



Network cameras in and around your home

Even though they are predominantly used for monitoring and securing business premises, network cameras, also known as Internet Protocol (IP) cameras, have an important role to play in home security. Here are some of the considerations that make IP surveillance systems suitable for private home surveillance.

LOWER TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP

Private home owners don't always have the capital that corporate users do, making affordability one of their main concerns when it comes to choosing a home surveillance system. A recent study showed that an IP-based system offers a lower total cost of ownership (TCO) than a similarly sized analogue-based surveillance system.

REMOTE ACCESSIBILITY

Through IP video solutions, it is possible to remotely access a camera over the Internet and view the footage it is capturing from anywhere in the world where there is Internet connectivity, something that is not possible with analogue systems. Whether you are at work or on holiday, you will always have the peace of mind of knowing what is happening in and around your house.

SIMPLER STORAGE

IP video surveillance practically brought an end to the use of video cassettes as a medium for saving footage captured on surveillance cameras. For the home user, this is good news, as they no longer have to make provisions for storage space to keep their surveillance footage. Footage from IP surveillance cameras can now be stored on PCs, making it easier to manage and upgrade the system if necessary.

INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS

IP video surveillance solutions have reached a level of intelligence that would, not so long ago, have been thought to be improbable. Active Tampering Alarm enables the detection of disrupted camera operations by automatically alerting the user when a camera is re-directed, blocked or manipulated.

IMAGE QUALITY

Image quality is arguably one of the most important features of any camera. IP cameras have far surpassed analogue cameras with regards to the quality of images produced. Analogue cameras are limited by the 0,4 megapixel resolution of NTSC/PAL standards, while IP cameras, even entry-level models, can easily surpass this.

INTEGRATION

Those already running analogue surveillance systems do not have to despair. By adding a video server, analogue cameras that are already installed can be incorporated into an IP-surveillance network, enabling users to reap the benefits of an IP system. ■

Roy Alves, country manager, Axis Communications