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Schools turn to technology for security

At the height of school violence, South African schools are turning to technology, particularly Internet Protocol (IP) video surveillance to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Previously seen to be the sole domain of the corporate world, video surveillance has proliferated into numerous other areas of society like the school system.

“Video surveillance solutions gained their appeal from schools because of their ability to deter unacceptable behavior,” says Roy Alves, country manager of Axis Communications, a specialist in IP video surveillance solutions. “People are less likely to act in an unbecoming manner when they know they are being monitored. This applies to both adults and children.”

A number of schools in South Africa have already adopted IP video surveillance solutions to strengthen their existing security measures. Their choice of IP surveillance in particular is motivated by the added benefits that are available only in IP-based surveillance solutions such as Active Tampering Alarm, which notifies the head of security when a camera’s normal operation has been tampered with. This could be instances where the camera’s field of view has been redirected, or when the lens is spray painted, or even if the camera is damaged. Other benefits include remote access over the Internet and high quality images which help in identifying culprits when caught on camera.

For parents, knowing that their children are safe during the six to seven hours they spend at school is a great relief, enabling them to concentrate on doing their job. “For even greater peace of mind, and with the school’s permission, parents with access to the Internet can remotely logon to the IP surveillance system at the school and see what their kids are getting up to.”

“The trend is sure to pick up as we are getting more enquiries from schools on video surveillance solutions and seeing more and more schools installing such solutions,” says Alves.

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Notes to editors

¹ Axis Communications is the global market leader in the network video market with a market share of network cameras of 32%. The world market for network cameras alone will be worth more than \$1 Billion by 2009. The network camera market is set to have a CAGR of more than 40 per cent per year over the next three years to reach a value of \$1.5 billion by 2010, according to industry analyst house IMS Research



(www.imsresearch.com) in its latest market report entitled 'The World Market for CCTV and Video Surveillance Equipment 2007 Edition' published in December 2007.

About Axis

Axis is an IT company offering network video solutions for professional installations. The company is the global market leader in network video, driving the ongoing shift from analogue to digital video surveillance. Axis products and solutions focus on security surveillance and remote monitoring and are based on innovative, open technology platforms.

Axis is a Swedish-based company, operating worldwide with offices in more than 20 countries and cooperating with partners in more than 70 countries. Founded in 1984, Axis is listed on OMX Nordic Exchange under the ticker AXIS. For more information about Axis, please visit our website at www.axis.com.

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