

Street Smarts VR Leverages VIVE Enterprise to Deliver Next-Generation Military Training



Security Forces train using immersive VR simulations to maximize readiness.

Effective training and frequent repetitions are crucial for enabling first responders to maintain their readiness. The ideal exercise needs to be realistic, detailed, timesaving, and minimize risk.

Looking for a better way

To put it simply, training sessions that fully prepare participants through repetition are the best kind. It also means they have to be as realistic as possible. Unfortunately, running real-life simulations can be as dangerous as they are expensive. Conducting training

on 2D screens is not much of an improvement, either. It's inability to repeat training scenarios and lack of realism, left quite a few shortcomings that needed upgrading.

Finding the answer

After the Department of Defense began to explore better training methods, they determined Street Smarts VR was their best choice. Its fully immersive training solution based on actual training requirements was exactly what they needed. Thanks to a

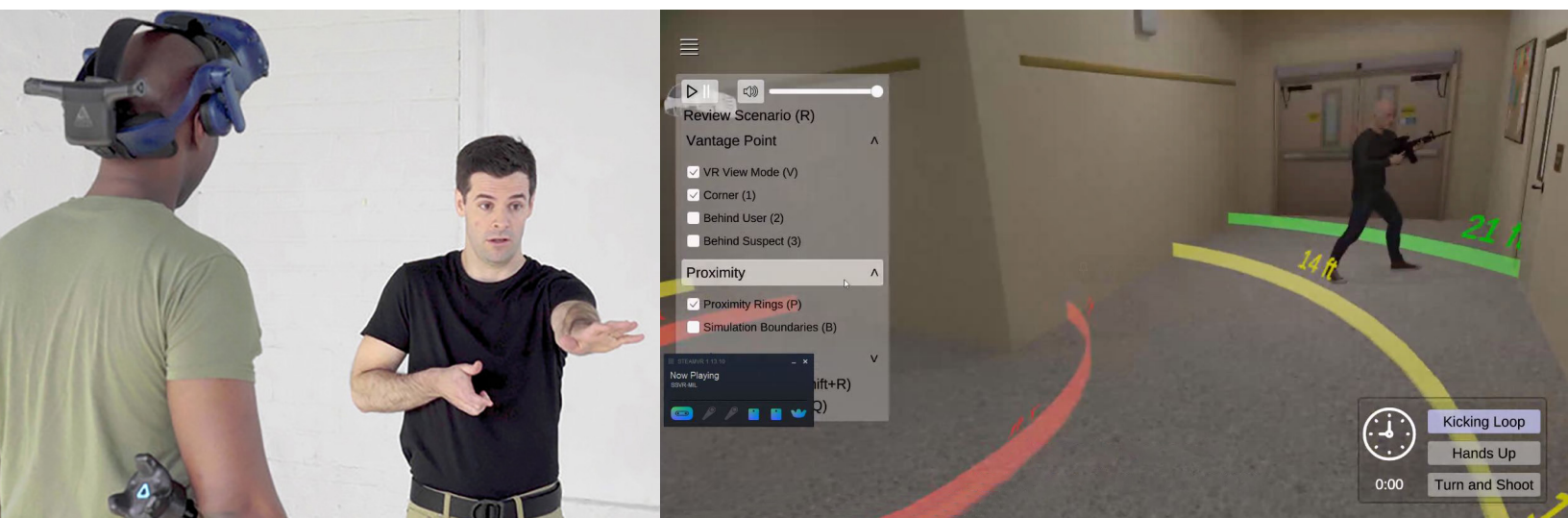
hyper-realistic VR environment fueled by freedom of movement and sub-millimeter precision tracking, military users were able to get just what they needed to make every simulation both effective and efficient. **The VIVE VR system also provided the ability to use real-world replica weapons with an ever-expanding library of training scenarios.** This helped produce an extra element of realism and familiarity that was lacking from outdated training methods. Not only is it essential in properly preparing for high-risk and worst-case situations, it also relays important data and analytics back to instructors. Access to these statistics allow for better overall adjustments. When all put together you get an advanced platform that teaches everything from de-escalation techniques to the appropriate use of force for small and large units. Given the variety of factors to choose from—like time of day, weather conditions, population density, specific locations—trainees are able to experience different situations that include:

- De-escalation and verbalization techniques
- Non-lethal and lethal weapons training
- Active shooter response
- Base defense and installation security (including gate runner prevention)
- Car and high-risk traffic stops

And that’s just some of the many scenarios that are included with the platform. Along with all the benefits tied to Street Smarts VR, this training tool ensures longevity with its future-proof features. **Customers receive content and software updates on a quarterly basis to address the ever-changing requirement based on new agency policies, recent incidents, and strategic objectives.** What makes Street Smarts VR a superior choice starts with the VIVE Tracker and VIVE Pro Eye. The VIVE Tracker lets participants use the most realistic replica firearms and non-lethal weapons in order to practice implementing the appropriate use of force. The room-scale tracking, ergonomics, and resolution quality of the VIVE Pro Eye were equally essential. To further bolster its versatility, the VIVE Wireless Adapter delivered an untethered experience, allowing one or more trainees to physically move around any area up to 30’ x 30’ with ease. To sum it up, the graphics in Street Smarts VR’s simulations, rendered through the VIVE Pro Eye, are at the top of the industry.

Impactful outcomes

While the benefits are numerous, Co-Founder and COO of Street Smarts VR Alice Formwalt summed it up best when she said: “in a COVID environment, where hand-to-hand training is limited for safety reasons, it’s critical to have frequent exposure to training simulations that are as realistic as possible.



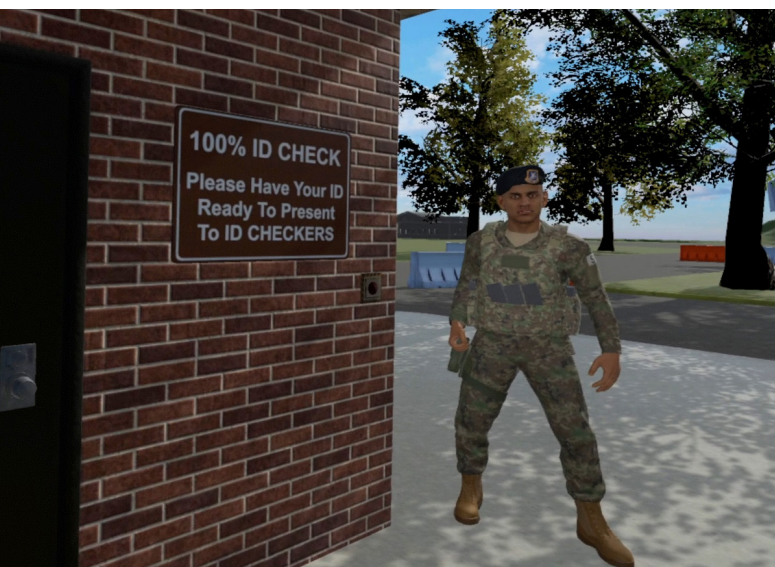
The instructor guides a trainee through “Review Mode” after each training scenario. It provides the ability to move the virtual camera into any vantage point to properly see all aspects of how a situation was handled. Review Mode also displays three proximity rings to help trainees with their spatial awareness.

This is especially true when you have new trainees. **Our solution helps with readiness by creating the physical and emotional stressors, so they can assess situations proactively and respond with the appropriate level of threat engagement.** The time and money saved alone shows how significant of an impact Street Smarts VR made. Based on Department of Defense numbers, this training tool is saving on average 40 training hours per user per year. In terms of invaluable assets, the importance of training like you're in an actual setting cannot be understated. Real-life stressors employed within a safe environment provides freedom to train in a multitude of ways. Psychological and physiological challenges can also be introduced into the simulation, which can then be revisited and measured. Such information paints a bigger picture on how certain individuals use force and when they choose to apply it. Having that luxury to quickly gain so much insight not only informs strategic objectives, it helps free up staff, reduce overtime, and save resources—since only one trainer is needed to operate the system. During times of unexpected training constraints, the platform proves to be especially resourceful as the ideal workaround. **“We recently purchased Street Smarts VR’s training system on behalf of our 3,000 Security Forces,” said an official US Air Force contact. “That’s 12 separate units across 10 military bases. Street Smarts VR’s system is second to none and helps us close the gap between merely qualified and those who are**



absolutely proficient.” This has led to the system being put into operational use at over 20 other bases—including some military police academies. That same contact went on to say, **“in our field, simulators seem to come and go, but Street Smarts VR will be with us for a long time.”**

By leveraging Street Smarts VR and its best-in-class tools, any law enforcement agency can supplement their real-world training while building resiliency and driving better decisions thanks to both weapons tracking and accuracy analytics. This further enables instructors to direct critical aspects of the training session. For example, by having subjects comply with commands. It plays a major role in maximizing trainee readiness. On top of it all, utilizing VR makes for compelling recruitment, which in turn leads to better staffing and retention. Frequent training, through repeatability, with stressors, is needed to make sure trainees use appropriate levels of engagement when the time comes. Managing critical challenges and optimizing scenarios for appropriate readiness is absolutely essential. Studies have shown immersive technologies like Street Smarts VR can build resilience, as well as help personnel be prepared for whatever happens in the real world. It just goes to show that preparation is half the battle.



To learn more about our Privacy Policy, please visit: <https://www.htc.com/us/terms/privacy/>