



Case Study



HART Fleet: Lights, Camera & Ready for Action

Hazardous Area Response Teams (HART) play a critical role in responding to major incidents, particularly those involving hazardous materials, collapsed structures, or high-risk environments where conventional ambulance services cannot operate safely. To enhance operational capability and improve safety, a new fleet of **over 60 Incident Response Units** have been equipped with advanced lighting and thermal imaging systems.

Woodway's **Night Owl** mast systems have been installed onto each ambulance, providing essential lighting and real-time situational awareness for HART teams working in challenging environments. The vehicles, built by specialist converter **Wietmarscher Ambulanz- und Sonderfahrzeug (WAS)**, have been deployed nationwide as part of a new, nationally agreed fleet specification.

The Requirements

HART teams operate in some of the most demanding conditions, requiring vehicles equipped with specialist technology to support their work.

The new fleet of HART vehicles needed to meet the following requirements:

➔ **Enhanced Visibility in Hazardous Environments** – Responding to major road traffic incidents, chemical spills, and collapsed buildings requires high-performance scene lighting and thermal imaging to ensure safe operations, often in low-light conditions.

➔ **Real-Time Situational Awareness** – The ability to monitor incidents from a distance and assess risks before deploying personnel is crucial for safety and coordination.

➔ **Rapid Deployment and Reliable Operation** – Equipment must be quick to set up, simple to operate, and capable of functioning in extreme conditions without failure.

➔ **Integrated, Non-Intrusive Design** – The technology had to be integrated seamlessly into the vehicles without compromising vehicle performance or space.

The Solution

To meet these needs, each HART vehicle was fitted with two Night Owl mast systems:

1 Night Owl Classic

A high-powered, extendable scene lighting mast providing illumination for hazardous sites, ensuring clear visibility for responders working in dangerous environments.

2 Night Owl Predator

A rugged, roof-mounted 360 degree surveillance mast equipped with a high-definition thermal camera, remote viewing capabilities, and real-time video transmission.

These systems were chosen due to their reliability, ease of use, and proven performance in emergency response scenarios. The masts deploy rapidly, providing immediate scene illumination and surveillance, allowing teams to work efficiently while maintaining safety.

The vehicles were also fitted with Whelen lighting supplied by Woodway - including 2250 lightbars, ION Universal lightheads, ION V-Series, and M-Series lightheads, enhancing visibility and operational efficiency.



The Product

Our roof-mounted vehicle masts provide mobile surveillance and powerful scene lighting exactly where it's needed. Both masts are self-contained systems that integrate seamlessly with the vehicle's electrical setup, ensuring consistent operation without additional external power sources.

Scene Lighting: Night Owl Classic

- Combination flood and spot lighting of over 40,000 lumens
- Efficient, high-performance Whelen LED lights with IP67 rating for water and dust resistance
- Deployment time of 12 seconds to vertical, with
- 350-degree cyclic and independent rotation of mast head
- Durable stainless steel construction

Surveillance: Night Owl Predator

- Vehicle mounted mast, extending up to 3.2m
- High definition Predator Ultra Thermal Camera from 360 Vision, with 40x Optical Zoom
- Live camera footage with transmission by Veracity.
- Compact, in-vehicle handset that allows for easy operation with backlit switches
- Automatic park facility, single tap parking option, and on-board air regulator or compressor

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The Outcome

With the introduction of the new HART fleet, teams now have improved operational capabilities, including:

- ✓ **Increased Safety & Efficiency**
Bright scene lighting reduces risks in hazardous zones, allowing responders to work with confidence.
- ✓ **Improved Incident Monitoring**
The surveillance mast enables command teams to assess evolving situations in real time, supporting informed decision-making.
- ✓ **Faster Deployment**
Rapid mast extension and retraction allow responders to set up and move quickly, essential in high-pressure scenarios.
- ✓ **Reliable Performance**
Built for durability, both systems withstand harsh conditions and prolonged use in emergency situations.



"The Night Owl systems have been designed to enhance emergency response operations, and their deployment on the HART fleet is a perfect example of how technology can improve safety and efficiency. With high-powered lighting and advanced thermal imaging capabilities, these vehicles are now better equipped to handle the most challenging incidents."

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