

Chelmsford, Mass., September 13, 2016

Axis celebrates 20 years of network video cameras, the first step that launched the IoT revolution in the security industry

Axis Communications is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the world's first network video camera, a true Internet of Things device introduced in 1996 that laid the foundation for an industry shift from analog to IP-based video surveillance.

AXIS NetEye 200 was the world's first network video camera to connect directly to the Internet or an intranet, an extension of Axis Communications' original focus of connecting printers, and then optical storage devices, to networks. At the time, Axis had pioneered what it called 'ThinServer' technology, which drove a shift away from mainframe computers by utilizing more flexible, lightweight servers and was to become the enabling concept behind the Internet of Things (IoT).

Axis' history in developing network solutions for security has expanded beyond cameras and now includes other IP-based products including physical access control, an IP-based video door station and network audio devices. The underlying concept of connecting everything to the network ties back to Axis' original roots and has established it as a leader in the emerging IoT segment.

"Looking back over twenty years, we are proud that our original vision of connected devices and smarter networks for a wide range of applications has taken hold in such a broad way," said Martin Gren, who along with Mikael Karlsson and Keith Bloodworth, founded Axis Communications in 1984. "Little did we know in 1996 that IoT would take off like it has, but are gratified of the role we played as one of the pioneers in this area, especially for security purposes where we have accelerated the shift from analog to digital solutions. It gives us great confidence in how Axis will continue to add value and innovation for the future of connected devices and for making the world a smarter, safer place."

The first network video camera delivered 1 frame/17 seconds in normal resolution, or 1 fps in CIF resolution. It went on to win several industry awards and laid the foundation for a long litany of innovative network video cameras, encoders and physical access control devices pioneered by Axis Communications. AXIS NetEye 200 served as the first step toward the company's current industry-leading position as the world's top supplier of IP-based security solutions, which included milestone introductions such as the security industry's first HDTV network camera and first thermal network camera that helped accelerate the move from analog to digital video in the security market.

"I am privileged to have been at Axis since 1996, to have worked closely with the founders of this Company and to have watched it grow into what it has become," said Fredrik Nilsson, VP,

Americas, Axis Communications, Inc. “I look forward to seeing what the next 20 years of innovations holds for Axis Communications.”

Within ten years of the introduction of the first network video camera, Axis had reached the one million milestone in network cameras installed worldwide. Today, Axis offers more than 200 network camera models for every need. It has added innovative features for a full scope of high-resolution performance, analytics, mobile monitoring and cloud-based implementations, adding powerful and smart features that have fueled global growth and adoption.

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About Axis Communications

Axis offers intelligent security solutions that enable a smarter, safer world. As the market leader in network video, Axis is driving the industry by continually launching innovative network products based on an open platform - delivering high value to customers through a global partner network. Axis has long-term relationships with partners and provides them with knowledge and ground-breaking network products in existing and new markets.

Axis has more than 2,100 dedicated employees in more than 50 countries around the world, supported by a global network of over 80,000 partners. Founded in 1984, Axis is a Sweden-based company listed on NASDAQ Stockholm under the ticker AXIS. For more information about Axis, please visit our website www.axis.com.

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