

AXIS M1011 NETWORK CAMERA

SMART, HIGH-QUALITY IP VIDEO

BY THEO BOSHOFF

CCTVs, eat your heart out. Today's video surveillance and monitoring tool of choice is a tiny little computer that happens to have a camera, wired and wireless network points and power hanging off it. In short, it's something like Axis's new M1031-W wireless network camera. This little unit connects to your existing LAN via wired or 802.11 WiFi and can configure itself to accept a spare address if you have DHCP. Log in via a web browser, set the root password and you can keep an eye on anything you like. The M1031 has an infrared motion detection sensor, automatic recording and streaming facilities and offers H264 video quality for the frame-rate-savvy. The default

motion JPEG works with any browser via push but you have a wide choice, including mobile-friendly options – just the thing to have sent to your cellphone if necessary. Event triggering is easy to set up through the web-based menu: select a type of event (such as motion detection, for example), then isolate the part of the image you want to keep an eye on. Additional users can be added easily and the camera can send video clips or images to configurable FTP or HTTP servers – or to your e-mail inbox. There are enormous advantages to having a surveillance solution that can connect to your LAN. Cat-5 cable is easy to lay, wireless is even easier and monitoring from

a web browser makes remote access via technologies like cellular convenient and not just possible. This model is an indoors-only one though: stick it outside and the sun will burn the sensor. But if you are inside, it's a flexible little unit that can catch crooks, keep track of employees or just provide an accurate video record of what's been happening elsewhere.

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IN SUMMARY

Digital Life says: You can't go wrong with this little camera

Plus: Excellent video quality; easy setup; IR motion detection

Minus: Picky IP address assignment

Contact: Roy Alves, Axis South Africa

Price: R2 550

[SPECIFICATIONS]

Resolution: 160x120 to 640x480 at 30fps

Codecs: H264/MPEG-4, Mobile, MJPEG

Lens: 4.4mm f2.0 fixed focus

Network: 10/100 Ethernet and 802.11b/g WiFi; built-in web server, ftp server microphone, IR sensor; configurable events and motion detection; audio and video streaming