Top Tips For Installing Home Security Cameras

Home security cameras today, when placed properly, are a viable and affordable home security alternative to expensive, pro-installed systems. Their crisp 1080p+ footage, AI human and motion detection, long battery lives and smart home integration are valuable tools for deterring or documenting crimes.

What's especially tricky for DIY (do-it-yourself) security amateurs is, unfortunately, placing cameras properly. Without expert help, you're liable to skimp or overspend on cameras when covering your home, or install them incorrectly, making it easy for criminals to subvert them.

DIY security companies that sell DIY cameras and other security accessories such as 'eufy' and 'Arlo' — have some installation tips to share, the most common mistakes made by their customers, and other advice for setting up a home security system.

How many cameras do you actually need to protect your home? Should your cams be wired or wireless, visible or hidden, and motion-activated or continuously record? And what other tech do you need apart from cameras, if any?

1. Guard every entrance

Every property has a different layout, making it difficult to provide specific advice for a wide range of DIY shoppers. But a good starting point is to keep in view every ground-level entry point for someone trying to enter your home.

eufy recommended two to three outdoor cameras generally, while Arlo pushed the idea of 'one per entrance' and said that the most common setup they recommend is one for the front entrance, one for the back entrance, and one additional for the driveway or side entrance.

As a follow-up, they were asked whether an indoor camera could guard an entrance as well as an outdoor camera, if you aimed it towards a sliding-glass door with the blinds open.

Arlo nixed this idea, noting that most security cameras use infrared to pick up motion, and that glass can block infrared detection from working properly. So it may not notice an issue until someone has actually entered your home. They did, however, recommend one of the best video doorbells as a solid option for guarding your front entrance.

2. Place cameras at the proper height and distance

Arlo was asked what mistakes its customers made most often when setting up a home security system, and Arlo engineer Mark Vartorella said that customers frequently placed their cameras in suboptimal locations, limiting their effectiveness.

"Number one, they need to understand that the best range for motion detection is 5 to 20 feet for the passive infrared," Vartorella explained. You should set up your camera as near the area where you want to detect motion as possible for the best readings.

Customers who buy outdoor cameras with wide-angle lenses are sometimes tempted to try guarding as much area as possible, putting it in a backyard corner to guard the whole backyard and side yard at once. But this will limit its effectiveness for detecting motion and capturing close-up footage at entry points.

Equally important, you want to place your cameras high up and angle them downward. Again, cameras' infrared sensors are more likely to pick up relevant movement and avoid false positives if you point down on a particular area. eufy recommended you place your security cameras 8 to 10 feet high, then tilt them 15 to 30 degrees for optimal motion detection. Arlo recommended placing them at least 7 feet high.

Vartorella said that the other common mistake customers make is to point their cameras horizontally, straight out towards the street. Even outside of outdoor cams' capture range, moving cars will trigger alerts because their hot engines are like blinding beacons to an infrared sensor.

With your cams mounted securely, high up and pointing downwards at a high-traffic area, it's harder to sneak past or for an intruder to reach up and pull it down to steal or disarm it.

3. Consider keeping your outdoor cams visible

eufy's market research suggests that most of its customers keep their cameras hidden in order to get footage of unsuspecting burglars and intruders. However, both eufy and Arlo indicated that fully visible cameras can (sometimes) be more effective for preventative home security. Both companies independently told us that spotlight cams can be a great deterrent, as they make night-time intruders aware that they're being recorded.

'If the customer wants to intimidate unwanted intruders or to avoid porch pirates, then a visible camera or even a camera with a spotlight would be recommended,' eufy's security product team claimed.

On the other hand, cameras can sometimes make would-be robbers think that there is something worth stealing in your home. Although the Arlo team said during our interview that visible cameras can pre-empt people from targeting your home, they followed up later to say that they 'don't have any data to suggest one method is better than the other.'

Thus, we don't have a definitive answer here, but wanted to include this tip regardless as a strategy to consider.

4. Make sure your internet plan can support high-resolution cams

Most security cams are 1080p, but some companies (including Arlo and eufy) sell cams with 2K or 4K quality resolution. More pixels means more actionable footage of suspicious characters when you check your recordings.

While better resolution may seem like a no-brainer, Arlo's Mark Vartorella pointed out that you need to be certain that your network can handle it. '4K streams

Dear Reader

There is an old saying that "Prevention is Better than Cure". This applies perfectly to our profession. Prevention of crime and loss, by way of deterrence, or otherwise, is the best, and the most inexpensive way to safeguard life and property. Once achieved, it is also the simplest to maintain.

The purpose of security is to reduce risk by either lowering the likelihood that something unpleasant, usually criminal activity, will happen, or the effects such action will have on a person or an organisation. Our sector has long held a limited perspective on this, arguing that technology alone can address every issue facing end users. Technology unquestionably plays a crucial role, but it is only one piece of the intricate puzzle that organisations must put together to protect their employees, physical assets, information, and property. Deployment of technology is not a panacea for all security risks. It has to be carefully chosen, designed, implemented and maintained in order to reap its full benefits in risk mitigation.

Adopting best security practices, understanding the science behind concepts such as 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)', and practising them diligently helps prevent losses and crime to a great extent. Deploying technology on top of this will have a multiplier effect in safeguarding life and property. And very often, high level technological applications may not be required, if the above were in place.

Our industry has evolved on the basis of detection and reaction. Whether its guards or electronic sensors, we have always based our risk mitigation plans on first detecting something unconducive and then reacting with remedial measures. Being proactive, predictive, and preventive is the name of the game today. It costs less to protect if the ethos of 'prevention' is at the core. Almost all end users would choose to use solutions that deter criminal behaviour over responding to criminal activity.

CPTED suggests that the design of buildings, landscaping and outdoor environments can either encourage or discourage crime. The goal of applied CPTED principles is to prevent crime by designing a physical environment that positively influences human behaviour. The theory is based on five principles: natural access control, natural surveillance, territoriality, activity support, and maintenance. System Integrators who implement security systems in a CPTED secured application will always reach their security goals with a lesser number of protective devices, while being easy on the pocket of their clients.

And lastly, if a good security consultant who has up to date knowledge of criminal trends, and is well versed with contemporary best practices and technology is engaged at the project design stage itself, nothing could be better than this in ensuring optimum security. Security consultants should serve as trusted partners, skilled in techniques like CPTED in addition to technology, improving customer satisfaction and retention.

Till we meet next month, Stay Safe and Keep Others Safe.

G B Singh
Group Editor
✉ gbsingh@1stasset.org
🐦 @EditorGB
in linkedin.com/in/gbsingh9

Cognitec adds verification and PAD features to photo capture device

The latest version of Cognitec's FaceVACS-Entry technology not only takes biometric photos but also allows for their comparison against facial images retrieved from ID documents or databases. The process also includes presentation attack detection to ensure a live person interacts with the device.

The slim, lightweight device fits wide-ranging installation scenarios, including eGates, desks, kiosks, free-standing pillars, and border control booths. Instant camera positioning, active lighting, and responsive user guidance lead to optimal capturing conditions, accurate person authentication results, and fast processing times.

FaceVACS-Entry serves all applications that require the acquisition of standards-compliant photos, and the comparison of probe images against a live image or stored image data, such as access control, border control, and entry/exit programmes.

"The combined service of photo capture and person verification saves travellers lots of time at the border. They should complete all immigration procedures in just a few seconds," says Managing Director Alfredo Herrera.

The product includes Cognitec's renowned software for ISO compliance checks. The company's robust matching algorithm guarantees fast, accurate verification and identification results.

Face Verification 13.0 from Neurotechnology includes improved algorithms for face recognition and liveness detection
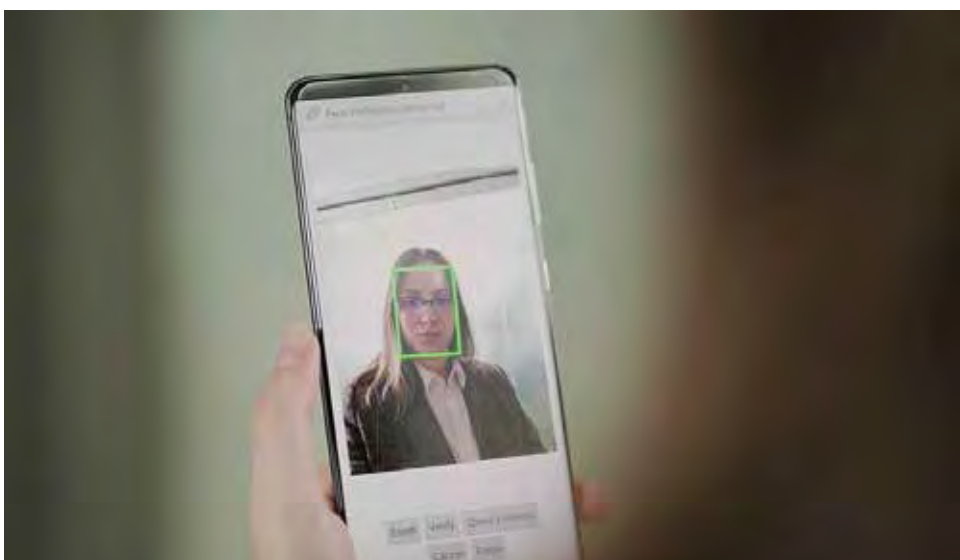
Neurotechnology, a provider of deep learning-based solutions and high-precision biometric identification technologies, has announced the release of their new Face Verification system. Face Verification 13.0 is designed for the integration of high-quality face capture, secure facial authentication and robust face liveness detection into mobile and web applications.

It includes a small-footprint version of Neurotechnology's latest facial recognition algorithm – which ranked among the top results in the NIST FRVT 1:1 evaluation – making it ideal for digital identity onboarding, payment, banking, telecommunications and other face recognition uses on personal devices.

The new Face Verification system has the ability to very accurately verify the identity of people wearing medical masks, as proven in the Face Mask Effects benchmark by NIST.

The new presentation attack detection (PAD) algorithm has further achieved Level 1 certification by iBeta laboratory, in compliance with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 30107-3 standard, proving its robust resilience against spoof attacks, including photos, videos and 3D paper masks.

Face Verification 13.0 also includes functionality that enables developers to easily automate any required updates of the recognition algorithm directly within the final user application. This ensures older data formats are compatible with Face Verification 13.0 algorithms for optimal accuracy.

An application developed with Face Verification SDK can allow the end user to upgrade the old face data stored in his mobile to the new format in a secure and seamless way.

Face Verification 13.0 is easily interoperable with other Neurotechnology products for face recognition. For a complete digital ID management experience, Face Verification includes optional functionality for conducting duplicate identity checks during the enrollment phase through MegaMatcher ABIS.

Face Verification is also compatible with MegaMatcher On Card from Neurotechnology to grant an extra layer of security during verification through the use of contactless smart cards. And compatibility with VeriLook SDK enables secure and private authentication within offline self-service kiosks.

Top Tips For Installing Home Security.....

take more bandwidth, so lower bandwidth and upload speeds can cause problems', he told us, particularly if you own multiple cams or enable continuous recording.

You may pay for fast download speeds, but most customers don't pay attention to upload speed, which you need to send video content to the cloud. Just one 4K camera, or 2K camera with a high FPS, could be tough with cheap coverage. So, before buying your cameras, check your network against their Mbps requirement. Each 4K Arlo Ultra 2, for example, requires 2–4Mbps.

5. People living in apartments or large, brick homes may need wired cams

Arlo's team spent much of the interview

extolling the virtues of wireless cams. They provide easy mounting high up or in unusual locations like trees, with no need to worry about finding an outlet or a long exposed wire that an intruder could cut to disable your feed.

However, they did point out that signal interference can be a problem for certain environments and homes, which could make wired or Power over Ethernet (PoE) cameras preferable instead.

Multi-story apartments can be inundated with signals from all directions, which can sometimes interfere when you try to access wireless cams' live feeds.

For homeowners, the main concern is distance between each security cam and the router, and any objects that stand between them. The Arlo team said that wireless cam signals may have more trouble penetrating the walls of a cinder brick home than one with thinner drywalls. And the larger your property, the greater the

possibility that any wireless cam will struggle to communicate with your router.

6. Local video storage is cheaper and more secure than cloud storage

When we asked eufy if it had any particular recommendations for good security practices, its team honed in on one feature: local storage. "By storing your footage on a local SD card, which is only capable of being accessed by your own mobile device through a secure encryption, you can not only keep your house secure, but ensure your privacy as well," they suggested.

Almost all security companies charge you a monthly fee to store video footage on the cloud, so choosing storage-enabled cams will also save you money in the long term. And whenever video is stored on the cloud, there's always the faint possibility that someone could get ahold of your password and access private footage remotely.

Local storage can

also enable you to turn on continuous recording on your security cams, although eufy said outright that 'cameras with motion-activated recording are sufficient for most customer's security needs.'

7. Augment your cameras with sensors and smart lights

Arlo and eufy had similar advice when it came to setting up security cams, but the Arlo team had less to say about non-camera security solutions than eufy did.

Both groups were asked whether customers should trust security cameras as an all-in-one security system, or if they should back their cameras up with door / window sensors.

Arlo rep Chanel O'Connor claimed that while sensors are 'useful', 'information is what consumers need to make a quick decision in an emergency situation,' and cameras provide more live, visual context about what is happening than a sensor can.

The eufy team, on the other hand, argued that 'to build a well-rounded home ecosystem, we'd suggest both' sensors and cams. Cameras provide actionable surveillance you can respond to manually, but 'door / window sensors can trigger instant sirens to deter unwanted intruders' automatically.

eufy was also bullish on smart home automations when asked, specifically smart lights that can be triggered to turn on in response to detected movement. "Lights turning on when a camera detects motion is definitely a very helpful design, especially when it comes to deterring package thefts," they said.

8. Perform regular maintenance and checks

If you're setting up your own security cams and self-monitoring footage, it's entirely on you to make sure the system is still working, or you may give yourself a false sense of security with a bunch of dead cameras. So we've built a checklist based on the information

Arlo and eufy gave us:

• Decide where you want to place your cameras, taking into account factors such as the coverage area you want to monitor, blind spots, and the camera's field of view.

• Ensure that the areas you want to monitor are well-lit so that the cameras can capture clear footage, even at night.

• Determine the power source for your cameras, as some cameras may require electrical outlets while others can be powered by batteries.

• Consider the type of network connectivity you will use for your cameras, such as Wi-Fi, Ethernet, or a combination of both.

• Choose cameras with a high resolution and image quality, as this will provide clearer and more detailed footage.

• Decide how you want to store the recorded footage, whether it be in a cloud-based system, a local hard drive, or a combination of both.

• Consider whether you want to be able to access your CCTV system remotely using a smartphone or tablet app.

• Make sure that when setting up wireless cameras, you activate it on the same network and band (2.4 or 5 GHz) as the hub or base to which the cameras connect

• Regularly check your battery levels and

recharge or replace batteries while at home, so the cam doesn't go down for hours while you're away at work

• If you are having trouble with your camera feed uploads, make sure to check on your internet speeds, router/ modem health and ISP data. You may need to upgrade your equipment or provider

• Check your stored video clips to see if anyone you don't know makes a return appearance

• Purge older, irrelevant recordings to make room in your SD card or cloud storage for new, relevant clips

• Sporadically walk in front of each camera to

test its motion-activated alerts and make sure you receive them all

• Make sure you comply with any privacy laws and regulations in your jurisdiction, and consider the potential privacy implications of having a CCTV system in your home.

• Most importantly, set a budget for your home CCTV system and look for a system that fits within your budget while still providing the features and quality you need.

Remember, a well-designed, a well-installed, and a well-maintained home CCTV system can provide peace of mind and added security for you and your family.

Iris ID's IrisAccess™ iCAM 7S Series are first iris biometric devices to be SIA OSDP Secure Profile Verified

Iris ID has announced that it's IrisAccess™ iCAM 7S Series of Advanced Multifactor Biometric Iris Readers are the first iris biometric devices tested and verified to meet the Security Industry Association (SIA) Open Supervised Device Protocol (OSDP) Secure Profile communications standard for access control security and interoperability.

Receiving OSDP Verification from SIA instill confidence in integrators, specifiers, and practitioners that OSDP devices will SIA OSDP is an access control communications standard developed by SIA to improve interoperability among access control and security products. Already in use by many leading manufacturers, the standard is recommended for access control installations that require advanced security or will be used in government and other higher-security settings.

Products that receive an SIA OSDP Verified mark must pass a comprehensive range of testing that validates conformity to SIA's OSDP standard and related performance profiles.

By meeting OSDP standards, the Iris ID iCAM 7S Series of Advanced Multifactor Biometric Iris Readers achieve increased interoperability for various manufacturers' devices. Bidirectional communication inherent with OSDP solutions allows the readers to talk directly to the centralised management platforms.

This allows security administrators to monitor remotely and configure iCAM 7S devices via the network, eliminating the need for costly and time-consuming on-site troubleshooting. Furthermore, the OSDP-enabled iCAM 7S only needs RS485 wires to communicate between the reader and the OSDP controller, further reducing the burden on security installers.

Currently, the Iris Access® iCAM 7000S, iCAM 7010S, iCAM 7101S, and iCAM 7111S solutions have all been OSDP Secure Profile Verified.

Benefits of being OSDP Verified include an authoritative listing of OSDP solutions; a consultative process that provides vendors with implementation and remediation guidance; a lightweight, non-punitive programme with no annual membership fees; and continuous access to open-source testing tools and community feedback that promotes device conformance through the product life cycle.

home secure.

The Smart Alarm™ Wireless Indoor Security Camera with 24/7 live guard protection is available now as part of SimpliSafe's newly launched Beta programme, and will be broadly available for purchase on SimpliSafe.com later this year.

Customers must have an Interactive Monitoring plan, in order to enable 24/7 live guard protection. The Smart Alarm™ Camera will also be available for purchase in the U.K. later this year. SimpliSafe Beta programmes, like this one, will give qualifying customers early access to SimpliSafe hardware and feature developments, as well as the opportunity to provide feedback that will shape products and services for full-launch readiness.

Jablotron launches Wireless Combo Shock or Tilt Detector, JA-152SHM

Jablotron, a Czech Republic based globally renowned security alarms and automation systems manufacturer, has announced the launch of it's JA-152 SHM wireless combo shock or tilt detector in a single unit.

In shock detection mode responds to vibrations and shocks. In tilt detection mode it responds to changes in its position. Furthermore, it can detect a foreign magnetic field and prevent possible sabotage by an external / foreign source of magnetic field, making it a unique high security detector. This product is ideal for usage by banks, jewellers and other applications that require a high level of security.

It can operate in a wide temperature range of -10°C to +40°C. It is powered by a single 1.5V AA type alkaline battery which lasts for approximately 2 years as the detector draws a mere 80mA of current. Its Communication range is approximately 300 m.

Jablotron products are known for their reliability and false alarm rates. They have been successfully used in India since 1998 in thousands of installations, and are available through its exclusive Indian distributor, Kawach Protection Systems.

SimpliSafe pilots breakthrough monitoring technology for professional monitoring and emergency response

SimpliSafe, maker of award-winning home security systems, announced that select, qualifying customers will have the opportunity to participate in the Beta test of 24/7 live guard protection, a revolutionary professional monitoring innovation that allows professional monitoring agents to help stop crime in real time, by enabling them to see and speak to intruders during an alarm event.

The groundbreaking monitoring advancement is enabled by the new SimpliSafe Smart Alarm™ Wireless Indoor Security Camera, a battery-powered, wireless indoor security camera that is available now exclusively for Beta participants. Together, the Smart Alarm™ Camera and 24/7 live guard protection will take customers' protection a step further than the competition.

Unlike other indoor cameras, the Smart Alarm™ Camera is the first indoor camera that can instantly trigger an alarm through a built-in, professional-grade motion sensor and also sound a built-in siren when unusual motion is detected and the system is armed.

The camera's advanced motion detection and artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities are sophisticated enough to differentiate between routine motion, like a household pet, and unusual motion from a potential intruder.

Like all SimpliSafe cameras, the Smart Alarm™ Camera offers video verification, which allows monitoring agents to capture evidence and verify a threat is real, enabling priority dispatch and, ultimately, a faster response. The addition of 24/7 live guard protection is designed to keep SimpliSafe customers safer by effectively deterring crime, as monitoring agents can now see and communicate directly with intruders.

SimpliSafe's 24/7 live guard protection will bring the benefits of live talk down service, which is often used for commercial security purposes, to the residential market.

"When we think about the future of home security, we want to provide meaningfully better security and protection than the industry has in the past, and evolve the role of home security from passively connecting first responders to emergencies to actively helping stop crime in real time," said Christian Cerda, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at SimpliSafe.

Christian Cerda adds, "Our new hardware and monitoring innovations give customers just that – the new Smart Alarm™ Camera and 24/7 live guard protection can not only provide a fast and reliable response during emergencies, but together they can deter those emergencies from taking place, keeping homes safer than ever before."

True to SimpliSafe's suite of products and services, the latest innovations have been developed with both protection and privacy in mind. Similar to the SimpliCam HD indoor camera, the Smart Alarm™ Camera has a mechanical privacy shutter that audibly and visibly clicks open and closed, and by default, the shutter is closed when the system is set to home mode or off.

Like the SimpliCam, the Smart Alarm™ Camera is differentiated in that it provides privacy when customers want it and protection when they need it. 24/7 live guard protection is the latest professional monitoring feature powered by Fast Protect™ Technology, the suite of products and features that is enhancing the SimpliSafe alarm experience and helping the company fulfil its mission of making every

---

Morse Watchmans at ACA's 2023 Winter Conference

Morse Watchmans, exhibited a comprehensive range of its award-winning key control products at the American Correctional Association's 2023 Winter Conference. Morse Watchman's flagship system, KeyWatcher® Touch, was on display alongside additional key control and asset management solutions.

Whether it's for a municipal, state, or federal correctional facility, Morse Watchmans offers an array of solutions designed to help corrections professionals mitigate risk and enhance efficiency inside their facility.

The KeyWatcher® Touch electronic key cabinet is a scalable key control solution for organisations looking to secure, manage and track keys and other assets. With a 7" touch screen and patented SmartKey system with KeyAnywhere technology, it is easy to withdraw and return a key securely to any key cabinet located within an enterprise. KeyWatcher® Touch also integrates with many brands of access control systems for a layered security approach.

Morse Watchmans also offers Power-Check® guard tour systems to help ensure that correctional officers are making the rounds will applicable backup documentation. In addition to acting as an automated supervisor, the guard tour system allows management to better monitor officer performance and help prevent costly losses.

Additional product offerings also include KeyWatcher Fleet® for automotive fleet management applications, KeyBank® Touch for large quantities of keys and SmartKey® Locker Touch System for the storage and tracking of larger objects. These solutions, coupled with Morse Watchmans' industry-leading software, service and support, ensure the safety and security of a variety of physical assets

LenelS2 releases next generation of NetBox access control software

LenelS2, a pioneer in advanced security systems and services, has released its browser-based, access control, and event monitoring system, Net-Box™ version 5.6.

This new version adds reporting and event management capabilities, enhanced third-party integrations, and a new employee mobile app interface to the platform. LenelS2 is a part of Carrier Global Corporation, the global provider of healthy, safe, sustainable, intelligent building and cold chain solutions.

Addressing customers' evolving needs, LenelS2 continues to invest in its NetBox solution's capabilities, broadening deployment options, increasing management efficiencies, and reducing downtime.

NetBox software v5.6 delivers several key customer-centric enhancements, including:

• New employee mobile app interface that is more intuitive and user-friendly.

• Version 2 of the NetBox API includes third-party intrusion panel integration capabilities and added functionality for managing mobile credentials.

• Additional reporting capabilities that improve management of regularly run history reports.

• Enhanced event management functionality, displaying alarm causes in event logs and simplifying alarm assignments.

• NetBox Virtual Machine support for the Mercury Intelligent Controller.

• Integration of Dor-makaba's BEST® Wi-Q™ wireless locks with Mercury panels.

Prominent tech industry research firm Omdia, which regularly reports on the access control industry, has shown that LenelS2 has consistently held the top market share globally for over 10 years.

Napco releases Alarm Lock Networx

NAPCO Security Technologies announced that its increasingly popular Alarm Lock Trilogy Networx Wireless PIN and Prox Access Locks are newly certified with Lenel Version 8.0/8.1 OnGuard Integrated Access Control & Video Security Platform. As a Lenel OpenAccess Alliance Program Partner (OAAP), Alarm Lock Networx Access Lock products (PL, PDL, and DL-Series) were fully tested and certified by Lenel's Quality Assurance Department for use with OnGuard.

With this update, integrators and VARs have a choice of security management platforms, seamlessly integrated with the Company's award-winning locks, now including Lenel, Continental Enterprise, and new AirAccess Cellular Hosted ACaaS systems, the latter two, from sister divisions of Alarm Lock's parent company, NAPCO Security Technologies.

Award-winning Alarm Lock Networx, and its customizable counterparts, the designer ArchiTech Series, are the networked wireless versions of Alarm Lock's Trilogy Series, the #1 selling standalone locks in their class, popular for durability, years of battery life, advanced options, and installation ease. Upgrading to any of these three platforms, from the standard Alarm Lock DL-WINDOWs database software, enables real-time lockdown, global operations, scheduled server-based programming, etc, offering a far more powerful and flexible real-time wireless access control solution within Lenel's OnGuard Platform, Continental Access' CA4K Enterprise Security Management Systems or AirAccess Cellular/Cloud-Based Hosted Access System, uniquely featuring easier cell-based networking.

Alarm Lock's Trilogy Networx Series and ArchiTech's locks, offer businesses and facilities, controlled access, and real-time lockdown security and server-based management, for a few doors or users, to thousands, while creating a commonality of function and ease of use, on any door type, using cylindrical, mortise, narrow stile, and exit trim models. These platform integration options, with Lenel OnGuard 8.0/8.1, Continental Access CA4K Enterprise, and AirAccess Cloud/Cell-Based Systems, offer security- and locking-professionals even more access to the strongest vertical market sectors today, i.e., education, healthcare, government, retail and transportation/airports, etc.

Texecom launches Midnight Black portfolio

Working in harmony with darker environments, The Midnight Black Collection just launched from Texecom, has been created for businesses and sites that require or prefer a security solution which offers contemporary, and discreet protection that compliments their surroundings.

Texecom's Midnight Black Collection includes the complete range of Capture Grade 2 motion detectors, Premier Elite LCDLP / LDLCP-W keypads, Impaq S / SC/ SC-W and Micro Contact-W / Micro Shock-W perimeter detectors.

The complete Midnight Black Collection is offered in the following ranges:

• Capture - Texecom's highest performing, most reliable, easiest to install range of detectors.

• Wired and wireless keypads - with intuitive operation, ergonomic design and backlit keys, the large blue LCD menu system is designed to be simple to use and can include proximity tags for additional ease in arming and disarming.

• Impaq S Series - Offered as next level perimeter protection, the Impaq S Series provides a step change in shock detection performance, with Viber Accelerometer Technology for class leading, and according to the company - standards-exceeding, intruder detection.

• The Micro Contact-W - provides unobtrusive, discreet security.

• And, the Micro Shock-W - designed to detect and analyse a forcible shock and provide early warning of an attempted intrusion before a break-in occurs, helping to ensure the safety of people and property inside.

6 key considerations for low-light cameras

Night-time video security is important in our industry. Getting a good security camera with good low light capabilities, then, is crucial. This buyers' guide discusses some of the key points to consider when selecting a low light camera.

More and more, low light cameras are gaining traction in the security industry. And most users agree with this notion. According to Hikvision's survey, when asked about demand for low light security cameras this year compared to last year, a vast majority – 73 percent – said demand grew, while 22 percent said it was similar to last year and 5 percent said it was declining.

So, what's contributing to this increase in demand? The need for better and more effective night-time video security is a major driver. Technology advances and affordability, meanwhile, are also key.

Security cameras are widely used to provide clear evidence for security threats and emergencies. Most of the security threats and emergencies happen at night when target details are hardly seen. Therefore, low light cameras that provide good image performance with rich colorful details in dark environments are the ideal choices for CCTV users.

As technology develops, the performance of low light cameras has improved. Meanwhile, low-light cameras will be affordable for more and more users. We shall witness the continuous growth of the low light camera market.

6 key considerations when choosing low-light cameras

That said, how should the user choose a low-light camera that fits their needs and requirements? We take a look at the following points of consideration.

Selecting the type of camera

The selection begins with the type of low-light camera the user wants to get. Currently, there are mainly three types of low-light camera – IR camera, which switches to black-and-white mode at night; low-light camera, which captures color 24/7; and regular security camera with supplemental lighting. Each has its benefits and can be applied in different applications.

As IR light is unnoticeable at night, IR cameras can be applied in scenes when security cameras need to be covert, such as cinemas and office buildings. Low-light cameras that capture color throughout can provide 24/7 colorful imaging with more useful information and can be widely used in all scenes when white supplemental light is acceptable. For some places with environmental light, low-light cameras can work with (supplemental) light off. A regular security camera with supplemental light is often used in special industries and projects, such as road traffic monitoring.

Supplementary lighting considerations

The user should also consider the type of supplemental lighting that they want to use: Should it be white light, IR light or hybrid? Again, this depends on the user's own case. White light can be deployed on streets, yards and other outdoor open areas where users don't find the light annoying. IR light, on the other hand, is unnoticeable and can be applied in virtually all scenarios; the downside, of course, is it delivers black and white images, and important color details may be lost.

Hybrid supplemental light, which combines the benefits of both IR and white light, can then be a viable option. When the light is required to be covert, hybrid supplemental light can be set as IR mode. When color imaging is required, the light can be set as white light mode. Moreover, when the hybrid light is combined with intelligent functions, it can work in an intelligent mode. When human or vehicle targets appear, white light is turned on to provide color information and to deter intruders. When there's no human or vehicle target, the hybrid light works in IR mode to be unnoticeable.

Know the lux rating

What does lux ratings mean in CCTV? The lux rating of a security camera refers to the level of illumination by which the camera can produce a good image. For your quick reference, illuminance under direct sunlight measures up to 100,000 lux; whereas, office lighting might be around 500 lux and a moonless, cloudy night 0.0001 lux. Basically, the less light, the lower the lux number.

With that, let's talk about how the lux rating would affect your need to install additional lighting. A low-light camera with 0.001 lux or lower lux rating can provide bright enough imaging capability without built-in supplemental light in a conventional city environment with environmental light. With a lower lux rating value, the low-light camera relies less on the supplemental light with bright enough night imaging. The light is needed for darker environments and the camera is able to provide brighter imaging with the same level of supplemental light.

Sensor Size or Megapixel

When it comes to image sensors for the best low-light security cameras, size matters. Many people would think that higher megapixels directly equate to better image quality, but a lot of different factors come into play. Therefore, with the resolution being equal, the sensor that's larger in size works better as the larger size sensor can gather more light and generate a brighter image. "For example, for 2MP sensors, 1/2.8" sensor is better than 1/3". For 4 MP sensors, 1/1.8" is better than 1/2.8". For 8 MP sensors, 1/1.2" is better than 1/1.8".

Choosing right form factor

When choosing a low-light camera, what form factor should the user get – bullet, dome or PTZ? "It depends on the monitoring distance and environments. For 60-meter-and-above long-distance monitoring, PTZ is recommended. For standard distance monitoring that is within 60 meters, dome/turret forms are recommended for indoors and bullet form is recommended for outdoors.

Analytics needed

The use of video analytics in low-light cameras have been gaining popularity in the past few years, enabling features like object and motion detection and real-time alerts. Human and vehicle classification is very practical on low light cameras. With analytics, users can detect and retrieve clear human and vehicle targets at night.

However, the smartest algorithms still rely on pixel values for image recognition and analysis, with small variances in values providing the contrast needed for an analytics engine to define images with a high level of accuracy and certainty. Therefore, it would be pertinent for the operator to understand the limitations posed by challenging low light conditions and plan accordingly.

Value proposition

Despite their increasing affordability, low-light cameras are still perceived as pricey to some. According to our survey, when asked what factors might be holding you or your clients back from installing low light security cameras, 30 percent cited cost. It's incumbent upon suppliers, then, to stress that the protection these cameras offer may help users save more money down the road.

The majority of emergencies happen at night. Video security is extremely important at night. With low light cameras, users are more likely to get sufficient and clear video evidence to protect their safety and property.

3xLOGIC announces sweeping technology updates across its extensive line of cameras

3xLOGIC, Inc., a provider of integrated, intelligent security solutions, announces sweeping technology updates across its extensive line of cameras. Highlights of these updated cameras include:

3xLOGIC All-in-One cameras now have increased storage options up to 1 TB in total. Other notable features of these versatile cameras:

• VISIX All-in-One Series of cameras have onboard storage and function as a standalone VIGIL Server.

• Compatible with entire VIGIL Software Suite; direct access thru VIGIL Client and View Lite II mobile app, and VIGIL Central Management for remote health monitoring.

• With VISIX Setup App (iOS/Android), installers can easily configure cameras for rapid deployment.

• 128GB and 256GB storage options, and now 512GB and 1TB SD card storage

Coming to the VIGIL CLOUD platform, de-warping of their popular Fisheye cameras (VX-6M-360-IAW). Other notable features:

• This 360° IP camera provides affordable, high-definition 100% coverage and the ability to digitally pan, tilt, and zoom (PTZ) to any location.

• 3xLOGIC Panoramic De-warping Software means users achieve real-time viewing of an entire scene from a single camera.

• Cameras are packed with features to fit any application: motion detection, ideal for low/no light environments, and 120dB WDR.

The popular 3xLOGIC Licence Plate Capture (LPC) cameras now work on the VIGIL CLOUD platform and offer powerful All-In One functionality. Other camera benefits include:

• All the features needed for nearly any application: motion detection, remote focus, licence plate capture with post event review, and easy installation in a multitude of locations.

• All-In-One functionality means onboard storage, and with the purchase of appropriate licencing the camera is a standalone recording device, with redundant recording to VIGIL Server.

• Highly cost-effective application when post-event investigations require precise imaging to identify licence plates. Plates capture accuracy in low-security and low-light environments.

In addition to upgraded features for the VISIX line of cameras, 3xLOGIC will also be introducing the Next Gen 96-Channel NVR, enabling increased camera counts with fewer servers, and improved processing for higher camera counts. Also of note:

• These recording appliances are cost-effective and include the award-winning VIGIL enterprise-grade video management platform that is easy to deploy, and easy to expand.

• End users own a system that addresses today's needs with the ability to scale for tomorrow's demands.

Ava Security announces a new line of cameras designed for complete and data-driven security

Ava Security announced the general availability release of V-CAM, a new line of cameras with integrated audio analytics that can identify sound events and their origin, as well as intelligent bandwidth optimisation that reduces consumption by using high-quality video only when and where it matters.

This new camera line is secure by design and easy and intuitive to install and manage.

Organisations need to recognise and prevent risky events before they escalate, as well as investigate incidents faster and with fewer resources.

When paired with V-CORE, the Ava Security video management system, V-CAM identifies objects, events, anomalies, and similarities, allowing organisations to gain a real-time understanding and act on threats immediately.

• Available in two form factors: the 8 MP Dome delivers exceptional image quality, while the 12 MP Pano provides 360-degree coverage. Both cameras are designed for indoor, outdoor, and low-light deployments.

• The V-CAM line can hear as well as see: directional audio analytics identify sound events and their origin for more efficient, proactive threat responses. As privacy is of utmost importance, the integrated acoustic sensor does not record the sound by default but only listens to noise and raises alarms when suspicious patterns are found.

• Save storage and money: V-CAM's integrated AI bandwidth optimisation allows companies to maintain forensic details only when and where it matters.

• Secure by design: V-CAM uses end-to-end encryption to prevent hackers from hijacking video feeds as well as factory-installed certificates on a trusted platform module to authenticate users and limit access only to authorised personnel.

• Simple management: plug-and-play installation with Ava Security V-CORE and integrated cable management. When paired with V-CORE, end-users can upgrade V-CAM to the latest software.

World's first explosion-protected camera for Zone/Division 2 hazardous areas launched by Axis

Axis Communications has launched AXIS P1468-XLE Explosion-Protected Bullet Camera, specifically designed for Zone and Division 2 hazardous locations. The camera is designed for Zone 2, 22, and Class I/II/III Division 2 according to international standards (ATEX, IECEx, NEC).

AXIS P1468-XLE uses the 'Ex e' protection method, an explosion-protection approach referred to as 'increased safety' or 'non-incendive'.

This method ensures that no arcs and sparks can appear and that excessive temperatures can not be reached, during the normal operation of electrical equipment. As a result, electrical equipment using 'Ex e' protection cannot ignite gas or dust in the surrounding potentially combustible environment.

AXIS P1468-XLE is a robust, impact- and weather-resistant fixed camera which delivers excellent image quality in 4K resolution under any light conditions, through Lightfinder 2.0, Forensic WDR, and Optimize-dIR.

Compact and light-weight in design, the camera is as easy to install as a standard camera.

AXIS P1468-XLE has been designed in line with North American and European directives for equipment intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.

By design, the camera is unable to provide sufficient energy to ignite gas or dust in the atmosphere to cause an explosion, therefore removing the need for any traditional explosion-protected enclosure.

The multitasking camera provides many benefits within health and safety applications and operational efficiency. Early detection of smoke and fire, ensuring that personal protective equipment (PPE) is being worn and used, and monitoring restricted areas bring significant health and safety benefits to organisations.

In operational efficiency, the camera can be used for visual verification of various processes and as part of an advanced data-driven sensory network. Built on ARTPEC-8, AXIS P1468-XLE includes a deep learning processing unit (DLPU) enabling advanced features and powerful analytics that run on the edge. For instance, by connecting the camera to the process control system and continuously monitoring a process, you can fine-tune the process in real-time to maximise throughput.

In addition, it is possible to extract and send metadata for further analysis, which can be used for trend monitoring and predictive maintenance. Built-in cyber-security features help prevent unauthorised access and safeguard the system.

In contrast to Zone/Division 1 hazardous locations where the presence of an explosive atmosphere is likely and a regular occurrence in Zone/Division 2 hazardous locations, an explosive atmosphere is far less likely, less frequent, and present for much shorter periods.

It is still essential, however, to eliminate the risk of equipment creating a spark that might create an explosion in these areas.

Orbbec unveils two new 3D cameras

Orbbec has introduced two of its most advanced 3D sensor cameras ever. The Gemini 2, with the widest field of view among Orbbec's product lines and exceptional sensing range, as well as the second-generation structured light camera, the Astra 2.

Both cameras have been developed with Orbbec's new generation ASIC chip MX6600, which enables high quality depth processing and supports depth/colour image registration in different resolutions. With an easy-to-use software development kit, on board IMU and multi-camera sync support, the two cameras introduce exciting new possibilities in 3D for a variety of industries.

Orbbec's integration-ready Gemini 2 is based on active stereo IR technology and boasts a sensing range of 0.12 to 10 metres, along with a field of view of up to 100 degrees diagonal (89°H x 65°V, ±3°). Gemini 2 is also capable of working in indoor or outdoor environments and brings more possibilities to the user.

The IMU in the Gemini 2 enables it to provide motion, position and navigational sensing over six "degrees of freedom". This capability, along with its small size (90 x 25 x 30mm) makes the Gemini 2 perfect for developers seeking a 3D camera solution for robotics, logistics, and security monitoring, among other uses.

Orbbec's Astra 2, the next generation of its widely popular Astra series, brings improvements in nearly every aspect. The Astra line uses structured light and image processing to compute a 3D image of the observed environment in real-time.

With the latest Generation ASIC, Astra 2 supports higher resolution (up to 2MP) for both depth and colour images output in real time. Compared to the original Astra Series, Astra 2 is more stable on the output depth data, and with low motion blur. The camera is ideal for security monitoring and/or behaviour analysis, body/object/room scanning, and interactive gaming, among others.

Energy harvesting provides solution for sustainable housing complex

Businesses in every sector face the challenge of operating more sustainably. Construction is no different. As a Premium Member of Green Building Council Denmark, the developer of Esbjerg's new "A Place To" housing complex sought efficient access control to complement a contemporary style and sustainability ethos. Energy harvesting technology provided the answer.

At A Place To, Esbjerg, more than 400 apartments connect with shared common "co-living" areas. There's a cafe, fitness and yoga, a big screen, reading nooks and workstations, communal kitchens and more. Sustainability is core to their vision. As they grow — at future properties in Copenhagen, Horsens and beyond-A Place To

aims for the operation and maintenance of all buildings to be DGNB-certified.

For efficient access control, they looked for an energy-saving solution which would operate without batteries or wires. Other priorities included integration-readiness. Electronic locking at A Place To must work seamlessly with other building technologies including online readers and door-phones. They wanted cloud-based management, to keep staff in control 24/7 from anywhere. Managers also knew that any solution must be future-proof by design: New features or capacity anytime may be required at any time.

Pulse key-operated electronic cylinders with energy-harvesting tech-

nology now secure more than 300 apartments at A Place To.

Pulse devices are self-powered and need no external energy source. The cylinder's encrypted electronic security is energized with power generated by key insertion.

A Place To's security administrators manage access control with cloud-based software. They can change anyone's access permissions online. Users update their own keys at integrated door-phones or online readers. This ensures resident access permissions are always current.

Each Pulse key also contains an RFID chip: It doubles as an access card for the entrance and communal areas, so tenants only need to carry one credential for multiple openings around the property. This makes it more convenient and efficient.

Assa Abloy found that around 60% of the world's electricity is consumed by buildings, according to the UN Environment Programme estimates. Pulse access control can help reduce energy use — perhaps one of the reasons why the technology won the 2022 Danish Building Centres Energy Award, whose purpose is to "cel-

ebrate innovative products and solutions in construction and to increase knowledge of climate-friendly building materials."

Self-powered and wire-free, a Pulse locking system operates day-to-day without any external electricity source — neither mains nor batteries. Installation is cable-free and low impact, too, which minimizes power consumption at what can be an energy intensive stage in a system's life cycle. At a retrofit project, all an installer needs to do is swap an existing cylinder for a Pulse device. It is designed to be simple and requires no drilling.

"In addition, several Pulse cylinder types have an independently assessed Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) valid through 2026," explains Daniel Totzeck, Pulse Product Manager at Assa Abloy Opening Solutions EMEIA. "The EPD details the precise environmental impact of a device through its full lifecycle. EPDs are rich in details required by projects seeking green building certification, which is increasingly popular worldwide because it can deliver financial as well as ethical benefits for a building owner."

the relevant regulations. Fire specialist company, Allied Fire Alarms & Escapes Ltd, specified an L1 category fire alarm system aimed at providing the 'highest standard' for the protection of life. Featuring an XFP CAST panel connected to an array of heat, smoke and multi-sensor devices, the system is designed to deliver the earliest possible warning should a fire occur at the historic 17-bedroomed hall, a popular venue for group workshops, location shoots, exhibitions

and performances.

Conceived and designed by C-TEC as part of a 10-year, multi-million-pound project, CAST is a more advanced 'distributed intelligence' fire alarm system protocol, according to the firm. CAST's control panels, detection and alarm devices are all designed and manufactured at the company's UK manufacturing facility to 'guarantee' that every component integrates to create systems that work 'perfectly'.

Eight Australian airports deploy Idemia border control

Idemia has developed an end-to-end border control solution comprising kiosks and egates. The Australian Department of Home Affairs has commenced the installation of Idemia's technology in eight international airports, providing a completely seamless traveller journey.

In 2019, Idemia won the phase one contract to upgrade the airports' old arrivals systems with its new self-service biometric kiosk solution locally named "Gen3 Kiosk". The kiosk went through rigorous system and user experience testing by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Australian Border Force, as well as passengers in real-life situations. Once it had passed all government deployment tests successfully, it was deployed at Darwin, Adelaide, Brisbane, Cairns, Coolangatta, Melbourne, Perth and

Sydney airports. Installation of 109 Gen3 Kiosks marked the completion of phase one in late 2021.

The phase two of the contract involves the delivery of egates incorporating advanced biometric functionalities and capabilities: Travellers complete an initial 1:1 verification against their passport at the "Gen3 Kiosk" enabling a match when they present themselves at the egate.

With this solution there is no need for a token, as the traveller's face is used as proof of their identity, ensuring a smooth and stress-free travel experience.

After the strictest lock-down, Australia is now well prepared to welcome national and international travellers at its borders with the smoothest, stress-free travel experience.

Fire system installed to 'protect' spiritual retreat

C-TEC's CAST XFP fire system has been installed at a spiritual retreat in Llangollen, North Wales. The retreat, at Tan-Y-Garth

Hall, is a Grade II listed house built in 1915, and is set in acres of woodland overlooking Ceiriog Valley. Owned by the International Hermeneutic

Society, it is said to provide a 'spiritual haven' for people interested in yoga, meditation, art, music and science.

The Society's plans to additionally utilise the building as a hotel meant the existing manual fire alarm system had to be replaced to comply with

VIVOTEK's real-time AI crowd monitoring solutions improves tourist satisfaction of commercial facilities in Japan

Eager tourists flocked into Japan after borders were reopened for international tourism in September 2022, and the visa-free entry programme was reinstated in October 2022. According to statistics released by the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO), Japan welcomed close to a million international tourists in November 2022.

Although local shopping centres, hotels, and restaurants celebrate the recovery of tourism, the pandemic has prompted a heightened sense of awareness among tourists towards crowded areas, introducing new challenges despite rising business opportunities.

Crowd control is a crucial challenge for Japanese businesses catering to tourists, especially those in Tokyo, the capital city of Japan and a hotspot for tourism. In particular, Karuizawa Prince Shopping Plaza, located just on the outskirts of Tokyo City, caters to a seemingly endless stream of foreign snow-seekers and summer escapists. The shopping mall has naturally developed into a robust tourist hub complete with restaurants, cafes, and restrooms.

To prevent the overconcentration of people in specific areas, the ability to monitor crowds in real-time and notify tourists of congestion is vital for enhancing the consumer experience.

At the same time, a hotel located in the southern onsen village of Yamanashi Prefecture faced a similar challenge. In response, the hotel was outfitted with a manual counting system to control the number of visitors in the hotel at any given time.

This system was costly and prone to error, directly affecting customer satisfaction. A technical solution was urgently needed to resolve the hotel's crowding problem.

VIVOTEK devised a comprehensive solution to meet the surveillance requirements of various commercial establishments in Japan. A total of 200 SC8131 Stereo Counting Network Cameras were installed in restaurants, hotels, and other key tourist locations. The SC8131 camera features VIVOTEK's 3D Depth Technology, providing real-time counting and tracking capabilities with an accuracy of over 98%.

The data collected by the cameras within the shopping mall were then relayed to the host system and projected onto the digital signages on each floor, providing insightful information about nearby sightseeing locations and restaurants to tourists in real time, thereby greatly enhancing consumer satisfaction.

In the onsen hotel, the SC8131 Stereo Counting Network Cameras were installed at the reception desk, in restaurants, and at the access points of recreational areas and public baths.

Guests can then use their smartphones to scan a QR code in their rooms to receive crowd data in real-time, cutting physical inquiries by 70% and significantly improving management efficiency. To eliminate the controversy around installing cameras in public baths, the VIVOTEK SC8131 is capable of maintaining the counter without recording passersby. This functionality ensures tourists' privacy.

With the system installed within the Karuizawa Prince Shopping Plaza, visitors can gain a clear overview of the crowding situations in different areas directly from the digital signages, allowing them to avoid crowded areas. The quality of the system components also translates to minimal downtime. The solution at the onsen village hotel allows the vendor to keep track of foot traffic in various facilities and maintain service quality.

For managers, investments in these solutions are beneficial as they will greatly cut labour costs down the line. Furthermore, the simplistic and beautifully designed cameras integrate seamlessly into the building environments, going up and beyond the expectations of the Japanese customer in terms of functionality and aesthetics. The solutions are also backed by VIVOTEK's Japan Field Office, which is on standby to provide immediate support.

With its contribution, VIVOTEK delivered a comprehensive vCore-integrated surveillance solution that could convert detection data into visual messages for smartphones and digital signages, greatly enhancing notification efficiency.

AI people counting cameras for flexible mounting height and scenarios

• AI people counting accuracy: up to 99%.

• Deep learning AI classification capability.

• Fisheye camera with extended field of view allowing for better coverage.

• Wide dynamic range for challenging lighting.

• Flexible mounting height of 1.9 to 10 m.

• Stitching up to 7 cams.

Main benefits

• 99% Accuracy.

• Larger FOV.

• Bigger detection zone.

• Flexible Mounting Height 1.9-10m.

their rest times and their meals specifically. They needed to be able to see the animals wherever they were in their pen, which sometimes means peering into dark corners!

Monitoring of pandas took on a different, and cuter aspect, with one of the pandas recently giving birth to twin cubs. This was a particularly joyful moment at the zoo, since although pandas are no longer officially endangered, they are still classified as vulnerable.

In fact, the team had to wait until after the birth to install the cameras, since the zoo did not want to disturb the mother in gestation. Now, they need to keep an eye on the newborns, and parts of the panda enclosure have poor lighting, so the cam-

eras needed to provide excellent low-light imaging to counter this.

For the sea lions, SRTC installed 4 MP Colorvu fixed turret network cameras (DS-2CD2347G2), simple and effective. The Colorvu technology provides a clear colour image without disturbing the animals. It's ideal for the medium focal range needed in the sea lions' enclosure. 12MP fisheye cameras (DS-2CD63C5) were also installed to provide a view of their entire resting area.

The pandas required more intensive monitoring, so PTZ 32X Darkfighter X IR network speed domes (DS-2DF5232X-AE3(T5)). Darkfighter X technology delivers a full colour image over long distances even in very low light conditions, down to 0.0005 lux. This makes it possible to identify the animals more precisely, allowing the vets to monitor care, diet, and activity, among other things. The high optical zoom PTZs make it possible to search for the smallest details on moving technical installations.

The clarity of the zoom is so great that keepers can even see which of the mother's nipples a baby panda is suckling!

An added bonus for the Zoo in the project was cameras to keep an eye on the cable car system used in the Zoo. The 24-car system takes up to 21,000 visitors daily 780 metres across the zoo. Hikvision cameras installed into the system can help the operators see how many people take the cable car every day. This helps with planning. It also helps them to verify that there are no people or obstructions on the lines, so they can safely start operation in the morning.

Sylvain Spodar, Information Systems Director at the Beauval Zoo Park, says: "We are pleased with our new system which allows us to keep an eye on the animals more efficiently. Our animal carers are delighted with this qualitative evolution of the images they can get, and the new cameras help them daily in their work.

The initial project was the renovation of the video security system in 2020. The team succeeded in identifying other technologies and gradually deploying them in the Zoo Park. As well as cameras, this included Hikcentral video management software and three NVRs, which together control all the cameras centrally and also provides video wall management and business intelligence.

Our environment and the animals we share it with need more attention than ever if they are to survive. The application of technology to monitor their wellbeing is a welcome tool in the activities organisations like the Beauval Zoo Park carry out. The cameras helped welcome new pandas into the world – and everyone loves a baby panda, don't they?

Hikvision video technology helps care for pandas

It's not just people who can benefit from security technology - zoo animals can too. The Beauval Zoo Park in Saint Aignan sur Cher France, looked to technology to help look after their animals, including sea-lions and a recent panda mother as well as her cubs.

The zoo has been ranked as the 4th most beautiful in the world, and looks after more than 35,000 animals on 40 hectares. When the time came to revamp their systems in the park, they turned to systems integrator SRTC, who used Hikvision cameras for the task.

The zoo wanted to streamline their care of the animals, specifically to help monitor sea-lions and pandas.

Keepers needed to be able to monitor the sea-lions 24 hours a day. They wanted to keep an eye on

Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab resort adds access control and new integration to their security service

Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab, a new Dubai resort from Jumeirah Group, is using Maxxess eFusion technology to provide feature-rich access control and integration of third-party security and safety.

According to Maxxess, the luxury five-star development, opening this year, will include 408 rooms, four 'super' penthouses, a premium yacht club and marina with 128 berths, nine high-end villas and an extensive resort landscaped with infinity pools and beachfront at the heart of Dubai's largest private beach.

The Marsa Al Arab is located on a peninsula to the east of the Burj Al Arab and Jumeirah Beach hotel. Designed in the shape of a super-yacht, the main hotel structure will complete Jumeirah's oceanic trilogy, which includes the wave-shaped Jumeirah Beach Hotel and sailboat-inspired Burj Al Arab Jumeirah.

Jumeirah Group selected Maxxess eFusion, ahead of other leading vendors, following a competitive technology evaluation. Its feature-rich platform allows a more 'seamless' integration with 'over 60' technologies including video surveillance, fire, building management systems, and site-specific applications and hardware. Said to be widely used in the luxury hotels sector, eFusion allows integration of front- and back-of-house operations, ensuring maximum ease-of-use and operational efficiency through a single, unified platform.

The integrated solution at Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab, implemented by Telematics, encompasses 256 controllers to manage guest doors in the hotel and penthouses, and external access for the private villas, staff entrances, gatehouses, car parks, and goods-in areas. Integration with ASSA ABLOY Hospitality, is also said to allow use of traditional credentials or personal smartphones to access hotel rooms, safety deposit boxes, and secure closets.

The surveillance system, comprising 'over 700' Hanwha Techwin cameras, helps to ensure guest and staff safety, provides a full audit trail of room access, and allows services such as room cleaning to be delivered efficiently with no disruption to guests, according to Maxxess. Integration of Hanwha Techwin's Wisenet VMS is designed for 'uninterrupted' coverage of the hotel's interior and exterior areas, including landscaped gardens, private beach, pools, integrated leisure and wellness facilities, and signature restaurants.

In addition, the Zenitel IP video intercom system, and the resort's fire system, aims at ensuring efficient management through eFusion's single user interface. This 'removes reliance' on siloed systems, 'eliminating' control room inefficiencies and gaps in security, Maxxess believes.

In the event of an incident, such as a forced door, fire alarm or system health check issue, eFusion is said to automatically pop-up up the nearest camera views, enabling operators to visually verify the incident and initiate an appropriate rapid response.

The modular and scalable nature of eFusion also makes it easier for Jumeirah Group to address future needs, as the resort expands and adapts to changing operational requirements.

ter. The unified platform enables them to manage video, access control, licence plate recognition across communities with a single user interface.

Its open architecture also enables them to continue using existing cameras and other equipment as well as add future innovations as they emerge. The 16 communities they have converted include 350 cameras, 600 door readers and more than 1,500 wireless locks with the remaining five planned to be completed in 2023 adding to these numbers.

Using the Security Center, teams across the communities can now easily monitor alarms and quickly pull up video recordings during investigations. They also retrieve access control reports showing all door activity, cardholder activity, and in some cases, activity is linked to a camera view as well, so they can immediately understand what happened. Standardising on a single platform also makes it easier for corporate security team members to review incidents or investigate operational snags without leaving their offices.

Where the technology has been installed, residents can use their access control cards to purchase meals and pay for items in community shops. The Security Center has also eliminated the need for gate fobs to enter or exit the property. Strategically placed Genetec Autovu automated licence plate recognition (ALPR) cameras recognise resident vehicles and grant them entry or exit.

Resident licence plates are all stored within the Autovu system in the Security Center and linked to resident profiles, which simplifies activa-tion and deactivation of rights. They plan to deploy more ALPR across communities to monitor parking usage and visitors and use that data to improve parking facilities and inform investigations.

The new unified platform has also enabled the company to swap out physical keys on resident apartments for new Assa Abloy wireless locks in newer communities. Now, residents use an access control card to enter their units, on-site amenities, and other secured areas.

The new wireless locks also helped modernise a critical community service: resident welfare check-ins. Previously, a security officer would walk through buildings every morning, visually verifying that residents had opened their door allowing a latch to drop to indicate they were up, and knocking on doors of those who hadn't to make sure all was well.

Now, the Security Center automatically sends a report daily to security teams showing which units' doors haven't been opened yet. They'll then compare that to a list of unoccupied units to see which residents require a welfare check. Instead of walking every hallway, they can go directly to units that require further checking.

Looking ahead, the company's security roadmap includes everything from adding map and mobile capabilities to exploring hybrid cloud options for added storage and redundancy. They're also currently integrating an intelligent key system within Security Center and adding people counting analytics and perimeter detection at newer gateless communities.

Senior living project modernises security with Genetec technology

Erickson Senior Living has modernised and standardised its physical security systems across 16 of its communities with Genetec Security Center. The new platform enables the company to better protect residents, visitors and communities, and deliver a modern, streamlined resident experience, as threats and technologies evolve.

Erickson Senior Living has been a leader in the senior living space since 1983, today helping more than 28,000 residents live better lives in 21 communities across the U.S. Over the years, the various communities deployed a mix of video surveillance and access control systems from different providers, making it difficult for corporate teams to get a global view of operations and security, and hard for them to maintain. Also, as these proprietary, isolated systems aged, they were not able to support newer technologies that enhanced safety and simplified processes for residents.

To modernise their approach, Erickson Senior Living developed a standardised model for security deployments across all communities, basing it on Genetec Security Cen-

How often should a company perform fire and safety drills?

When a fire breaks out, regardless of the source, it can be shocking and devastating for everyone involved. This makes it critical for staff members to understand the proper procedures if a fire occurs. Proper training increases fire safety and can lessen the chance of injuries or death if a fire breaks out.

Sometimes, it can seem as if fire drills slow productivity and take up time. Waiting for an entire office to meet up outside and chat may seem like a process that wastes valuable time. Even mentioning the possibility of a fire drill can bring on groans, as some find it a useless exercise.

Many people think of fire safety, and the vision of fire alarms, extinguishers, and sprinklers comes to mind. However, practicing regular fire drills is just as important. Safety drills ensure everyone is prepared for a fire. In this article, details will be provided about how often these drills should happen as well as other critical information.

For those who may be unfamiliar with fire drills, they are a means of practicing what would happen in the case of a real fire. Drills are designed to ensure all members of a business know the proper steps to take in an emergency.

Fire drills should go over all emergency procedures to cut down on panic and confusion if a real fire happens. This includes everything from meeting points to evacuation routes.

The main objectives of a fire drill include the following:

• Ensuring compliance with all local fire code requirements

• Providing employees a chance to practice emergency processes in a safe and simulated environment

• Evaluating how effective evacuation processes are to make any needed changes to improve performance in an actual fire

• Determining if workers understand and can carry out emergency duties.

Everyone should know what to do if a fire starts at work. The main thing that should be done is to get out of the building. However, in an emergency, there may be several questions that need to be answered. Fire drills are a better time to find out the questions and ensure there are answers to them.

• How do people know a fire has started?

• Who turns on the fire alarm?

• Where should everyone go?

• What's the best route to take?

• What happens if an evacuation route is blocked?

• Are any areas to be avoided?

• Who makes sure everyone gets out?

• Should someone attempt to put out the fire?

• What should happen to visitors?

• Are there any people who will have difficulty leaving?

Asking these questions during a drill is far better than in a real fire. In the latter situation, lives are at risk. This is why fire drills are needed at work. Employees and others in the building can get accustomed to what should occur if a fire happens. In addition, it provides fire marshals and employers with a set of responsibilities. It's also an excellent way to ensure the evacuation plan works. If a better option is determined, the plan can then be updated.

The frequency of fire drills can vary depending on the organization. OSHA notes that "it is a good idea to hold practice drills as often as necessary to keep employees prepared. Include outside resources such as fire and police departments when possible. After each drill, gather management and employees to evaluate the effectiveness of the drill. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of your plan and work to improve it."

The frequency of fire drills depends on 2 separate things. The 1st is what the local fire code requires. The second is what sorts of fire hazards are located within the building. For instance, a building with difficult egress in a high rise or one with flammable materials may wish to have fire drills as often as once every 3 months. Others may find that twice-annual fire drills are sufficient.

Choosing when to have fire drills will depend on several factors. Consider how high the risk of a fire is. Determine how easily people can get to a safe location. Finally, check whether anything has changed since the last fire drill. Carrying out a fire drill can give insight into how often to have them in the future. If the business hasn't had a fire drill in a while or the procedures have changed, having one will help everyone learn how things go.

It's also a time to consider things such as whether the alarm can be heard everywhere, if anyone needs extra assistance, and whether all parties can make it out within the expected time.

For commercial buildings, the owner, occupier, or manager is usually the designated responsible for fire drills. The 'responsible person' needs to organize fire drills. In addition, they should keep records of the fire drill results. Any reorganization, maintenance, or repairs needed as a result of a fire drill report should also be arranged by the responsible person.

There are a series of steps involved in carrying out a fire drill. Below is an example of what a standard fire drill might look like for the average business.

1. All parties who are onsite at the time of the intended fire drill, whether employees or visitors, should be informed about what will be occurring.

2. The responsible person will get the fire drill started.

3. When alarms go off, everyone in the building should move calmly to the closest available fire exit.

4. All occupants of the building will next gather at the designated assembly area.

5. Responsible individuals will observe the exit procedure, looking for reasons for delays, such as obstructions. They will also help others find an exit when needed.

6. While people leave the building, marshals or others will ensure their area is evacuated before leaving the building and moving to the assembly area.

7. A roll call will be conducted at the assembly area to ensure all known occupants of the building are present.

8. When it is clear that the evacuation is done, employees will be allowed to calmly re-enter the building.

9. The fire drill will be recorded in a Fire Log Book. The main focus will be to jot down any problems that happened or issues that need to be resolved.

10. Any problems discovered during the fire drill will be rectified by the responsible person.

Fire evacuations are extremely serious situations, and being prepared is essential. The employees and others in the building have their safety at stake, which makes it critical to engage in thorough planning. Going through regular fire drills can prevent injuries if a real fire occurs.

When everyone knows what is expected of them and how that benefits them, the effort made to create fire drills will be appreciated. It can make the process more professional and efficient. Everyone can feel confident knowing how to safely leave the building during a fire.

Fires sparked by lithium batteries are confounding firefighters

Last July, an electric transit bus in Connecticut burst into flames while parked at a depot. A month later, an electric scooter sparked a fire inside a New York City apartment that killed a 5-year-old girl and 36-year-old woman. And last month, a fire believed to be caused by the batteries in an electric scooter engulfed a multifamily home in Massachusetts. Back home, in India too, EV fires are a cause of concern, and the government even issued show cause notices to manufacturers of electric vehicles whose vehicles had caught fire.

Lithium-ion batteries have become a ubiquitous feature in new forms of transportation and common household products. They're also found in residential solar energy systems.

But when those batteries fail or overheat, they release flammable, toxic gasses that can spark a fast-spreading fire that is extremely difficult to extinguish.

"The source of the gasses that are creating the flames is confined within a cell battery that will not allow water in," said Ofodike Ezekoye, a fire scientist and professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. "When firefighters are responding to these types of incidents, it takes a lot longer to be able to control the fire because it requires so much more water."

With the number of fires caused by lithium batteries soaring across the U.S., firefighters and other experts say the training needed to fight them effectively is lagging in many places. Firefighters and city officials are also imploring the manufacturers to redesign the batteries so that, when they fail, the resulting fires can be put down more easily.

"What we're seeing is these new technologies, as important as they are, they make it out into the field before we know all the possible consequences that could come from them," said Steve Kerber, the executive director of the nonprofit UL Fire Safety Research Institute. "It isn't until failures start to happen that the fire service understands what the consequences are. That's where we need to start playing catch-up."

Kerber said his team has run tests on lithium-ion batteries in which it took only 15 seconds from the first sign of smoke to the windows being blown out in a house. In a traditional fire, it typically takes about three minutes for a room to be engulfed, he said.

"With such explosion hazards, it's incredibly important that we get firefighters to understand how to operate safely," Kerber said. Hunter Clare and Justin Lopez, who work for the fire department in Peoria, Arizona, have firsthand experience of the hazards.

In April 2019, the two fire captains responded to a call at a facility that was housing thousands of lithium-ion batteries used to store energy for a power grid. The batteries are critical components in such facilities that store solar energy.

Clare and Lopez arrived along with other first responders to find a white cloud of vapor seeping out of the building and drifting across the desert. "It was staying about 3 to 4 feet off the ground, and it was kind of swaying like sea water," Clare said.

The firefighters suspected that it was some

kind of chemical cocktail. They secured the area and used special devices to test the air, which showed dangerous levels of hydrogen cyanide and carbon monoxide.

Then they waited until the vapors stopped flowing out of the building and the levels of flammable gas dropped. Nearly two hours passed before the firefighters made their way to the front door of the facility. When they opened it, a large cloud escaped the building.

Before they could retreat to safety, the space ignited, setting off a powerful explosion.

Lopez landed 30 feet away, according to a report by the Fire Safety Research Institute. Clare was thrown about 70 feet, his body in flames.

"Don't remember the explosion. Don't remember anything from there," Clare said.

Both men suffered severe injuries, including brain trauma. Lopez had a collapsed lung, broken ribs, a broken leg, separated shoulder, laceration of the liver and multiple thermal and chemical burns, according to the report.

The rise of electric scooters in cities has led to a massive spike in battery fires.

Lithium-ion batteries sparked more than 200 fires in New York City last year alone, killing six people and injuring nearly 150. That's double the amount of battery fires in 2021, according to the New York City Fire Department. So far this year, electric bike batteries have been identified as the cause of three fires in New York.

An industry trade group, PRBA — the Portable Rechargeable Battery Association — said it is "collaborating with emergency response governmental agencies and industry organizations to increase awareness about the risks posed by lithium ion batteries during handling, storage, and in transportation."

"We welcome the opportunity to work with all interested parties on lithium ion battery outreach and education to prevent lithium ion battery incidents, increase consumer safety, and develop a consistent message on the correct lithium ion battery emergency response and safety procedures," the group added.

Some fire departments in Arizona and elsewhere have added a new tool to fight these kinds of fires: a chemical additive specially designed to absorb heat and put down certain kinds of blazes. The product, known as F-500 Encapsulator Agent, has shown in early tests to be effective at putting out the stubborn fires created by lithium-ion batteries.

"We're absorbing the heat as opposed to trying to dissipate the heat through steam," said Ron Lowrey, a former fire chief in Pennsylvania who now works for one company that produces the product, Hazard Control Technologies. "It's a much better medium for cooling".

can help minimize the risks and costs associated with kitchen-related fire emergencies, including damages, insurance, and potential lawsuits.

It is important for small food business owners to understand and adhere to basic fire safety rules when working in the kitchen. While the list is rather long, some of the most important fire safety rules kitchens should follow include:

• Keeping flammable items away from heat sources

• Unplugging electrical equipment when not in use

• Refrain from overcrowding outlets with multiple appliances

• Avoid leaving anything, such as clothing, near an open flame

• Always keep combustible items like paper, towels, and rags away from stove elements.

Additionally, it's good to avoid storing large quantities of highly-flammable materials inside your kitchen or establishment. Unless you have a purposely-built room for such supplies, it's advisable to store them outside at a safe distance instead. Taking these steps can help ensure optimal safety while working in close quarters with volatile objects and elements of high heat output.

As a small food business owner, it is paramount to choose the right fire safety training course for your staff, regardless of whether they work in the kitchen or elsewhere within the establishment. It's best to look for courses approved by industry regulators that teach comprehensive techniques on how to respond appropriately during crisis situations.

This may include guidance on using suppression systems effectively and safely evacuating people from hazardous areas. The certification obtained should also be in line with current legislation, so there's no need for refresher courses or repurchasing materials.

Consulting with experts in the field to understand which fire safety training program your staff needs can also help you select the best course. With these pointers in mind, you should know just how important it is for all your staff to get trained on kitchen fire safety.

Why all food business staff need training on fire safety in the kitchen

Especially in commercial establishments, kitchens are the most vulnerable rooms to fires. They are also where most fires generally originate from. So, if you're running a restaurant or hotel business, ensuring your employees are properly trained in fire safety can be a good way to protect your investment.

As a small food business owner, it's important to understand potential fire hazards in your kitchen. Recognizing the risks of a fire can help you create an effective strategy to manage them. Possible sources of ignition include:

• Faulty equipment or cookers

• Screaming-hot oil and fat left unattended

• Steam released from boiling liquids that comes into contact with grease particles on cookware and food waste build up near hot zones

• Loose clothing that comes into contact with cooking flames

Additionally, poor ventilation when running appliances like deep fryers can quickly increase heat in your kitchen. These common scenarios make commercial kitchens vulnerable to fires, so it's important to take all necessary safety precautions. This includes preventive measures like proper maintenance and training staff so they are aware of how to respond if something goes wrong.

As a small food business owner, it's important to put the right fire safety systems in place before operations begin. In high-risk areas, for starters, this means installing kitchen suppression fire systems, such as heat and smoke detectors that sound alarms when they detect smoke or an increase in temperature.

Fire extinguishers equipped with wet chemical agents derived from potassium acetate-based dry powder will ensure you're able to rapidly inhibit any flames if the worst does occur.

In addition, most shops should have escape ladders for staff so they can evacuate quickly and safely should the need arise. Regular maintenance of all systems is also essential to making sure your equipment functions properly if needed. Finally, having a comprehensive evacuation plan so employees know what action to take when there's an emergency is equally important.

By providing essential fire safety training to your employees, you can help them understand the basics of fire prevention, and how to best respond to kitchen fires. Accidents and incidents can happen at any time, so it's important that all staff know the appropriate measures to take when they happen.

Not only will this ensure their safety, but also the safety of customers, visitors, and other personnel. Having everyone aware of potential risks

Fire safety norms in residential buildings and its importance

News about fire accidents in residential buildings came across quite commonly earlier but have reduced drastically now, but the reduction in the frequency cannot underestimate the seriousness of the issue. According to a 195-nation analysis conducted in the year 2017, India recorded 1.6 million fires and 27,027 deaths in a year. The risk is higher in residential buildings especially in high-rise apartments because evacuation is trickier.

Residential spaces in India are subjected to fire hazards due to a lot of reasons like faulty layout, dearth of right instruments, poor or inferior wiring and of course lack of awareness. Additionally, there are so many close-knit structures here, especially in the metro cities, that do not adhere to the fire safety norms, like having a designated fire exit and also have improper ventilation, so they are always at a risk of mishaps.

Howeve, the situation, in terms of the number of fire accidents, has improved significantly as a lot of stringent and much required regulations, policies and norms are made mandatory for residential buildings. Like, in 2020, the health ministry circulated guidelines demanding for a third-party accreditation for fire safety; The apex Court also asked all states to carry

out fire safety audits and The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) stipulated requirements for fire safety in public buildings and hospitals.

Fire safety audit is an effective way for the assessment of fire safety norms and standards and these also help in checking the fire safety infrastructure of the buildings that have received their completion of occupation certificate.

The national building code suggested a periodical fire safety inspection by the residents of the buildings in order to assure safety standards. The residents are advised to carry on fire safety audits every half-yearly and submit the report to the regulated fire department.

There are also a set of detailed guidelines for developers to follow in order to ensure that the fire safety infrastructure is executed at the time of construction of any residential building as well as during the course of maintenance of the building.

According to The National Building Code 2016 (NBC), any society or developer who fails to abide by the standards will be subject to harsh consequences for the same. The NBC comprises an array of guidelines and set of rules depending on the category of the building. In India, residential buildings are classified under category A.

Right from the approval process firefighting measures are to be taken care of for example a building 15 meter above the ground level or exceeding three storeys must obtain a certificate of approval from the Director of Fire Services. The approved building plan should indicate all the fire protection arrangements and the means of access/escape with suitable signs and symbols. Similarly, there are rules for staircases and lifts too.

The system and norms laid down are strong enough to curb fire accidents. It is imperative for builders to adhere to the guidelines when constructing a residential complex and also for homebuyers as they should be aware and informed about the same before purchasing a property.

Hikvision predicts top 7 trends for the security industry in 2023

The physical security industry has been changing quickly in recent years. Developments and applications of cutting-edge technologies in this ever-evolving industry such as AI, machine perception, and IoT, are breaking boundaries all the time. We have seen security systems become deeply integrated and more comprehensive, expanding with capabilities that are now shouldering more intelligent tasks to improve efficiency in security as well as other operational functions. And all this is happening across many different industries and types of organizations. As we step into 2023, Hikvision would like to share some insights into seven key trends coming to the fore in the security industry.

AI applications are diversified, requiring more open ecosystems

We have seen more diversified AI products and applications that help solve intricate problems daily and meet customers' fragmented needs. AI's acoustic and textual capabilities are also being explored by the industry, beginning with visual AI. For example, AI-powered audio anomaly detection is being used to detect equipment failures in industrial environments for heightened levels of worker safety. Furthermore, AI technology itself is evolving to the stage of self-learning with training and optimizing itself much faster than supervised learning.

All of these require more ecosystems with open technologies, open resources, and even open protocols, for collaborations in the industry. Open technologies, such as container technology and virtualization technology, have significant potential for our industry, which are making hardware products more open.

AIoT continues to bridge physical and digital worlds

Taking artificial intelligence further, we believe the combination of AI and IoT (AIoT) will continue to be a major trend for 2023, reshaping the scope of the security industry. More AIoT solutions have been introduced that will not only provide intelligent protections but also help advance the efficiency of operations in a multitude of industries and organizations.

AIoT will create an important path for boosting digital transformation across several industries. This can be done by creating a digital twin, bridging the physical and digital worlds. For example, in industrial park management, virtual sites can be created by applying 3D modeling, using VR and AR technologies to represent and reflect the real ones, empowering them with the dynamic insight to act quickly to make the whole site run smoothly.

Visual experiences improve with 24/7 imaging technologies

Capturing security imaging with sharp clarity and color around the clock is a core demand for users of video security, but dim light at night has always been the biggest challenge to achieving this.

Now, with the development of several new imaging technologies, we are seeing these challenges removed. Bi-spectrum image fusion technology that employs two sensors is being used to combine IR and visible-light imaging to reproduce vivid colors in dim lighting conditions. Artificial Intelligence-based image signal processing (AI-ISP) technology leverages deep-learning algorithms to radically improve visual noise reduction for nighttime image optimization.

Perception capabilities extend to a wider range

For security applications, perception capabilities are going far beyond visible light, extending out along the electromagnetic spectrum to expand capabilities of perceiving the physical world in new ways. For instance, hyperspectral imaging technology has been used in analyzing optical irradiance characteristics and eutrophication to record water quality trends in rivers and lakes. In the millimeter-wave band, radar products are assisting the measurement of vehicle speeds and distances. The X-ray band has been applied widely in security inspections, now extending its applications in industrial equipment flaw detection.

And these multi-dimensional perception capabilities also converge to create innovative solutions that can accomplish a multitude of new operations, such as radar assisted video systems for perimeter protection, integration solutions of video and sonar arrays for traffic management, and alarm systems with a wide range of detectors for smart home applications.

More focus on usability of devices and systems

Usability of devices and systems impacts the daily life of security professionals, which has generated more focus now in light of workforce shortages and labor cost increases across our industry. This trend is requiring manufacturers to optimize their products with an easier configuration process, make better use of interactive experiences that will reduce installation time, and lower the costs of equipment maintenance and skill building.

For example, we see more installers preferring to use mobile applications over PCs in device installation and maintenance where that interactive and simplified process comes across best.

The industry moves to greener, lower-carbon operations for sustainability

Trends in green manufacturing and low-carbon initiatives in the security industry are very inspiring. Security manufacturers are rolling out products featuring longer life expectancies, recyclable materials and packaging, and renewable energy usage. Each of these initiatives reduces waste and emissions. For example, the solar-powered camera demand continues to increase due to its well-established effectiveness at using the sun's limitless clean energy.

And in daily manufacturing and operations, more companies in the industry have set medium-to-long-term goals for environmental management, spanning from lower carbon production, efficient energy use, and waste and chemical management, to greener office environments.

Zero Trust continues to become the go-to cybersecurity strategy

Cybersecurity remains a very important and challenging issue for all parties in our industry, as customers and regulators get more concerned about the security of their data and privacy, and have set higher standards and demands on this issue. We see the value in highlighting the idea of Zero Trust for everyone to consider when making cybersecurity strategies.

Zero Trust is a strategic initiative that was developed to prevent data breaches by eliminating the concept of trust from an organization's network architecture. In cybersecurity, trust becomes a vulnerability. Zero Trust is an approach to cybersecurity that dictates our connected systems must "never trust; always verify."

Research shows most state contractors fail cyber security requirements

German video technology manufacturer Dallmeier will be presenting video-based solutions for logistics as a sub-exhibitor at the stand of the Mobility & Logistics cluster at Logimat 2023 in Stuttgart, Germany in April later this year.

Due to the tense cost situation, logistics companies are increasingly looking for economical solutions with which they can manage their processes efficiently. The patented Panomera multifocal sensor cameras will therefore be the focus of Dallmeier's trade fair presentation.

These cameras offer an optimal overall view with any number of detail views in the required image quality according to IEC EN 62676-4, the international standard for video surveillance systems.

Directly from the control centre, logisticians can monitor different areas with ease and in a way that can be used in court. These include warehouses, loading and shipping areas, swap bodies and hazardous crossings. The results might include, improved claims management, enhanced health and safety, and protected employee and customer relations.

At the perimeter, the cameras use AI-based video analytics to classify objects such as people, animals and vehicles, minimising the number of false alarms. Panomera cameras can also reduce the total cost of ownership of video technology by reducing the number of systems, installation points and infrastructure required to monitor large areas and long distances.

With over 300 product variants, the Domera® dome camera range is suitable for many other applications in logistics. Up to 4K resolution provides crisp, clear images and the integrated dual matrix LED ring provides IR/white light to illuminate even the darkest corners.

In addition, the Domera® camera series offers logistics professionals a wide range of AI-based video analytics applications. For example, the AI Loitering Detection App detects people and evaluates their dwell time in a defined sensitive zone. If the dwell time limit is exceeded, the system triggers an alarm and an integrated speaker can be used to automatically ask the person to leave the area.

Dallmeier develops and manufactures all products at its headquarters in Regensburg, Germany. Extensive functions for data protection and data security ensure that logistics companies can operate video solutions in compliance with the GDPR. This includes features such as the so-called four-eyes principle, which means that the pixelation of persons can only be cancelled if, for example, a works council member is also present.

Cohesity Data Cloud 7.0 software release expands data security and management capabilities

Cohesity, a pioneer in data security and management, announces the 7.0 software release of Cohesity Data Cloud. The release provides customers with enhanced cyber resiliency capabilities to help protect and secure data against cyberattacks.

Cohesity is announcing its 7.0 software release as cyberattacks continue to become more sophisticated in nature and customers require a comprehensive cyber resilience strategy to ensure their business stays up and running.

Organisations are seeking to improve their data security and management posture by focusing on a data-centric approach to cyber resilience, including data immutability, data isolation (or cyber vaulting), and near-instant recovery at scale. Cohesity addresses the challenges of today's threat landscape and the need to recover rapidly and confidently.

With Cohesity 7.0, organisations can strengthen cyber resilience by:

Hardening privileged access: Hardened access controls for Cohesity Data Cloud enables even tighter control and management of privileged administrative accounts and protection of access credentials. These controls further increase the difficulty of threat actors tampering with backup data.

New innovative differentiators, like split key capabilities, require multiple people to authenticate for some privileged access to administrative controls. No single administrator has the ability to unilaterally issue privileged commands, thereby helping to protect data from malicious threat actors.

Accelerating ransomware recovery for files and objects: Cohesity, which provides unified file and object services on its platform, is also advancing cyber resilience capabilities with Cohesity SmartFiles. New powerful data lifecycle features are designed to reduce the attack surface for data exfiltration by ensuring data is not retained for longer than necessary, and custom security policies help further secure unstructured data from unauthorised access and attacks.

This new release will also introduce new capabilities for analysing and visualising data utilisation on third party NAS systems. These data insights will help enterprise organisations move data to SmartFiles for secure long-term retention and data immutability, while optimising costs, scale, and performance for their most critical applications.

Reducing attack surface through expanded platform and workload support: To help organisations further reduce their attack surface by consolidating multiple point products, 7.0 adds support for AWS GovCloud for target data and metadata protection.

Additional storage targets for long-term retention, and support for local backup on third-party platforms including Lenovo SR645, HPE DL360 and DL380, Cisco UCS C220M6 AFC and C240 M6, and Dell 740XD for private cloud deployments.

"Organisations are facing significant challenges with managing and securing their data estate across cloud and on-premises, with ransomware and data theft as their number one concern. Protecting and securing data starts before an attack and provides organisations with the ability to mitigate damage from an attack and quickly recover, with minimal impact to the business," said Chris Kent, Vice President, Product and Solutions Marketing, Cohesity.

Chris Kent adds, "Cohesity Data Cloud 7.0 adds a new layer of protection and recovery to organisations' most critical data. We are seeing continual threats facing our customers from external and internal malicious actors, and with these latest enhancements, customers can face these challenges from the start."

As data volumes rapidly grow, simplicity and efficiency in managing, protecting, and recovering unstructured and disparate data can help enable faster recovery from outages and malicious attacks. Extended coverage allows organisations to simplify data resiliency with a platform that scales to support their diverse heterogeneous environments.

"As the threat of cyber attack persists, one of our top priorities at Path Forward IT is up-leveling our cyber resilience and assurance to ensure our data and systems are well-guarded against threats like ransomware," said Adam Brock, Senior Director, Backup and Recovery at Path Forward IT.

Adam Brock adds, "Cohesity 7.0 will help us bridge end-to-end protection with capabilities that allow for rapid recovery and business continuity so our customers can resume business as usual in the event of cyber attack."

"Companies are looking for simple and effective ways to improve data security and support cyber resilience goals. Given the rapid increase in the number of crippling ransomware attacks, it's imperative that enterprises not only have strong protection against external threats, but also prioritise internal vulnerabilities as well," said Senior Strategist and Analyst, Randy Kerns, Evaluator Group.

He adds, "With Cohesity's 7.0 software release, Cohesity's split key and KMS auto-failover capabilities are some of the many cyber resilience solutions Cohesity is adding to its portfolio to provide its customers and partners with a comprehensive strategy to protect data against cyberattacks."

Critical research seeks to devise security for quantum technology

The security of digital identities is threatened by future quantum technologies. In the hands of attackers, quantum computers will be able to break classical encryption methods. To fend off such attacks, four partners have launched the Quant-ID project. In this project, they are researching the development of novel methods and systems that guarantee cryptographic security in the long term based on quantum random numbers and post-quantum cryptography.

The goal is to enable highly critical areas, such as government institutions, banks or insurance companies, to receive the necessary protection. The BMBF-funded project started in September 2022 and will run for three years.

In order to achieve greater acceptance for the digitisation of services and business processes in society, user-friendly, reliable and privacy-protecting procedures must be established. In the project "Secure Quantum Communication for Critical Identity Access Management Infrastructures (Quant-ID)", Quant-X Security & Coding GmbH, the Fraunhofer Institute for Photonic Microsystems IPMS, MTG AG and the University of Regensburg are jointly researching reliable digital identities.

The use of currently used network protocols is intended to facilitate the transition from classical encryption algorithms to quantum-safe methods. Deviating from the original physical term, quantum security here refers to protection against attacks by quantum computers.

Post-quantum cryptography (PQC) refers to cryptographic algorithms that are used on classical hardware but promise security against attacks with quantum computers. In the project, the true random numbers required for these methods will be generated by a quantum random number generator (QRNG) to increase security. "In addition, we also want to secure network communication, signatures and database encryption using post-quantum cryptography," said Dr. Alexander Noack.

Another goal of the joint project is to develop a quantum-safe "single sign-on" approach that enables access to various services with a single central login. At the end of the project, the digital identities and quantum-safe authorisation will be tested in a demonstrator in a realistic application using existing network protocols.

In the process, the capabilities of the developed system will be compared with classical methods. The results of the subprojects will also be applicable on a modular basis. This offers network administrators and system managers the option of integrating either the entire system or only partial aspects.

By developing the concept in Germany, sovereignty regarding the security of national information technology systems will be strengthened. This results in a particularly high market potential for the project solution in highly sensitive areas and critical infrastructures such as in the area of banks, insurance companies, companies in the healthcare sector as well as public authorities and state institutions.

These players in particular are dependent on meeting high security standards, as they are often exposed to increasingly complex attack structures. To support the application of the quantum random number generator, certification by the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) is also being sought.

The consortium's motivation is to build up an interdisciplinary project team, to establish partnerships in Germany for overall solutions and to make safeguarding technologies against attacks by quantum computers accessible to everyone. "With this project, we want to create the basis for interdisciplinary collaborations for the efficient realisation of quantum security in Germany " says the Fraunhofer IPMS group leader. The resulting quantum-safe version of Open ID Connect will be made available to the public for low cost as an open-source library.

Partnering with **Kawach**
will always be a BRIGHT idea

KAWACH
PROTECTION SYSTEMS
Excellence on Guard

SECURITY SOLUTIONS FOR HOMES & BUSINESSES

Established in 1983, Kawach has been the most trusted source of highly efficient and dependable electronic protection solutions for thousands of end users across India. As a Master Distributor of Jablotron, the world`s leading European manufacturer of high quality intruder alarm systems, Kawach has access to the latest technological innovations. We provide a full range of wired and wireless alarms with GSM/LAN communicators, central monitoring stations, comprehensive training and support to our business partners.

JABLOTRON CREATING ALARMS

Security & Safety | Reliability | Quality | Dependability
European Made | Peace of Mind | 24x7 Surveillance | After Sales Support

JA-100. The addressable 4 wire alarm system range

Complete solutions for Intrusion Detection & Alarm Systems
When it comes to making a choice of technologies and devices to protect life and assets, we uncompromisingly leverage our 33 years of hands-on experience to suggest the best technology, field proven devices that fit within the assigned budget. Our arsenal comprises of military grade systems to simple home and personal security systems.

Call today to schedule a training, see a live demo or to place an order...

"Security House"
24-B Udyog Vihar - V, Gurgaon-122016, India
Tel: +91 - 124 - 4001111 | E-mail: info@kawach.com
Web: www.kawach.com

INDUSTRY EVENTS ▶

JAPAN
28 February - 03 March 2023
International Safety & Security Product Expo -Security Show 2023
Tokyo Big Sight
Tokyo Japan
https://messe.nikkei.co.jp/en/ss

RUSSIA
01-04 March 2023
SecureExpo 2023
Ekspograd-Yug
Krasnodar
Russia
http://www.securexpo.ru/en-GB/

INDIA
02-05 March 2023
PACC 2023
Grand Hyatt Kochi
Bolgatty, Kerala
India
https://fsai.in/

NORWAY
08-09 March 2023
Sectech
Norges Varemesse
Lillestrøm Norway

http://www.securityworldmarket.com/sectech/no/index.asp

UK
14-16 March 2023
Security & Policing 2023
Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre, Farnborough, United Kingdom
https://www.securityandpolicing.co.uk/

INDIA
27-29 March 2023
8th Smart Cities India 2023 Expo
Pragati Maidan
New Delhi India
http://www.smartcitiesindia.com/

USA
28-31 March 2023
ISC WEST
Venetian Expo
Las Vegas
USA
https://www.iscwest.com

KOREA
29-31 March 2023
Secon 2023
Korea International Exhibition Centre - Kintex
Seoul Korea
http://www.seconexpo.com/2020/eng/main.asp

RUSSIA
11-14 April 2023
Securika Moscow 2023
Crocus Expo International Exhibition Centre
Moscow Russia
https://securika-moscow.ru/Home?culture=en-GB

UK
25-27 April 2023
The Security Event
N.E.C.
Birmingham
U.K.
https://www.thesecurityevent.co.uk/

UK
25-27 April 2023
The Fire Safety Event 2023
N.E.C.
Birmingham
U.K.
https://www.firesafetyevent.com/exhibitors/fireco

NIGERIA
09-11 May 2023
Securex West Africa 2023
THE LANDMARK CENTRE, LAGOS
Nigeria
https://www.securexwestafrica.com

UK
16-18 May 2023
International Firex
ExCeL London,
London
United Kingdom
http://www.firex.co.uk/

INDIA
18-20 May 2023
SAFE West India Expo
Bombay Exhibition Centre
Mumbai, India

https://www.safeindiaexpo.com/eng/main.asp

NETHERLANDS
21-23 May 2023
ASIS Europe 2023
Rotterdam
NL

http://www.asiseurope.org

USA
05-08 June 2023
ESX Electronic Security Expo
Kentucky International Convention Center
Louisville, KY
USA
https://www.esxweb.com/

SOUTH AFRICA
06-08 June 2023
Securex South Africa 2023
Gallagher Convention Centre
South Africa

http://www.ifsecsa.com/

UK
20-22 June 2023
Infosecurity Europe
Excel
London
United Kingdom
http://www.infosec.co.uk/

INDIA
06-07 July 2023
SAFE South India
Chennai Trade Centre
Chennai
India
https://www.safeindiaexpo.com

INDIA
26-27 July 2023
International Police Expo 2023
Pragati Maidan
New Delhi
India
www.internationalpoliceexpo.com/

INDIA
24-26 August 2023
6th Edition FSIE 2023
Jio World Convention Centre
Mumbai
India
www.fsie.in