

New revenue stream?

Axis Communications says it is providing a new revenue stream opportunity for security companies, alarm operators and Internet service providers.

Monitoring a business or home from anywhere in South Africa or the world using a device such as a laptop, desktop or mobile phone, is one of the many benefits of shifting from analogue to digital video surveillance.

Axis Communications has expanded this functionality with its Axis Video Hosting System (AVHS) software, providing a service provider-specific portal to manage video monitoring over the Internet. "This solution allows security companies, alarm operators and Internet service providers to establish a recurring revenue stream," says Roy Alves, country manager, Axis

Communications South Africa. "By adding Internet-based video surveillance to their service offering, it will establish closer relations with existing customers and at the same time broaden the potential customer base and competitive advantage."

The AVHS software provides the following benefits to a reseller and end user:

- *Software ease of use*
The software is developed with the focus on ease-of-use and intuitive handling.
- *Capability of the system*
The system is easily scalable. The number of sites and camera installations are limited only by disk space, bandwidth and system configuration. This allows for easy administration of multiple user accounts and permission levels and user-specific camera settings.

- *Bandwidth requirements*
Support for H.264 video compression significantly reduces the Internet bandwidth requirements of the system, without compromising image quality. To save on bandwidth and storage space, the software supports scheduled and event-driven recordings initiated by motion or external inputs, while event notifications can be received via e-mail, SMS or MMS.
- *Search and navigation capabilities*
AVHS includes recording search functions with calendar visualisation and export functionality, and navigation tools that provide quick access to cameras and recordings. The system also supports control of PTZ (pan/tilt/zoom) cameras.