



Global Food Security Assessments: Case Study

The Client: In this case study example, PRS assisted a Fortune 500 food industry client to help them assess their global security posture in North America, Europe and Asia.

The Situation: Recently some major food industry sites around the globe have reported security breaches. These breaches include both internal and external adversaries. Incidents of this nature in the food industry are costly due to possible food product contamination. Should an outside adversary gain entrance into a facility of this type, which normally requires various levels of gowning and protective measures, production lines must be shut down for hours and massive quantities of product will have to be destroyed. A security breach or suspected internal contamination incident lasting only a few hours could amount to a loss of multiple millions of dollars, not to mention press scrutiny, brand and corporate reputation. Additionally, a disenchanted lone wolf contractor or employee could use social media to distribute site photos showing malicious contamination in real time.

As facilities age and many harsh environmental conditions break down security systems, many of the industry breaches involve outside adversaries that take advantage of off-line CCTV cameras, malfunctioning gates and other security elements. With many sites having end of life equipment in place, our client wanted a full situation assessment of all physical security elements.

The Solution: PRS deployed senior consultants to multiple locations during a concurrent four-week timeframe to start the [assessment process](#). The client was of the belief that if PRS spent at least four weeks on each site, any false security facades would soon crumble and the consultant would be able to fully witness the actual security posture at each facility.

Premier Risk Solutions provides the best in class global protective, consultative and investigative solutions for organizations to adapt to evolving business objectives and allow for scalability and agility. Through partnerships and strategic alliances, PRS offers support in 65 different countries. Our clients consistently tell us that our solutions are a cut above the competition. We foster a collaborative relationship with clients and vendors leading to the most successful service execution for all parties involved. We strive for each and every service no matter how small or large to have the best customer service experience possible. At PRS you will feel you are working with a partner who has your organizational brand and integrity in-mind.

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Each consultant started with a common set of global corporate security standards, question sets and checklists to gauge compliance with standards at each of the client's sites.

As the client had anticipated, the first few days had everyone on their best security process behavior, despite only a subtle announcement of the program by the client to their local personnel. Much of the initial work involved the consultants simply taking a seat in the various areas, such as the primary security station, truck gate, shipping and receiving and the main lobby. Observations were logged and formed the basis for further questions to staff. As the days progressed, some consultants noticed local resistance to the corporate programs, in an attempt to defend past local budget decisions to extend the use of end of life security technology or modify global security policies. As the facilities were 24/7/365 operations, the PRS consultants worked on all shifts to gather a clear picture of all site conditions, day and night.

As the consultants behaved as trusted advisors and coaches as opposed to "auditors", relationships were established with local managers and joint solutions were agreed to. Immediate low hanging fruit were identified and corrective actions were implemented before the consultants wrapped up. By the end of the four weeks the PRS consultants provided a full close-out briefing to local site management to make them fully aware of what each site report would contain. These briefings including the identification of current vulnerabilities, area threats and emerging threats. Local site management and staff were engaged from start to finish and a collaborative environment was fostered.

The Result: The client is now reviewing all of the global site reports and the initial feedback is that they have a tremendous amount of actionable intelligence to work with. The client is in discussions with the various local business units around the globe to prepare schedules, budgets and resources for implementation of the PRS recommendations. This client has indicated that as PRS did an excellent job of building trusted relationships with their local site personnel, they will be considering the use of PRS to provide project management services

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for full implementation of recommendations globally.

Case Study Notebook

During the course of our work on these sites the consultants were able to observe and record open gates, alarm annunciators taped silent by staff, doors propped open with stones and poor security equipment conditions. All of the normal wear and tear items that occur in a 24/7/365 manufacturing environment.

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WARNING

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WHOEVER MALICIOUSLY ENTERS
WITH INTENT TO REMOVE
THEREFROM ANY MERCHANDISE,
OR UNLAWFULLY REMOVES MERCHANDISE
FROM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER
PROTECTION CUSTODY OR CONTROL
SHALL BE GUILTY OF A FEDERAL CRIME
AND FINED UP TO \$250,000, IMPRISONED
NOT MORE THAN 10 YEARS, OR BOTH.
(18 U.S.C. 549, 3571).

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Many times the desire for operational convenience in the manufacturing environment results in security breaches and ultimately contamination incidents. While systems were once in place to detect internal breaks in the site security membrane, equipment age and creative “testing” of the systems by staff requires proactive period assessments.



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