-called "no-hit" number plate is registered in the system, it is deleted again after 24 hours if registered by a mobile unit and after 30 days if registered at one of the fixed locations. When the decision to use ANPR was made, we already knew that the Law Enforcement Act would be coming into effect in 2018. So right from the beginning, we took into account the fact that the solution had to comply with statutory personal data protection requirements. Throughout the buying process, we involved our internal legal advisors, and other subject matter experts so that we could ensure that all the regulations were being complied with. We also experienced some cases of vandalism in relation to the stationary cameras, which we now see an decrease in, likely because people are beginning to see the positive aspects of ANPR.

We've had many success stories from using this solution. For example, a woman on a bus took down the number plate of the getaway car in connection with a shooting. Thanks to ANPR and cooperation between the different police districts, we were able to locate the car, stop it, and arrest the perpetrators. Another example was when the Norwegian Police Force contacted us because some very expensive cars had been stolen in Norway, and they suspected that they would be transported through Denmark for sale further south in Europe. The cars were tracked using ANPR and the police were able to stop them at the border. The system has a 98 percent reading rate, so there are very few cars that cannot be caught with the system," states Morten Vasegaard Larsen.

ANPR now and in the future

Initially, 48 cars and 24 stationary posts were equipped with cameras across the country. The ANPR solution achieved such great results that it was decided to add another 25 mobile cameras and 16 stationary cameras in Copenhagen and the rest of Zealand.

Facts

Solution implemented in 2014-2016

Won the Implementation Award - Digitalization Award in 2018

The solution is called AutoVu and is supplied by Genetec and implemented by ITS Teknik

Genetec Inc.

genetec.com/locations
info@genetec.com
@genetec



Approx. 70 cars and 48 stationary posts are now equipped with cameras across the country, and the Danish Police are now using ANPR as an integrated part of the police tool box. In addition, there are also debate about expanding the ANPR capacity, although this is still in the discussion phase.

"For now the Danish Police collect several hundred thousand plates a day, and the number is increasing. This also challenge the methods to handle and manage large amounts of data coming from ANPR. Police analysts are constantly seeking to find solutions to the challenges, including the integration of ANPR data in an external analyst platform" says Anders Wulf-Toft, ANPR Product Owner at the Danish Police.

"The Danish Police are continuously seeking new ways of using the ANPR technology. Also having in mind that the ANPR technology is developing in a rapid speed" states Anders Wulf-Toft.

"Naturally, certain adjustments were needed. All of that was carried out in a professional manner. Both Genetec and their Danish distributor, ITS Teknik, did everything in their power to resolve any challenges"

Number of cameras: 48 cameras in cars and 24 stationary cameras. The number is now being expanded to a total of 73 in-car cameras and 40 stationary cameras spread across Denmark.
