



SUCCESS STORY

Smile – You're Breaking in on Camera!

Thief caught by Axis network video technology

The mission

- Frustrated by earlier break-ins, Milestone wanted to capture visual evidence of intruders in their offices.

The solution

- Running their own Milestone PRO Surveillance software on a local computer, Milestone deployed an AXIS 2401 Video Server connected to a standard analog camera on their intranet network.

The result

- High-quality JPEG images of the theft were recorded and distributed over the corporate network to a remote computer.
- Still images taken from the recorded video sequence clearly identified the intruder.
- Pictures of the intruder were published on the official Website of the Danish Police.
- Public exposure over the Internet provided an expedient intruder confession.
- Proven cost-effective and easy surveillance solution that utilizes existing network infrastructure.



The customer

Milestone Systems ApS is a financially independent Danish held IT company specializing in digital surveillance software.

"...in combination with our software, Axis' cameras and video server products make for a very powerful and competitive video surveillance package that's packed with great features not found in any competitive system on the market today..."

"... Solutions based on Axis' digital camera technology is right for the surveillance market and show the way for an industry that's moving forward rapidly..."

Henrik Jacobsen – Director,
Milestone Software

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COMMUNICATIONS

Frustrated by earlier break-ins

Frustrated by a spate of earlier break-ins at their headquarters in Copenhagen, Milestone Systems Aps recently decided to get tough with intruders by combining the full power of Axis' video server technology with their very own video surveillance software to catch a thief.

Digital evidence

Unbeknown to the unfortunate intruder, who allegedly forced his way into the premises by breaking a window, the technicians at Milestone had earlier deployed an AXIS 2401 Video Server with a standard analog camera on their intranet network.

Running their very own Milestone PRO Surveillance software on a local computer in their office, the software's built-in video motion detection initiated a visual recording of the theft. The live video stream was automatically transmitted from the AXIS 2401 Video Server and stored directly on the computer's hard disk over the network.

The digital evidence (image shown on facing page) was subsequently presented to the local police, who published the pictures of the unwitting thief on their Website — along with an invitation for anyone recognizing the intruder to come forward.

The pressure of becoming an infamous celebrity on the official Web site of the Danish police proved too much for the hapless intruder, who after just a few short days turned himself in and confessed to the crime.

The Danish Police were impressed with the high quality and sharpness of the digital images they received from Milestone and particularly pleased that, with this system, they did not need to edit video tape evidence to capture still images of the intruder. The Milestone software creates AVI video files that are playable on most personal computers, and allows easy export of still images in JPEG image format.

Utilizing network redundancy

The majority of corporate break-ins occur at night, when staff have all gone home for the evening and the office network is virtually idle. So the ideal security surveillance solution is one that utilizes the redundancy in the corporate network — rather than meters and meters of coaxial cabling.

Henrik Jacobsen, Managing Director at Milestone, is convinced of both the technical and commercial value of the Axis video products on which their surveillance software is based. However, he is also aware of the need to challenge the traditional technical precepts surrounding the CCTV industry and emphasize the need to educate the market about the benefits of network camera technology:

- From the feedback we receive from many of our resellers we know that in combination with our software, Axis' cameras and video server products make for a very powerful and competitive video surveillance package that's full of great features not found in any competitive system on the market today. Solutions based on Axis' digital camera technology is right for the surveillance market and show the way for an industry that's moving forward rapidly. However, our biggest problem today is that a vast majority of potential customers are unaware that this type of solution and camera technology is available — and very affordable. They usually get very excited when we tell them about it!

- As traditional CCTV solutions demand every single system camera to be connected using very complex coaxial cabling, it's often the cables and not the cameras that represent the major cost of installing an effective surveillance system.

This attempted theft demonstrates that for a comparatively small cost, commercial organizations can utilize off-peak network bandwidth by using Axis network video technology for surveillance imaging. In corporate environments, the communications infrastructure already exists in the network — so, it's just a question of utilization, explained Henrik.

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