



First off a very Happy Easter to you, and if all the seasonal festivities are proving just a wee bit too exciting, here's my latest humble Newsletter offering to help bring you back down earth. As always, there's shed loads of news to get through, but as previously if you need to look back at any past offerings, then my [Newsletter archive](#), has links to all the earlier editions .... Happy reading! D.J. - P.S. Don't forget, if you're planning to exhibit at IFSEC2010 and you'd like to be included in my [Show Guide](#), then please send through your stand and product / service information to [ifsec2010@doktorjon.co.uk](mailto:ifsec2010@doktorjon.co.uk)

### So what's been making the CCTV headlines in the last month ?

As the UK gears up for an impending General Election, it's interesting to consider that CCTV will undoubtedly get the odd mention or two, from all the main political parties. It's certainly been very noticeable that whilst the incidence of video surveillance appearing in the news media has risen significantly in recent months, the general tone here in the U.K. has increasingly become quite negative in nature. The 'tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime' mantra is gradually being overshadowed by a slow realisation that an increase in quantity, unmatched by an expectation of quality, is failing to produce the crime reductive assurances that have been promised for years. • An example of a recent news report, is this offering from [Telegraph.co.uk](http://Telegraph.co.uk). Apparently, research funded by Salford University has found that children in UK schools, are likely to experience levels of video surveillance normally reserved for prisons and airports. Finding that many schools fail to uphold the basic requirements of the Data Protection Act, Dr. Emmeline Taylor who carried out the research, commented that " ... the law apparently protecting our civil liberties is so impotent that it offers nothing by way of protection". • Last year, there was a storm of controversy when Westminster City Council were ordered by the UK Department for Transport, to switch off one hundred street surveillance CCTV cameras, just days before the start of the G20 summit in London ([click here to read DJ's earlier comment on this story](#)). Now according to this report in [West End Extra](#), almost a year later and costing taxpayers some £ 830,000 ( \$ 1.25m, €915k ) in additional equipment and software upgrades, the central London Council's



#### 'VIPER' CCTV Performance Evaluation Reports



#### The 'TRUSTED' CCTV Improvement Project



#### DJ's CCTV / IP Video Forum



£ 15 million network of wireless high tech surveillance cameras (photo left), can once again be used .... to issue Penalty Charge Notices for motoring offences. The cameras were originally ordered to be turned off, following a minor technical change in the law, that meant on paper alone, they were not fit for traffic enforcement purposes. Whilst the cameras are once again being very usefully employed on churning out huge numbers of penalty charges for hapless motorists, at least they can be cheered by the news that the council have very considerably provided a CCTV camera 'map' on their website, so now there's absolutely no excuse for being caught out parking in the wrong place, at the wrong time. • Whatever the outcome of the forthcoming election, increasing pressure on departmental budgets and general cost cutting across the board, will undoubtedly see the spotlight turning onto the actual effectiveness of CCTV in it's present form, and whether in the public arena at least, the historic one design fits all approach to PSS can reasonably be justified. The UK may indeed have become wedded to the promise of CCTV, but in the months ahead we may yet find that in one respect at least, the honeymoon is well and truly over.

### Forthcoming Security Shows & CCTV / IP Video related Events in 2010

- 5th - 9th April - [SPIE Defense, Security + Sensing](#) - Orlando - Florida
- 14th - 15th April - [Counter Terror Expo 2010](#) - Olympia, London, UK
- 14th - 16th April - [ISC Brasil 2010](#) - Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 18th - 21st April - [ASIS 9th European Security Conference](#) - Lisbon
- 19th - 22nd April - [MIPS 2010](#) - Expocentr, Moscow, Russia
- 20th - 21st April - [Security Canada East](#) - TBA
- 20th - 22nd April - [EXPO Seguridad](#) - Banamex Centre, Mexico City
- 21st - 23rd April - [SecuTech Expo 2010](#) - Taipei, Taiwan
- 26th - 29th April - [Securex 2010](#) - Poznan, Poland
- 26th - 29th April - [Expo Security](#) - Bucharest, Hungary
- 28th - 29th April - [Border Security Expo 2010](#) - Phoenix, Arizona, USA
- 28th - 30th April - [Global Security India 2010](#) - New Delhi, India

• [DJ's complete listing of Forthcoming CCTV / IP Video Shows and Events](#) •



[DJ's IFSEC 2010 Show Section](#)  
10th - 13th May - NEC Birmingham



**DJ's pick of this months CCTV related news stories from around the globe**

**What price security?** - The US Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, has announced that \$ 50 million intended to fund the next stage of the Arizona / Mexico border surveillance project, will instead be diverted into alternative projects. The controversial project which uses an array of towers equipped with 'state of the art' surveillance systems, was intended to secure all 2,000 miles of the US southern border, but this latest announcement is thought to signal the projects imminent cancellation. - Source - [The Washington Post](#)

**Tackling terror at street level** - A 35 year old man who was shot and killed by counter terrorism police in Athens, Greece, was thought to be part of a cell planning an imminent attack in the nations capital. Having searched the suspects home, a detailed map was discovered, pinpointing the exact location and coverage of every street surveillance camera located throughout the city. - Source - [Kathimerini](#)

**Subway surveillance short on success** - The New York MTA has revealed that out of 4,313 security cameras installed throughout the city's subway underground train system, almost half are not working due to technical issues. With 'dead zones' reported in 23 stations, the problems have been put down to power supply and software issues. - Source - [AM New York](#)

**Bungling burglar finds trouble in store** - A hapless thief who is believed to have fallen through the roof of a warehouse in Llangollen, Wales, was thought to have been searching for lead at the time. Having dropped almost 30 feet ( 9 metres) into the building, he was then captured on CCTV tidying up any evidence as he remained trapped inside for about half an hour. After a desperate phone call to a friend, he was eventually freed when an external door was smashed in, although the mountain bike he initially stole, had to be put back when he was unable to fit it into his small getaway car - Source - [BBC News](#)

**For a night to remember** - Less than happy bouncers (door security staff) have extended an open invitation to councillors in Exeter, Devon, UK to join them on a typical night shift outside the city's clubs. This suggestion follows a council budget meeting where it was agreed to cut staff from the CCTV Control Room, in a cost saving exercise designed to help balance the books. - Source - [This is Exeter.co.uk](#)

**Seeing through the smoke** - The City of New York's Fire department have entered into an agreement with the SecureWatch 24 remote video monitoring company, to gain access to some of their clients security camera systems. Given the huge number of commercial and residential properties that now benefit from comprehensive CCTV systems, where the owners are agreeable, officers will now be able to access video feeds to assist operational response and investigation of any fire calls received. - Source - [Government Video](#)

**Now you see them, now you don't ....** - Having installed a city wide network of high visibility "blue light" surveillance cameras, the Chicago Police department are now reportedly looking at the possibility of installing covert units to target certain categories of crime, that are not currently being either deterred or detected. - Source - [Chicago Tribune](#)

**A desire to stop the burning** - The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has recently deployed high resolution video surveillance on a vital fire watch mission. A number of unmanned lookout towers in El Dorado County have been equipped with imaging systems connected back to the CAL FIRE Command Centre using wireless microwave links, and if proven successful, the project will be rolled out to additional locations at risk of forest fires, throughout the state - Source - [Microwave Journal](#)

**Slipped up with that disc** - Following a break in at the Bitterne Leisure Centre in Southampton, UK, police were stumped for clues as to the identity of the intruders. Now seven months after thieves removed the DVD from the sites video security recorder, the vital disc has been accidentally discovered by a litter picker, discarded in bushes a short distance from the scene of the crime. Investigating officers are delighted that despite being out in all weathers, the disc has still managed to playback clear recordings of the hooded suspects - Source - [Southern Daily Echo](#)

**Sinking to new lows** - Parents are reportedly outraged, after they discovered that their children's school had installed CCTV cameras in the pupils toilets. Apparently during the half term holidays, the Grace Academy in Chelmley Wood, Birmingham, UK fitted security cameras into the washrooms, triggering outrage from some parents over their children's privacy being ignored.- Source - [Sky News](#)

**Now that'll teach them** - Councillors from Llandoverly Town Council in South Wales, have been left fuming after their new CCTV system was installed, without anyone knowing how to use it. The Heritage Centre's camera and recording equipment was supplied and fitted, with only a supporting technical instruction manual provided, that has been described as "incomprehensible". A councillor has been quoted as saying that he hoped somebody will be able to give them a training session, so that the equipment can be used. - Source - [South Wales Guardian](#)





**DJ's pick of this months CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued**

**Dallas ... starting a surveillance dynasty?** - Since installing 11 street surveillance cameras in Uptown Dallas, police have reported a double digit drop in crime. With a total of 112 cameras now being used citywide, the latest to be installed have already assisted with 91 emergency calls, and resulted in nine arrests since the start of the year. - Source - [NBC-DFW](#)

**High tech monitoring in the Emirates** - It's been reported that the Critical National Infrastructure Authority is planning to install 'state of the art' surveillance towers throughout Abu Dhabi, and sophisticated thermal imaging equipment along the coastline. The project which will see the use of radar equipped imaging systems, is expected to cost around \$ 120m and is due for completion by early in 2011 - Source - [Top News Arab Emirates](#)

**A hard lesson in economics** - News from the States, where as part of an almost \$ 42m spend on improving overall security, the Detroit Public Schools authority is reportedly planning to invest \$17.3 million installing video surveillance in their buildings. The not insignificant sum is set to provide just 100 remote access cameras in High Schools, 32 in Kindergartens and grade 8 schools, and a further 24 to be installed in elementary's. - Source - [Freep.com](#)

**Forensic Surveillance put to the test** - Following the recent assassination of a high ranking Hamas official, the police in Dubai have been giving further details on their investigations and use of Closed Circuit Television. According to an interview with police chiefs, the 27 suspects were quickly identified after 648 hours of video recordings were collated, in material gathered from around 10,000 cameras located throughout the city. Despite having very strict privacy regulations in place, sophisticated camera schemes have been widely deployed to provide an effective post event investigative tool, which has graphically demonstrated the technologies capabilities - Source - [Asharq Al-Awsat](#)

**A bridge too far ...?** - Scientists at two West Country universities in the UK, are currently evaluating the possibility of developing facial recognition systems based on the shape of a persons nose. With global research already testing the viability of eye, ear and facial point recognition, the humble olfactory organ may provide hidden potential for developing a more basic method of tracking individuals on large area CCTV systems - Source - [thestar.com](#)

**Didn't see that coming** - The boys in blue were left with red faces, after a female senior constable working for the Victoria Police in Australia, took the forces mobile CCTV vehicle out for a spin. Whilst en route to deploy the CCTV van at a community event, the hapless constable drive below an underpass, and managed to rip off one of the cameras, without even realising it. Fortunately, the remnants of the camera equipment were recovered from the roadway by a passing member of the public, and handed in to the local police station. The vehicle is currently 'off duty' whilst the overall cost to repair is being assessed - Source - [The Age](#)

**It helps if you don't have a flare for it** - Residents and traders in a small seaside town, have voiced their concerns over street surveillance cameras that have proven worthless. Vandals have apparently damaged shops and threatened traders in Newhaven, East Sussex, UK, for around six years, safe in the knowledge that the towns CCTV cameras are blinded at night by inappropriately installed street lighting. Sussex Police and the local town council are apparently in discussions as to how the problems can be overcome. - Source - [Express.co.uk](#)

**Beefing up animal welfare** - In the U.K., the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), have called for the mandatory use of CCTV in abattoirs across the country. Citing animal welfare concerns, the society have sought to engage with the industry, to ensure that the remaining 50% of slaughterhouses currently participating in the 'Freedom Food' labelling scheme that do not have internal video monitoring systems in place, move to install the technology as soon as possible. The animal welfare group 'Compassion in World Farming' welcomed the initiative, and indicated that they would like to see systems employed in all abattoirs across the EU. - Source - [Reuters](#)

**It's good to share** - Port of Los Angeles Police are about to go higher tech., following an agreement to supply them with the latest mobile phone software. As part of a \$ 4.2 million initiative to help secure one of america's busiest ports, police will in future be able to use their mobile phone's (cellphones) to capture video of incidents in progress, and stream the images live directly to other officers responding to the event. - Source - [Mercury News.com](#)



## **DJ's pick of this months CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued**

**Better late than never ...?** - It's been announced that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has begun work to fit video loss alarms to key security cameras operating in their three international airports. This follows the recent incident, where a student who wanted to see his girlfriend off on a flight, managed to sneak through security at Newark airport to end up 'air side'. The Transportation Security Administrations subsequent investigation of this major security breach, found that vital CCTV evidence was missing, due to equipment failures that had not been spotted by staff. - Source - [NJ.com](http://NJ.com)

**The clocks ticking ....** - Traders in Devizes, Wiltshire, UK have been warned that unless funding can be found to support the towns CCTV camera scheme, the plug would have to be pulled. The Devizes Development Partnership currently spend £ 23,000 ( \$ 35k, €25k ) a year to operate the eight cameras, but with the present funding agreement coming to an end, it leaves the schemes future somewhat uncertain. - Source - [Gazette & Herald](http://Gazette & Herald)

**We mustn't look at what they saw** - A TV News Channel in India has been blocked from broadcasting recordings taken from security cameras that captured the moments surrounding the recent 'German Bakery' blast. The Commissioner of Police announced that the Anti Terrorism Court of Pune had issued an order, preventing the broadcast of all CCTV material which may identify any witnesses to the terrorist attack in which a number of civilians were killed. - Source - [India Server](http://India Server)

**Not quite such diamond geezers** - What looked like a straightforward jewellery heist in New Yorks Diamond District, proved to be anything but after Midtown detectives managed to unravel a bizarre plot. The two owners of the diamond wholesale business have now been charged with grand larceny, insurance fraud, and falsifying business records, when they removed the gems themselves, prior to reporting them as stolen. The supposed 'robbery' was actually set up with hired accomplices being made to dress up as hasidic jews, who then held up the store at gunpoint. The plan unravelled when the store's video footage was enhanced, to clearly show the business owners taking the stock themselves. - Source - [CBS News](http://CBS News)

**Just the ticket** - Leeds City Council is the latest UK Local Authority to issue it's Parking Enforcement Officers with Body Worn Video systems. It's been revealed that last year, there were 172 incidents of violence against the wardens, ranging from spitting and assault up to attempting to run them over. Whilst the systems are apparently only switched on if an officer feels threatened, unnecessary recordings are deleted at the end of a shift, although so far material has been handed over to the police on two separate occasions. Since the scheme started, incidents have reportedly dropped by 48% - Source - [Yorkshire Evening Post](http://Yorkshire Evening Post)

**Not watching enough telly?.** - Minehead CCTV Partnership in Somerset, UK, are the latest PSS Operator to ask for volunteers to come forward, to help monitor their town centre camera system. Local residents that are interested in helping to improve public safety will be expected to work in the CCTV Control Room around two to four hours each week, and full training will be provided. - Source - [Somerset County Gazette](http://Somerset County Gazette)

**Cameras fueled by suspicion** - In an attempt to enforce fuel rationing for foreign vehicles, the Malaysian Government has ordered all petrol (gas) stations to install CCTV cameras. Since the end of 2009, any foreign vehicles within 50 kilometres of the border have been limited to purchasing no more than 20 litres of fuel. - Source - [Today Online](http://Today Online)

**No longer a flight of fancy** - The Israeli Aircraft Industries is reported as having developed a huge long range Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (drone), which can reportedly stay airborne for up to 24 hours. Described as being the size of a Boeing 737 aircraft, the 'Eitan' is apparently capable of carrying a 1,000Kgs payload of advanced imaging sensors - Source - [Digital Journal](http://Digital Journal)

**Rain of terror** - Staff in a grocery store in Graham, North Carolina, USA had a terrifying experience when an unwelcome visitor appeared in their premises just before closing time. The man dressed entirely in black pulled out a handgun, and held up the three employees before stealing money from the safe. Despite wearing a ski mask and baseball cap to match the rest of his colour co-ordinated outfit, he also took the liberty of committing his crimes under the protection of a large umbrella, in a less than subtle attempt to ensure that his makeshift cloaking device would render the stores surveillance cameras useless. - Source - [MyFox8.com](http://MyFox8.com)

• Doktor Jon's current Global CCTV News page - <http://www.doktorjon.co.uk/whatsnew2.html> •





## **Recent CCTV / IP Video Industry News Releases**

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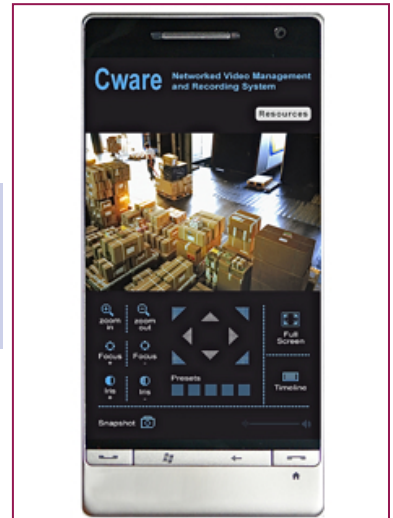
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As we're now well in to the annual show season, next months Newsletter will be looking back at news from the recent ISC West event, and also looking forward to IFSEC 2010. In the meantime, there's the very interesting Counter Terror Expo here in London on 14th - 15th April, so if you haven't already registered, better get your skates on! As always, any suggestions or comments are very warmly welcomed, and if you happen to know someone that would like to receive their own copies or you decide you don't wish to receive future editions, then why not drop me a line:- [newsdesk@doktorjon.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@doktorjon.co.uk) Hopefully the next Newsletter will be published the last week in April, so until then, have a good month .... D.J.

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