



Indian Computer Emergency Response Team

Department of Information Technology
Ministry of Communications & Information Technology
(Government of India)



CCAOI

Representing the ecosystem of Internet - Bharat Model

Security Newsletter

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As internet is becoming an integral part of our lives, it is important that we are aware of the threats we face in the Cyberspace. The need of the hour is to be aware and adequately equipped to protect ourselves online.

*Keeping this in view, with the support of **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Certin), Department of Information Technology, VeriSign India and Sify Technologies Ltd.** we are releasing the sixth edition of our **fortnightly Security Newsletter** where we discuss **IP Surveillance in Enterprises and Safety Measures for Social Networking.***

IP Surveillance: Mitigating the Human Error Element

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Enterprises carrying data for both self and client partners have to deal with the twin measures of robustness and security. In this article we, will deal with the issue of firewalling human error using IP surveillance.

Why should Enterprises go for IP surveillance?

Pros: IP surveillance allows for low cost continuous monitoring of a landscape. If there are motion sensitive cameras, then the footage is controlled, size of data is optimized. Hence, it is more economical to do IP surveillance.

Cons: Since the inputs is digital it could be possible to spoof this data between the camera and destination.

What kind of security needs can be managed through it?

Some level for intruder detection can be managed using surveillance. E.g., An area where no moving body is expected, witness a moving body, with some intelligence can trigger alerts for ratification and thus avoid security exploits.

How is India market doing for Enterprise IP surveillance? What are the expectations for growth?

The ATM centres are under such surveillance and it has helped police nab a few 'unfortunate' bad guys. Likewise, in 26/11 and other similar operations IP surveillance is useful in know what is happening.

What are the cost advantages of IP surveillance cameras?

Typically, these cameras are cheaper. They would not need external power.

What are the potential disadvantages of IP cameras in comparison to analog CCTV cameras?

It is possible to inject data into the system. This would defeat the purpose of surveillance. In analog CCTV cameras this would be tad difficult.

IP surveillance is not a fool proof security measure as it can also be hacked. Is there an additional security measure to be adopted?

Adding device authentication could mitigate this problem. So, at the server end know a priori that the input is from an authentic (trusted) device.

Safe Social Networking

Social networking online though not even two decades old, has taken the world by storm, with millions accessing such sites each minute. The success of social networking sites lie in the convenience and ease it provides the user to communicate and share their views, ideas and information instantaneously with a large audience, thus bringing people and communities together. These sites today are also used for trade.

Despite all the people centric features, as the popularity of these social sites are growing, so also is the risks of using them. Many frauds, criminals, pedophiles, hackers use such sites to harm people especially children. All this makes it critical to share the safety precautions with the users to make their usage of social networking sites safe and secure

Sharing a few tips which can help you protect yourself while using social networking sites

- Be very careful and always evaluate the site and understand the privacy policy of the social networking site before joining.
- To avoid fake sites and phishing, always type in the address of your social networking site directly into your browser and be cautious of which link you click in the site
- Be very sure what personal information you have posted online. If the site allows, make up your own password questions, and do not draw them from material anyone could find with a quick search.
- Be selective about whom you accept as a friend on a social network, as there might be Identity thieves with fake profiles trying to gather information from you.
- Be careful on what you post in the social networking site .Assume that everything you post on the site is permanent. .
- Do not trust that a message is really from who it says it's from. Hackers can break into accounts and send messages that look like they are from your friends, but are not.
- Do not allow the social networking service to scan your address book - This way you can avoid giving away email addresses of your friends..
- Be careful about installing extras on your site as these may be third party applications. Even if you do always take the same safety precautions that you take with any other program or file you download from the web.
- Educate your children about social networking and precautions to be taken.