Safe, secure, sustainable workplace

Driving improved security system performance and greater resilience

Migration to new technology will result in improved intelligence and information, enhanced shared video services, greater manpower efficiencies, lower maintenance costs and a safer business environment.

Why migrate?
As security and video technologies age, the risk of failure increases and the potential impact on your business could be high. Furthermore, older technology requires greater engineering support which could result in rising maintenance costs. Importantly, your organisation is not benefiting from the major advances in software development in recent years.

An upgrade will mean removing the potential for future high capital costs and delivering better cost certainty. Furthermore, it lessens the potential risk of outdated critical systems and provides lower lifecycle costs, as new technology reduces engineering manpower and offers the potential for remote servicing. Operatives will find new technology much more responsive and user friendly, enabling you to benefit from improved situational awareness and greater staff efficiencies.

Siemens' commitment is to review your existing security systems and devices with a view to keeping viable technologies, whilst upgrading the systems to a new IP management platform to deliver a greater level of intelligence and system functionality. Potential options for migration include:

- Keeping existing analogue technology and cabling, just replacing system elements to deliver improved images, features and reliability
- Replacing the management platform to take advantage of integration, improved operational procedures, and situational awareness
- Moving to IP technology with a new management platform and IP-enabled devices to provide better camera performance, enhanced analytics and data handling

Why migrate the management platform?
Modern software platforms enable greater system functionality and multiple integrations to field security devices, including legacy systems, to deliver full protection of assets and a safe working environment. Siveillance VMS from Siemens is a powerful, open IP video management software platform, capable of scaling from small to large, complex deployments. The outcome is the improved assessment, management and resolution of critical situations, the efficient distribution of vital data and more effective co-ordination of resources.

Instant access anywhere with secure connectivity
Incidents can be viewed and played back on smartphones and tablets so authorised users can access video from any location at any time of the day, enabling security personnel to create and watch video exports on-the-go and take immediate action. An add-on feature is 'video push' that allows users to stream live video from a mobile device directly into the Siveillance VMS platform and GPS positioning will automatically locate the 'pushed' video, using secure and encrypted communication protocols.

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Increase protection whilst reducing revenue costs

Cost savings in video storage

The infrastructure required for video storage can represent a significant cost in most video surveillance installations. Siveillance VMS offers a unique multi-stage video storage mechanism, allowing video data to be archived to different storage locations based on time schedules.

Furthermore, data pruning, which means moving data at regular intervals, will reduce storage space needs and different storage policies can even be defined for different cameras. It enables more cost effective storage as users can harness existing investments in storage devices.

Edge storage makes use of SD cards or small storage boxes at camera locations to enable distributed storage or back up in the event of network downtime. Automatic, scheduled or manual retrieval ensures there are no gaps in coverage and enables easy access to video evidence.

High performance system components

All Siveillance VMS system components run on the latest operating platforms, which enable better system scaling, and optimal use of the available system resources. This means Siveillance VMS will operate significantly more cameras per recording server unit, reducing hardware costs, system footprint, power and cooling needs and increasing the flexibility for system extensions.

Why migrate the CCTV cameras?

IP cameras and IP network systems improve the way surveillance video is captured, processed and stored. An upgrade to IP cameras significantly improves image quality and picture resolution, resulting in much greater accuracy and detailed identification. Moreover, they present a wider field of view, providing greater coverage, and offer digital zoom to further enhance the picture.

IP cameras offer greater intelligence as they can, for instance, deliver multiple analytics rules such as people counting, loitering, object removed, idle object, heat mapping, queue management, audio analytics and filters for speed, size, direction and colour. This facility offers valuable business intelligence to the rest of the organisation.

Furthermore, sharing video across departments can offer greater insights into customer behaviour, the needs of personnel and contractors, and the monitoring of site activities to provide a clearer overview of the company's operational performance.

Analogue video requires encoding to make it compatible with an IP management platform and although this is perfectly acceptable, it does not compare with the higher resolutions and advanced features now commonly found with IP cameras.

An IT network utilised for video has clear advantage when it comes to adding new video cameras as IP cameras connect directly to the network, making it much simpler to add further devices. Traditional analogue-based CCTV uses a fixed video matrix with finite inputs and outputs, meaning less flexibility for expanding and accommodating new features. A networked solution creates a 'virtual matrix' with the potential for limitless cameras and viewing options from anywhere across the network.

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Video Client

Web Client

Mobile Client
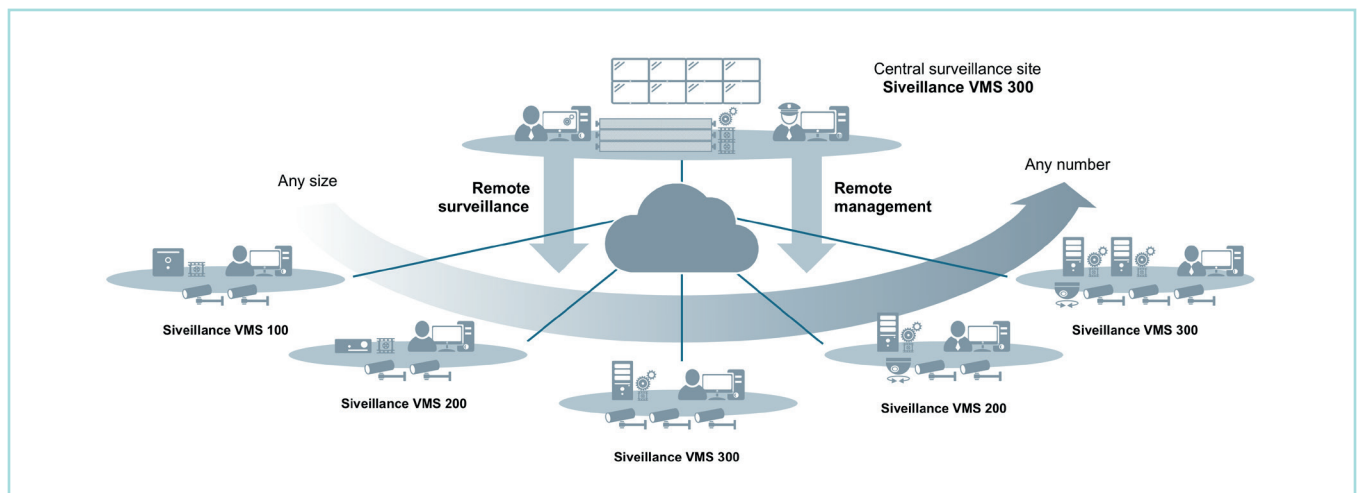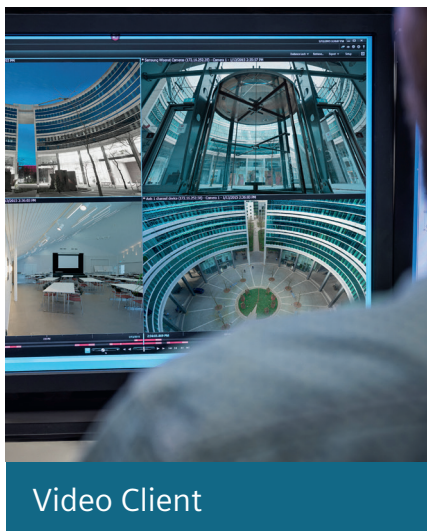
Why migrate the access control?

Traditional access control can also be migrated to IP-based systems. New communication protocols help to promote greater integration capabilities and new IP controllers can support communication between legacy equipment and open IP access control software to harness existing investments. The scalability of IP means users can add access points seamlessly and take advantage of affordable, flexible, open platform systems that secure and protect physical identity and manage access, compliance and risk.

Import and migration tools simplify the transition of cardholder information and databases onto the new IP system. With an open IP access control system, organisations can start by replacing only the controllers then convert specific doors, or buildings to newer IP-enabled readers. Integrating access control with the security management platform will ensure visibility of access control related alarms and enable the viewing of live video from cameras at key access points. The credentials of an individual traversing an access point can be automatically matched with their ID photo for further verification.

Taking the next step

Migration to IP systems can either be designed as a single upgrade project, or it can be planned via a technology roadmap over time to reflect the needs of the business and budget availability.

Critical to success is the migration path which ensures high system availability throughout the change-out programme and is designed to incorporate interoperability between the existing and new technology portfolios. This enables both security and video system availability and low disruption during system change-out.

As new advancements in technologies, open protocols, and system design strategies continue to evolve, Siemens migration methodologies can be adapted to meet the individual needs of customers, enabling different approaches to meet customer delivery and budget availability.

Alternative financing

To create long term resilience, security and video solutions can be delivered as a managed service, incorporating technology, servicing, migration and

upgrades into a single performance-driven contract over a fixed period of years. Fixed instalments facilitate budget planning and can release cash that can be directed at other business activities. The contract ensures all technology is fully maintained, and system functionality and reliability remain constant over a period of years, against rigorous key performance indicators.

Siemens works closely with customers to gain a deeper insight into their security and safety requirements, to identify strategic long term objectives and a defined common purpose that incorporates risk assessment, potential cost savings and performance targets.

About Siemens Building Technologies

We are a leading provider of critical life safety fire and security solutions and building energy management systems. With a 76-year pedigree, we assist our customers in managing and maintaining a culture of security, adhering to stringent health and safety regulations and understanding the importance of achieving green credentials. We are committed to working to the highest standards and offer full lifecycle support for our systems and technologies.

Securing the future

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