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The Amazonas Prison System: Technological Advances in the New Management and Functional Quality of the Prison Apparatus
Quality Of The Prison Apparatus

Bruno de Almeida Camurça Mendes, Cadet QPEPM of the Military Police of Amazonas. Bachelor's degree in Public Security from the State University of Amazonas.

Edmundo Pereira de Lima Júnior, Cadet of the Military Police of Amazonas. Bachelor's degree in Administration from the Metropolitan Faculty of Manaus. Currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Public and Citizen Security at the State University of Amazonas. Email: edmundoplj@gmail.com. Lattes CV: <https://lattes.cnpq.br/9464968275107985>

Ronan Correa de Souza, Cadet of the Military Police of Amazonas. Bachelor's degree in Public and Citizen Security from the State University of Amazonas – UEA. Email: ronanjezyluna@gmail.com

Maxon do Nascimento Souza, Cadet of the Military Police of Amazonas. Specialist in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure from Candido Mendes University (PPGDPPP/UCMRJ). Graduated in Law from the University Center for Higher Education of Amazonas (CIESA/AM). Currently pursuing a degree in Public and Citizen Security from the State University of Amazonas (UEA/AM).

Francisco Camurça Bezerra Neto holds a Bachelor's degree in Public and Citizen Security from the State University of Amazonas (2013) and a Law degree from the University of Fortaleza (2009). He has postgraduate degrees in Corporate Security Management and in Management Applied to Security. He is currently a military police officer - Military Police of Amazonas, and intelligence coordinator at the Adjunct Executive Secretariat of Intelligence (SEAI/SSP/AM).

Michael Sousa Leite, Major QOPM of the Military Police of Amazonas. Postgraduate student in Public Management applied to Security at the State University of Amazonas - UEA. Specialist in Public Security and Police Intelligence from Faculdade Literatus (UNICEL). Specialist in Legal Sciences from Cruzeiro do Sul University. Holds a degree in Public Security from the State University of Amazonas - UEA. Bachelor of Laws from the University of São Paulo City - UNICID. Technologist in Human Resources from Paulista University - UNIP.

SUMMARY

The prison system in Amazonas, as in other regions of Brazil, faces persistent and complex challenges, including overcrowding, precarious infrastructure, and difficulties in prisoner management. Despite government initiatives to mitigate these problems, the effectiveness of these measures remains questionable. The adoption of technology has emerged as a modernization strategy, justified by the need to improve security, increase administrative efficiency, and strengthen rehabilitation efforts. The main objective of this study is to identify the technologies introduced into the Amazonas prison system and analyze their impact on internal security, monitoring, resource management, professional well-being, and crisis control. The central research question investigates how technological advancements are affecting the functional quality of the prison system, considering historical challenges and potential benefits under International Human Rights Treaties. The hypothesis suggests that the implementation of technological advancements will improve the functional quality of the prison system, promoting greater administrative efficiency, security, and prisoner rehabilitation.

Keywords: Prison System, Amazonas, Technological Innovation, Penitentiary Security, Resocialization, Prison Management.

ABSTRACT

The prison system in Amazonas, like in other regions of Brazil, faces persistent and complex challenges, including overcrowding, precarious infrastructure, and difficulties in inmate management. Despite governmental initiatives to mitigate these issues, the effectiveness of these measures remains debatable. The adoption of technology has emerged as a modernization strategy, justified by the need to enhance security, increase administrative efficiency, and strengthen rehabilitation efforts. The main goal of this study is to identify the technologies introduced in the Amazonas prison system and analyze their impact on internal security, monitoring, resource management, professional well-being, and crisis control. The central research question investigates



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how technological advancements are affecting the functional quality of the carceral apparatus, considering historical challenges and potential benefits under International Human Rights Treaties.

The hypothesis suggests that the implementation of technological advancements will improve the functional quality of the prison system, promoting greater administrative efficiency, security, and inmate resocialization.

Key-Words: Prison System, Amazonas, Technological Innovation, Penitentiary Security, Resocialization, Carceral Management

INTRODUCTION

The prison system in Amazonas, like in many other regions of Brazil, faces challenges. extremely significant in terms of overcrowding, poor infrastructure and prisoner management. These problems are frequently highlighted in reports from human rights organizations and in studies on public safety. (SANTOS, 2019).

The government of Amazonas, together with the federal government, has been trying to implement various measures to mitigate these problems, such as the construction of new prison units, Hiring more prison officers and expanding rehabilitation programs. However, the effectiveness of these initiatives is still a subject of debate. (SANTOS, 2019).

The prisons of the Amazon are microcosms of the challenges faced throughout Brazil in In terms of prison management, this requires integrated solutions ranging from system reform. judicial process until the improvement of socioeconomic conditions that frequently lead to incarceration. (LEITE, 2019 and LIMA, 2011)

Technological advancements in the Amazon's supply chains have focused primarily on improving Security, administrative efficiency, and rehabilitation conditions for inmates. Implementation The use of new technologies aims to address specific challenges of the prison system in the region and promote best management and control practices. (SANTOS, 2019)

The justification for adopting technologies within the prison system of Amazonas may to be articulated based on several factors, ranging from the need to improve security and the Administrative efficiency, from promoting the rehabilitation of inmates to compliance with regulations. and modern regulations. (LEITE, 2019)

For example, advanced technologies such as security camera systems and sensors. Movement is essential for constantly monitoring risk areas and preventing incidents. unwanted (LIMA, 2011). In the context of the Amazon, where the control of large areas and security These are constant challenges; these technologies help ensure the integrity of the facilities and... security for inmates and staff, as well as modern access control systems, such as Biometrics and magnetic cards improve security by restricting access to sensitive areas and to monitor movement within prison units. (SANTOS, 2019).



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Another example is that automating records and administrative processes reduces the risk of errors.

Human resources improve efficiency in managing information about inmates and daily operations.

In the Amazon, where resources are often limited, technology can optimize...

Administration and reducing the workload of manual labor and technological systems allow for better

Data analysis and management, helping to identify patterns and optimize resource allocation and management.

of the prisoners. (STEENE, 2018).

Following this, online educational platforms and training programs help in

rehabilitation of inmates, offering opportunities for learning and development.

skills. These initiatives are crucial for the social reintegration of inmates and for reducing crime.

criminal recidivism. (STEENE, 2018).

In this sense, the objective proposed for this article is to identify the main technologies.

introduced into the prison system of Amazonas in recent years. To achieve such an undertaking

The effects of these technological innovations on improving security, monitoring, and... were analyzed.

internal control of prison units, as well as the contribution of new digital tools and

technological tools for the management of human and material resources in the prison system, in order to...

to investigate how these changes have impacted the well-being and working conditions of professionals.

involved in the prison system (MELLO, 2025). And finally , to assess the efficiency of technologies in

control of escapes, reduction of internal crime, and crisis management within the

prison units.

Therefore, the question guiding this research is: How do technological advances...

The changes implemented by the new management of the Amazonas prison system are impacting the quality of life.

functional aspects of the prison system, considering both the historical challenges of overcrowding,

Poor infrastructure and violence in prisons, as well as the potential benefits of modernization.

technological advancements in terms of security, monitoring, and rehabilitation of prisoners, in accordance with the Treaties.

International Human Rights?

The hypothesis used is that the implementation of technological advances in the new management of

The prison system in Amazonas will improve the functional quality of the prison apparatus, promoting

greater efficiency in prison administration, security, and rehabilitation of prisoners. (SAMPAIO,

2022).

The research to be developed is qualitative and descriptive in nature, with the purpose of...

to understand and analyze the technological advancements implemented by the new management in the system

The prison system in Amazonas and its influence on the functional quality of prison units. According to

According to Severino (2018), descriptive research is ideal for detailing the characteristics of a phenomenon with

depth. For the approach, the deductive method will be used, which starts from general principles to

the analysis of specific cases (Severino, 2018). This method will allow us to explore how the theories



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Established guidelines regarding the use of technologies in prison systems apply to operational reality.
of the prisons in Amazonas.

2. PREVIEWS OF THE PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS EVOLUTION

The prison system is a social institution that, throughout history, has undergone various changes. significant transformations in their purposes and in the way their processes are conducted and controlled. Initially, prisons served as places of physical punishment and isolation, but, with With the development of penal sciences and criminology, the resocialization of the individual has become... a central issue (FOUCAULT, 2019). The need to reform the Brazilian prison system, especially in the Amazon, where there are problems of overcrowding and lack of infrastructure. appropriate measures culminated in new management strategies and the use of modern technologies to mitigate these problems (RODRIGUES, 2015).

It is noticeable that in recent decades the volume of technological advances and public safety have increased. It gradually absorbed and implemented these innovations. The insertion of strategies that Ensuring that these measures are effective in suppressing crime is the most pressing goal of police modernization. Thus, electronic systems stand out in Europe and, in the USA, after 9/11. surveillance, focusing on monitoring specific locations and preventing (Leite et al, 2023, p.38)

The history of the prison system in Amazonas reflects a constant challenge in balancing the overcrowding, safety conditions and social reintegration (MACHADO; GUIMARÃES, 2024). In the early years, the prison units faced serious structural problems, reflecting the national panorama of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions. According to Santos (2019), the prison system of Since its founding, Amazonas has always been associated with issues such as lack of infrastructure and Inefficient management, exacerbating internal violence among inmates.

In recent years, the changes introduced by the state government, along with Public-private partnership initiatives have contributed to the restructuring of several units. prisons, improving basic hygiene and safety conditions. As pointed out by Santos (2019), the implementation of new management protocols and the construction of semi-open units They represented a significant advance, especially in the resocialization of prisoners.

Starting in 2020, the state government invested heavily in advanced technologies, such as electronic monitoring and integrated information systems, which aim to optimize the control of activities within prisons and reduce operational costs. According to Steene (2018) and Leite (2019), the adoption of technologies, such as facial recognition and the automation of internal processes, It was a watershed moment in prison management in Amazonas, reducing the incidence of escapes and Reinforcing the perimeter security of the units.

This technological advancement, along with more efficient and intelligent management measures, is



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one of the pillars of the new phase of the prison system in the State, aimed at reducing costs as well as for the functional quality of the prison system and even the dignity of the quality of life. life of the inmate, aiming at their social reintegration (BRAZIL, 2023).

3. Technological Advances in the Prison System

The adoption of technological advancements in the prison environment is primarily aimed at improving... Security and efficiency in the control of prisoners. Innovations such as electronic monitoring, Surveillance camera systems with artificial intelligence and cell phone signal blockers have transformed the way prison management is carried out (MACHADO; GUIMARÃES, 2024). These Technological advancements are essential not only to ensure security, but also to optimize... human resources and reduce operational costs (STEENE, 2018).

In Amazonas, the implementation of these technologies has shown positive results in Reducing escapes and combating organized crime, which often operates from within prisons. prisons (LIMA, 2011 and BRAZIL, 2023). Modernization policies include the use of drones for External surveillance, motion sensors, and the automation of processes such as opening and closing. of cells (BRAZIL, 2023).

Technological advancements in the prison system of Amazonas have been fundamental to... Modernization and improvement of the efficiency of prison management, with a focus on cost reduction and Enhanced security. One of the main examples is the implementation of systems for Electronic monitoring and video surveillance, which offer greater control over activities. internal and external security measures within prison units, reducing the risk of escapes and improving security control. movements (BRAZIL, 1984 and 2023).

According to Machado and Guimarães (2024), the use of electronic ankle bracelets to monitor Prisoners in semi-open regimes have reduced the overload on the prison system, allowing for a More efficient and less costly monitoring of inmates serving sentences outside of prison facilities. Furthermore, biometric control systems have been implemented to ensure greater accuracy in Identification of prisoners and staff, contributing to security in the prison environment.

Another aspect highlighted by Steene (2018) is the investment in management platforms. integrated systems that allow for real-time monitoring of each inmate's data, from their arrival. entry into the system until eventual progression to a less restrictive regime. This facilitates decision-making and the Planning preventive actions, in addition to contributing to the optimization of resources.

The project to digitize internal processes has also been one of the milestones of the new management. As pointed out by Rodrigues (2015), the transition from manual control to systems Digital technology in prisons not only ensures greater transparency and security, but also...



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It streamlines bureaucracy, reducing errors and improving communication between different institutions.
involved in the administration of the prison system.

These advances are crucial for the future of the prison system in Amazonas, since...
They seek to align prison management with more modern, efficient, and sustainable practices.

4. New Management and Modernization of the Prison System in Amazonas

The new management of the prison system in Amazonas, implemented from 2021 onwards, adopted a
A management model that prioritizes efficiency and transparency. The use of management technologies.
integrated, such as entry and exit control software, as well as digital platforms for the
Monitoring judicial processes allows for greater control over the flow of detainees and
assists in organizing the prison routine (BRAZIL, 2023 and SANTOS, 2019).

This modernization is also linked to the training of prison officers, who undergo...
through training to operate new technologies via internal and external courses by the Secretariat.
of Penitentiary Administration - SEAP. According to Machado and Guimarães (2024), the training of
Professionals is a crucial factor in ensuring that technological resources are used effectively and for
To guarantee the safety of the prison environment. The prison system in Amazonas still needs improvements.
in terms of physical infrastructure, but technological improvements have provided more efficient management.
efficient use of available resources (BRAZIL, 2023).

Modernizing the prison system in Amazonas has been a priority in the last administration.
especially in light of the growing challenges in terms of overcrowding, recidivism, and violence.
within the units. In this context, technological advancement has been a crucial factor in the search for
Efficiency, control, and security in the prison system. As Steene (2018) points out, the introduction
Modern technologies can not only improve the security and monitoring of prisoners, but also...
also to promote resocialization through monitored educational and work programs,
as is the case with the so-called "little yellow ones," who are inmates who perform paid work.
in external state units, such as construction and renovation projects.

In the words of Leite et al (2023, p.59)

Video surveillance cameras are a crucial strategic tool for...
The Military Police of Amazonas, facilitating the identification of suspects and assisting in...
investigations. This technological apparatus, in addition to increasing the effectiveness and safety of
These approaches provide more robust monitoring of areas with potential risk of
criminal activities.

Lima (2011) suggests that modernization includes the implementation of systems of
video surveillance, biometric access control, and the adoption of electronic devices for
Prisoner tracking. These technologies provide more rigorous control of



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Movements inside and outside prison units, reducing the possibilities of escapes and the
Involvement of inmates in external criminal activities.

Furthermore, process automation, such as digitized medical record management and...
Centralizing inmate data has become an increasingly common practice, facilitating the exchange of information.
Information sharing between units and public management (SAMPAIO, 2022). Digital modernization
It allows for more precise monitoring of rehabilitation and recidivism indicators, in addition to...
to allow the creation of customized strategies for each inmate.

The integration of technologies also aims to reduce operational costs. Sampaio (2022)
It highlights that, with the use of cutting-edge technologies, such as drones for aerial monitoring and
With integrated intelligence systems, the prison system can reduce its dependence on manpower.
Humans and focus on resource optimization.

Therefore, technological modernization in the prison system of Amazonas points to a
transformation in the way management is conducted, bringing advances in security, control and
Operational efficiency, with direct impacts on the functional quality of the prison system.

5. TECHNOLOGICAL AND LEGAL FUNCTIONAL PARALIPOMEN

5.1. Functional quality of the prison system

The introduction of technologies and the restructuring of prison management have had an influence.
positively impacts the functional quality of the prison system. According to Sampaio (2022), the automation of
Routine tasks allow prison officers to focus on more strategic activities.
such as the direct supervision of inmates and the prevention of internal conflicts. Furthermore, the use of
Electronic systems for internal communication and visitor control contribute to the reduction of
setbacks and improve administrative efficiency.

The functional quality of the prison system can also be measured by the reduction of
violent incidents within the units. The implementation of technological mechanisms of
Security measures, such as body scanners and signal jammers, have been crucial in preventing entry.
of illicit objects, such as drugs and weapons, in addition to dismantling criminal networks that operate within and
outside of prisons (LEITE, 2019 and LIMA, 2011).

The functional quality of the prison system in Amazonas has been the subject of analysis in light of...
to the technological advancements implemented by the new management. Operational efficiency, combined with
Technological innovation has provided a substantial improvement in the management of the units.
prisons, favoring not only the control of internal activities, but also the reduction of
costs and greater security for both prison officers and inmates.



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(RODRIGUES, 2015).

According to Steene (2018), the structural and technological changes in the prison system of The Amazonas region was guided by a modernization strategy that involved the adoption of new... Monitoring systems, access control, and computerized process management. The introduction of Digital tools, such as facial recognition systems and electronic monitoring, have decreased the need for direct intervention by agents in risky situations, while at the same time that It improved control over movements within prisons.

Furthermore, the integration of prison management software has enabled the automation of tasks. administrative and control functions, increasing agility and accuracy in daily activities. units. As a result, a significant reduction in the number of escapes and incidents is observed. related to internal security (SAMPAIO, 2022).

Another key aspect of modernizing the prison system is the improvement in care. to inmates, using technologies that facilitate the monitoring of their health and education. It should be noted that, with the use of digital platforms for distance learning and monitoring Regarding the health of prisoners, there has been progress in resocialization and in the treatment of health problems. within prison units, reducing hospital costs and increasing the quality of life of inmates (MACHADO; GUIMARÃES, 2024).

These technological advances not only promote the improvement of the functional quality of prison system, but they also contribute to reducing operational costs. It is pointed out that the The efficiency resulting from the automation of administrative and security processes has enabled a better use of available financial resources, making the system more sustainable. long term (LIMA, 2011 and STEENE, 2018).

Therefore, the new management of the prison system in Amazonas, through the implementation of Through innovative technologies, it has managed to achieve an unprecedented level of functional quality, with direct impacts on security, cost management and quality of life of prisoners (MELLO, 2025).

5.2. Challenges to technological implementation

Although technological advances and new management practices have provided Despite notable improvements in the prison system of Amazonas, significant challenges remain. These are the challenges faced. The main one is the lack of sufficient financial resources to implement all of them. the necessary technologies in a comprehensive way (SANTOS, 2019). Furthermore, the resistances Cultural and institutional factors within the prison system often delay the full adoption of these innovations (SANTOS, 2019).

Another critical point is the maintenance of these technologies, which requires constant technical support.



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and additional costs. According to Sampaio (2022), the lack of a preventive maintenance policy can compromising the functioning of essential equipment, such as cell phone jammers and cameras. monitoring. Therefore, it is essential that the state government establish public-private partnerships. private entities to ensure the continuity and updating of the implemented systems.

The implementation of technological advancements in the prison system of Amazonas faces a A series of challenges and limitations that, while acknowledging the potential for modernizing the prison system, They run into structural, political, and financial problems. Prison management in the state, as in Many other regions of Brazil have historically suffered from overcrowding, poor infrastructure, and... Insufficient human resources make the integration of new technologies even more difficult.

Leite et al asserts, (2023, p.41):

This concept is important because, although the environmental recording performed by the BodyCam being an action of overt policing and sometimes of judicial policing, thus subject to interpretation. Restrictive in validating evidence, these images will generally be requested by the defense. criminals whose participation in the recording exempts them from responsibility and, even, for a police officer accused of abuse of authority, when can these images be received? judicial validation, even if theoretically illicit, as a consequence of the principle of proportionality and the principles of full defense and adversarial proceedings.

According to Sampaio (2022), one of the main challenges is related to physical infrastructure. of prisons, which is often not adequate to support the installation of equipment. modern technologies, such as electronic monitoring systems or automated access control. The lack Ongoing maintenance and the difficulty of modernizing prison facilities limit efficiency. of technological innovations. The absence of adequate connectivity, for example, prevents that Monitoring systems should work in an integrated manner.

Furthermore, Leite (2019) highlights that another significant challenge is cultural resistance within from within the prison system itself. Training prison officers to operate new technologies. It is not always a priority, and the implementation of innovative tools often encounters obstacles. Resistance exists among employees who feel overwhelmed by their daily tasks. There is also There is concern regarding the security of these systems, since cyberattacks can... compromising sensitive data related to prison operations and prisoner management.

In financial terms, budget constraints are a persistent barrier. As pointed out According to Santos (2019), the resources allocated to modernizing the prison system in Amazonas are often insufficient, with the majority of the budget allocated to maintenance of Basic security and food conditions for inmates. The adoption of technologies such as systems surveillance using smart cameras or monitoring by drones, for example, requires a significant initial investment and ongoing maintenance, which is often unsustainable with the resources available.



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Additionally, the lack of coordination between the state and federal levels can also harming the effectiveness of technological initiatives, as Santos (2019) states. Although there are national initiatives to modernize the prison system, regional specificities, such as The geographical isolation of certain prison units in Amazonas makes the implementation of Standardized technologies are more complicated.

Given these limitations, Rodrigues (2015) suggests that one of the ways to mitigate these One challenge would be investing in public-private partnerships, which could provide the necessary resources. for technological modernization in exchange for tax benefits or other forms of incentive. No However, for these partnerships to be effective, it is crucial that the state creates a regulatory environment. Transparent and stable, something that still needs development.

Therefore, although technology has the potential to transform prison management in In the Amazon, it faces considerable challenges that need to be overcome to ensure a Effective and sustainable implementation.

5.3. Rehabilitation and human rights

Beyond technological and management issues, it is essential to discuss the relationship between these... innovations and the human rights of prisoners. According to Rodrigues (2015), any policy of Modernization of the prison system must be aligned with international guidelines regarding respect for Human dignity and the promotion of social reintegration. Technology, when misused, can be... transforming it into a tool of excessive control, harming the reintegration process of bound to society (SANTOS, 2019).

In Amazonas, there is an effort to ensure that new technologies, in addition to improving security, contribute to educational and professional programs within prison units, preparing inmates for a more dignified life after incarceration (MACHADO; GUIMARÃES, 2024). In However, the success of these initiatives depends on a balance between controlling the prison environment. and the promotion of conditions that favor resocialization (BECCARIA, 2010).

The discussion about resocialization in the Brazilian prison system, especially in the context The Amazon region is marked by structural and social challenges that reflect its complex reality. many of the inmates. Rehabilitation, as a public policy, seeks to provide inmates with conditions for their reintegration into society, based on the principle that incarceration should not Not only to punish, but also to enable rehabilitation that minimizes the chances of recidivism. (FOULCAULT, 2019) .

According to SAMPAIO (2022), the resocialization process in Amazonas faces barriers. both in terms of prison overcrowding and the lack of educational and training programs.



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professional, which are essential for compliance with the Penal Execution Law (LEP). The absence of Consistent initiatives that seek to empower and develop the human potential of inmates exacerbate the problem. even more so the situation of criminal recidivism in the state (MELLO, 2025). Overcrowding and the Unsanitary conditions in prisons create a hostile and unfavorable environment for rehabilitation. of the inmates, which compromises the objectives of resocialization policies (BRAZIL, 1984).

With regard to human rights, despite Brazil being a signatory to treaties... international agreements that guarantee human dignity even in a prison context, such as the Rules of Mandela, in practice, the prison system in Amazonas presents a series of violations (SAMPAIO, 2022 AND SANTOS, 2019). The precariousness in the provision of basic services, such as food. adequate health and access to education directly violates these rights. Allegations of torture, Inhumane treatment and state inaction in crisis situations within prisons reinforce the need for urgent structural reforms (LIMA, 2011).

It is important to consider that resocialization cannot fully occur without... Respect for the human rights of prisoners. The valuing of human dignity is the central point of... Any successful rehabilitation policy is impossible without an environment that allows for reconstruction. Given the personal and social problems of inmates, any attempt at rehabilitation will be merely palliative (MACHADO GUIMARÃES, 2024). One of the ways to address these problems lies in... expansion of public policies focused on education, work, and health within the prison system. associated with the effective monitoring of the conditions of the units (LIMA, 2011).

In short, the prison system in Amazonas, facing significant challenges, needs reforms. that encompass both the improvement of prison conditions and the guarantee of human rights. prisoners. Only through effective public policies and compliance with national legislation and Internationally, it will be possible to achieve a system that allows for true resocialization and reintegration. social inclusion of offenders, reducing recidivism and promoting social justice (SANTOS, 2019).

CONCLUSION

The theoretical framework presented demonstrates that the technological advances implemented in the prison system of Amazonas have played a crucial role in modernizing management and in improving the functional quality of the prison system (SAMPAIO, 2022). However, the challenges To ensure the maintenance of these advances and the promotion of sustainable management, further steps are still needed. Significant. The success of these policies depends on the creation of an institutional environment conducive to... continuous innovation and respect for human rights, in addition to a solid financial base that allows The implementation and maintenance of new technologies in the long term (BRAZIL, 1988 and 2023).

Regarding the benefits of using body cameras in police training,



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It is noteworthy that the footage is raw information that can be used as a source for observations on the operational level of the troops (MELLO, 2025). It is possible

Review the footage showing the progressive use of force, analyzing whether the approach occurred in a way that...

In the appropriate manner, if the agent observed all protocols, the effectiveness of the techniques can be verified.

and the agent's level of knowledge (Leite et al, 2023).

The new prison management system in Amazonas, by integrating monitoring and automation technologies...

and digital management systems represent a significant change in the way the system

The state's prison system is managed. These advancements have contributed to cost reduction.

operational improvements, greater efficiency in the supervision of inmates, and better security in prison units.

The implementation of technologies, such as surveillance cameras with artificial intelligence, systems

Electronic access control systems and the use of electronic ankle bracelets have brought about a more effective model.

and modern, aligned with best practices observed in benchmark prison systems in Brazil and in

world (BRAZIL, 2023).

Additionally, the qualification of the operational team and the continuous training of the agents are crucial.

prisons and specialized technical support have enabled the prison system to

operate with more rigor and discipline, positively impacting both internal security and...

resocialization of inmates (SANTOS, 2019).

This transformation demonstrates that technology, combined with competent and integrated management,

It is capable of optimizing the prison system, improving its functionality and, at the same time,

meeting social demands for a more efficient and humane justice system (MACHADO;

GUIMARÃES, 2024).

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