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PolyTech College Risk Assessment

Title: *Strategic Realignment at a Leading Technical Institute*

Executive Summary

A respected polytechnical college recently expanded its training facilities with the construction of a modern welding workshop. Though the facility complied with all required safety codes, the board of directors recognized that evolving geopolitical risks and adversarial threats required a deeper look. They engaged Amenaza Technologies not simply for technical evaluation, but for strategic advisory services – to ensure that institutional priorities, protective investments and adversary readiness were aligned.

Amenaza's mandate included identifying any gaps between board-level concerns and operational security activity, evaluating risk through adversarial modeling, and delivering actionable guidance for both catastrophic and day-to-day threats – all while preserving the college's ability to educate and its reputation for leadership.

Misalignment of Priorities

Through board interviews and operational discovery, Amenaza identified a pattern increasingly common across complex organizations: a divergence between strategic intent and day-to-day execution. Over time, institutional focus on property protection – such as legacy policies to prevent project theft – remained unchanged, even as the value and risk profile of those assets declined.

This wasn't negligence – it was the byproduct of shifting priorities that had never been formally reconciled. The board and the security team shared the same ultimate goals, but without recent dialogue or strategic recalibration, practices had drifted from purpose.

Amenaza's role was not to critique, but to realign – to surface these gaps respectfully, and create consensus on what mattered most moving forward.

Amenaza's Approach

Our advisors led a structured threat assessment process that integrated stakeholder alignment with adversary modeling. Using SecurITree® we simulated potential attacker scenarios targeting the newly constructed gas storage facility adjacent to the welding shop.

Though compliant by design, the room proved highly vulnerable to a determined attacker. The modeling revealed that with basic tools already present (e.g., a fire axe), an individual could breach the space, rupture gas lines, and initiate an explosive event severe enough to destroy the facility, injure or kill occupants, and render the campus inoperable for weeks.



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Amenaza did not simply report this finding — we contextualized it for both the board and security leadership, translating abstract technical risks into a narrative of operational, reputational, and human impact.

To mitigate the risk, our team recommended a layered access and detection strategy: time-sequenced alarmed doors, monitored entry points, and tactical surveillance. This not only reduced the attack feasibility but did so without requiring a major capital investment — aligning with institutional priorities for both safety and budget discipline.

Identification of Additional Opportunities

Beyond rare but catastrophic scenarios, our engagement also addressed more common safety concerns that directly affected student well-being. Incidents near the campus bar and late-night walkways had emerged as areas of vulnerability.

We advised the installation of additional surveillance in parking zones and pedestrian corridors, supported by enhanced real-time monitoring. We also recommended launching an escort initiative for students traveling alone in the evenings — a practical, low-cost enhancement that sent a strong cultural signal of care and preparedness.

As with the broader risk alignment, these recommendations were based not on generic best practices, but on institution-specific modeling and board-defined priorities.

Why It Mattered

Amenaza's advisory work helped the institution confront a reality that affects many organizations: when communication fades between strategic leadership and frontline operations, even well-intentioned efforts can drift out of sync.

There was no breakdown. No failure. Simply a natural divergence between yesterday's assumptions and today's threats.

Our role was to reconnect that loop — to facilitate alignment, translate strategy into operational action, and support decision-making with adversary-informed insights.

The result was not just a more resilient campus — but a leadership team, security office, and community working from the same priorities. And that, more than any single policy or control, is what true security looks like.

From a day-to-day point of view, the enhancement to student safety brings immediate and obvious benefits, and encourages students to feel safe on campus.