MONS 2015, EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE:
PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS PILOT

The Mons Police Force, in cooperation with the National Police Force of France, deployed advanced police technology analytic capabilities into video monitoring systems used in the city.

Building on a strong track record of delivering biometrics and facial recognition technology (FRT) projects, Accenture is providing public safety solutions around the world that identify trends and improve real-time information sharing. Our modular public safety solution includes video analytics that automates observation of camera networks, enabling organizations to gain greater value from their existing CCTV investments.

CLIENT PROFILE
The city of Mons in Belgium was designated the European Capital of Culture 2015 (along with Plzen in the Czech Republic), launching the start of a year-long celebration of cultural activities in January 2015. Involving a series of events across 17 locations, the celebrations meant the city needed to be prepared to welcome local authorities, Belgian officials and large numbers of international visitors.

With approximately 100,000 people enjoying an opening ceremony in the presence of Belgium’s King and Queen, public safety concerns were a high priority. As a result, the Mons Police Force, in cooperation with the National Police Force of France, decided to deploy advanced police technology analytic capabilities into video monitoring systems used in the city. By doing so, the public safety solutions were intended to increase situational awareness, streamline operations and enhance the response times of the police to public safety incidents throughout the opening ceremony of the city’s 2015 tenure as European Capital of Culture.

OPPORTUNITY
To manage the opening ceremony, Mons public safety officials needed to address a number of logistics and transportation challenges to provide a safe and secure environment for visitors. Rail service SNCB Europe added an extra 13 trains to its current daily timetable, while an additional 13 shuttle bus routes that accommodated a late evening schedule were linked with local car parks. Certain traffic routes through the inner city walls were temporarily closed altogether with access from pedestrians via five streets that connect the outskirts with the city center.

The launch event was highly publicized and attracted nearly 150 journalists from China, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. With so many nationalities and cultures, clarity in communications and support was essential. The Mons police needed to:

1. Enhance the response times of the police to public safety incidents.
2. Streamline operations and improve situational awareness.
3. Act as a proactive deterrent to prevent public safety issues and intervene, when appropriate.
4. Gather real-time intelligence from an automated video analytics system.
5. Provide alerts that enabled them to develop several scenarios.
6. Use advanced technology to identify unusual or unexpected behaviors or incidents in different parts of the city.
7. Prevent public safety issues from occurring.

Accenture teamed with the police force to develop several scenarios running from the command room, preventing damage or loss or attention as being lost or needing medical attention.

The Mons Police Force, in cooperation with the National Police Force of France, deployed similar public safety solutions around high-traffic areas to improve decisions about access to both people and vehicles, preventing damage or loss or attention as being lost or needing medical attention.

Accenture Solutions were used in the streets that connect the outskirts of the city center, temporarily closed altogether with access from pedestrians via five streets that connect the outskirts with the city center.
• Manage a steady flow of traffic, both people and vehicles, between the city center and the outskirts of Mons
• Offer assistance to people with unexpected emergencies, such as being lost or needing medical attention
• Maintain law and order (such as preventing damage or loss or resolving issues in retail outlets or restaurants)
• Enable access for authorized personnel
• Be responsive to external security threats, such as terrorist alerts

Accenture teamed with the police to develop several scenarios related to each of the cameras that would effectively monitor the safety and security demands of the event. Using an application running from the command room, the police could view security alerts that enabled them to identify unusual or unexpected behaviors or incidents in different parts of the city. Armed with the information, the police could then gather real-time intelligence and intervene, when appropriate, to prevent public safety issues from occurring.

RESULTS
By adding an automated video analytics solution to the traditional video protection network, the police were able to detect and evaluate more incidents and anomalies, providing a better service to citizens and improving security at the event. In particular, the solution helped to avoid congestion and overcrowding in the main streets of the city and meant the Mons police force could make more informed decisions about access to high-traffic areas to improve public safety.

Accenture has worked with other European cities, such as Lille in France, to deploy similar public safety solutions around city festivals and cultural events. In

SOLUTION
Collaborating with the Mons police and the mobile video unit of the French Police, Accenture set up its police technology video analytics solution to manage public safety and security throughout the launch event. Following the installation of 10 mobile video cameras at strategic locations by the French National Police, Accenture deployed our Video Analytics Service Platform which was configured to provide real time analysis of the video feeds to provide relevant, timely information and alerts to the Mons police. In particular, the Mons police wanted to gain an accurate assessment of the volume of the visitor population and detect any abandoned vehicles or unattended baggage.

About Accenture
Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with more than 319,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world’s most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US$30.0 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2014. Its home page is www.accenture.com.