

Public Safety



The Challenge

Over the past decade, the reliance on video in the public safety arena has dramatically increased. Several factors are involved, including limited staffing, tighter budgets, and the need to provide an objective record of events.

Digital and network innovations have created the possibility for faster incident identification, investigation, response, and resolution. However, traditional analog CCTV surveillance systems are limited in their ability to scale in size, include video from remote and mobile locations, and provide access to authorized users in the field and remote locations.

Thus, the challenge becomes how to take advantage of new innovations, use video to enhance situational awareness, and foster greater collaborative communications. Solutions must address the analog system limitations in the most effective and efficient manner, and be easily deployed.

Applications



Field Communications

The Cisco Video Surveillance Software Suite manages video from a wide range of third-party IP or encoders connected to analog camera over a private or public IP network. Unlike analog matrix switch-based CCTV infrastructures, any number of cameras can be easily added and managed by the Cisco software suite that works with IP network switches and routers. Wired and wireless fixed and PTZ video cameras located throughout a city (on roadways, transit stations, mobile buses, rail cars, or police cars) can stream live video from incidents back to central and remote command centers. Users can be authorized to receive live or recorded video feeds from other locations, enabling greater collaboration and faster response to a given event. Personnel in the field can have more information at hand to make time-critical decisions, and supervisory personnel can monitor safety and policy compliance and dispatch additional resources as required.



Command Center Management

Video from any camera can be directed to any monitor or a video wall in a command center or archived in a central or remote location. With user rights and authentication management features, authorized officials can securely access live or recorded video over the network to monitor critical incidents or perform investigations using a PC with a Web browser. Cisco's proven video server software technology also scales to handle thousands of video streams and simultaneous users from different locations. Thus, appropriate expertise can be brought into any field situation in real time.

The Solution

A proven solution deployed today by various municipalities and law enforcement operations, the Cisco® Video Surveillance Software Suite provides central and remote command centers and mobile field assets with policy-based access to live and archived video. Using advances in digital and IP standards-based network technology, Cisco provides a solution to help improve public safety in a highly scalable and reliable manner to support hundreds to thousands of video cameras that can be viewed from anywhere your public safety network goes. Moreover, Cisco video surveillance software solutions cost-effectively work with your existing analog camera deployments and flexibly support new IP-based cameras.

Supported on reliable Linux-based common off-the-shelf (COTS) server hardware, Cisco video surveillance software can be deployed in numerous applications, including as part of an integrated mobile communications platform. The Cisco solution is interoperable with several third-party video analytics tools and can be integrated with other command and control applications for highly customized deployments. As a result, video can be easily shared between mobile assets (such as buses or trains), police cars, police headquarters, public and private facilities, and other authorized users. Field communications are improved, and critical incidents can be easily documented to help ensure the safety of people and protection of assets.

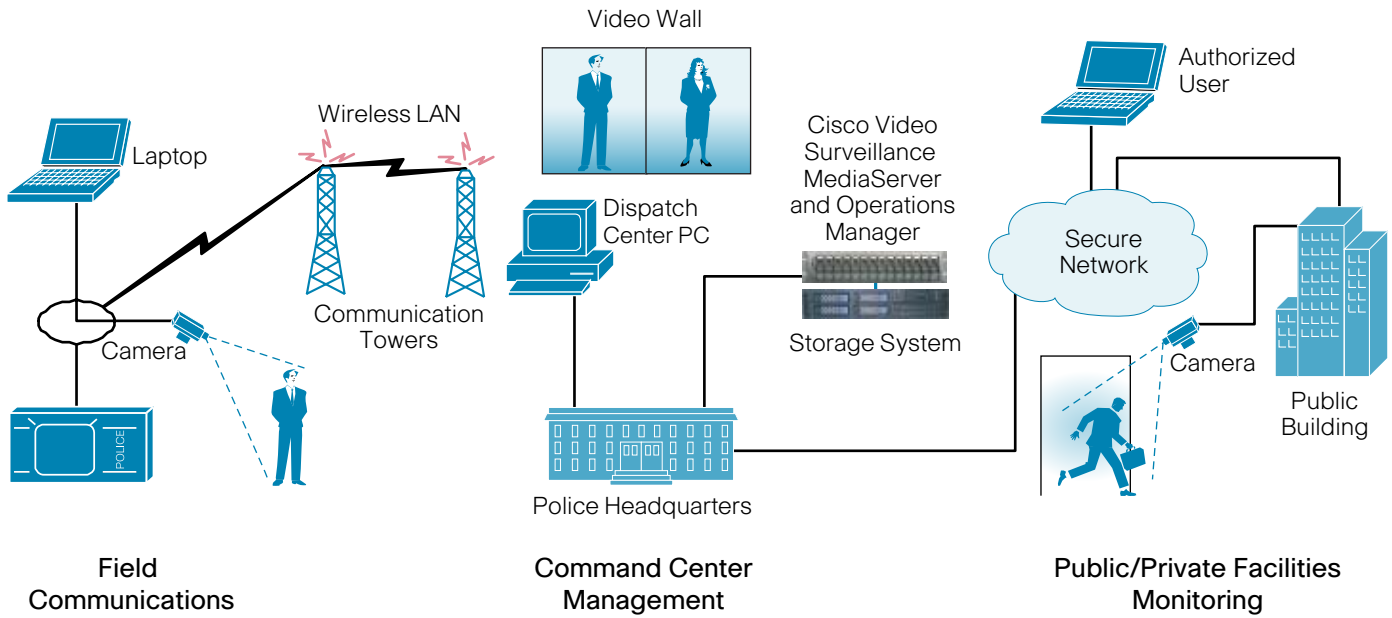


Private and Public Facility Monitoring

The Cisco software suite uses industry standards to interoperate with other IP-based video systems. This capability allows law enforcement and public safety officials to access, control, and record video from any participating private or public organization, which can include traffic management systems, schools, banks, retailers, parking structures, stadiums, and parks.

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Configuration



Features and Benefits

Features	Benefits
Scalable architecture	Scales to thousands of cameras, viewers, and archives
HTTP-based API	Easy to integrate with existing and complementary technologies to enable customized system deployment
Low latency	Generates real-time view and control
Redundant archives	Flexible archiving of video at multiple locations, frame rates, and durations
Event-trigger support	Integrates with alarm, process control, and other systems
Dynamic file allocation	Optimizes disk usage for stored video
Bandwidth management capability	Provides bandwidth restrictions to complement network capacity
Browser-based viewing	Allows viewing by any authorized user with customized user interfaces
Open interface standards	Expands to incorporate new codecs, camera controls, biometrics, and other systems