



So here we are almost at the end of yet another year, and perhaps more significantly the conclusion of what's proven to be a seriously turbulent decade in the wider context of global security. Whilst it may be an ideal time to look back at what's happened, perhaps it also provides the perfect opportunity to look forward towards what is undoubtedly an uncertain future; likely to be no less challenging than anything that's gone before. But first, there's just the small matter of a seasonally bumper crop of CCTV related news to get through! If you've missed out on any previous editions, you can always catch up in the Newsletter Archive at www.doktorjon.co.uk; if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to drop me a line - [newsdesk\[at\]doktorjon.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk[at]doktorjon.co.uk). Happy reading! DJ

Doktor Jon's CCTV & IP Video Newsletter



On the face of it, image is still everything ...

'Austerity' may be the buzzword of the moment, but for many the underlying concerns about how best to utilize existing video surveillance technology, albeit on a rapidly diminishing budget, does appear to be having some noticeable effect on focussing minds, although unfortunately not always in the right direction. Perhaps naively, there appears to be a growing belief amongst some less informed practitioners that budgets should be spent simply on the provision of CCTV, and when funds begin to dry up, that's a natural excuse for stripping out the technology. Thus far, little has been researched about the way systems are deployed and operated, and whether that in itself makes for best use of scant resources. At a recent conference held in Dunblane and reported in [Herald Scotland](#), Assistant Chief Constable Ruairaidh Nicholson from ACPOS, sensibly suggested that the future use of Public Space CCTV must be needs based, and it's continued operation justified by results. He warned that where cameras fail to perform a useful function, the technology may need to be scaled back. Few would argue that there's little sense in installing hugely expensive

surveillance infrastructure simply because the local populace demands it, and yet the idea of how best to get the most "bangs from the buck", has historically been quite low down on some operators' immediate list of priorities. Interesting to note then that the Scottish Government have recently announced a consultation period, as they publish the draft plans to develop their very own 'National CCTV Strategy'. For those a bit closer to home, it's perhaps also worth briefly mentioning that the UK Governments previously stated intention of regulating CCTV as part of their wide ranging "Freedom Bill", won't now be revealed in all it's glory until the proposals are published in full, some time early in 2011.

Since the last Newsletter was published, there's actually been a mini flood of survey's and research into various aspects of CCTV operation in the UK. As reported in the [Daily Mail](#), latest figures released by [Big Brother Watch](#), have revealed that around £ 314m (US\$ 450m, € 345m) of taxpayers money was spent on council operated CCTV in the last three years. Birmingham has apparently shelled out £ 10m alone, and a further ten councils have each invested over £ 3m on their Public Space Surveillance operations. Meanwhile, the British Security Industry Association ([BSIA](#)) has been carrying out research amongst it's CCTV Section members to see what the mood is for further CCTV regulation in the UK. 56% of the respondents indicated that they are happy with current levels of regulation, whilst 33% suggested that they would welcome further measures. The [CCTV User Group](#) have also been busy carrying out an interesting survey amongst the general public, to gain an insight into more widely held views on "The Use and Value of CCTV in Public Areas".

Meanwhile, 'faces' have been creating quite a bit of interest in the media; as [BBC News](#) reported on the somewhat controversial launch of the "Internet Eyes" public CCTV viewing project, [SKY News](#) announced the introduction of the 'Facewatch' service, aimed at helping CCTV operators tackle everyday low level crime problems such as bag snatchers and shoplifters. Over 30 businesses involved in the Victoria Business Improvement District (BID) in London, have adopted the service, which provides a simple method for commercial premises using CCTV to upload their security camera recordings of suspects along with detailed crime reports, which are then immediately available for use by the local police.

According to the [London Evening Standard](#) following the violent disturbances that took place at London's Millbank Tower (headquarters of the Conservative Party), and more recently the widely publicised disorder that saw Prince Charles and Camilla's vehicle attacked in central London, teams of police officers are currently examining huge amounts of CCTV footage to try and identify the individuals involved. Down under, according to a report in the [Heraldsun.com.au](#), the Victoria Police in Australia are now introducing their revolutionary iFace suspect recognition system. Designed as an



electronic 'mug shot' database, over 750,000 images are held which can be compared against CCTV images in any of the force's 260 police stations. Nearer to home, if you're desperate to get into the festive spirit, there's a timely reminder from Kent Police in the UK, that putting up christmas decorations may make the place look a good deal more cheerful, but if your CCTV cameras are accidentally obscured by the decs., you won't see the criminals in action and they may not have to face the consequences; for many businesses, seasonal sales are also just around the corner, so retailers really do need to keep those signs well clear and make sure all their cameras are working.



DJ's pick of recent CCTV related news stories from around the globe

A bitter pill to swallow - A magistrate is to decide whether a police inspector in George Town, Malaysia, should pay compensation to two suspects he assaulted. Earlier in the year, the pair were arrested and beaten in clear sight of a CCTV camera, which also happened to capture the officer planting ecstasy tablets on the accused. - Source - [The Star Online](#)



The world is getting smaller - News from Namibia, where the Windhoek City Police have just officially commissioned their first Public Space Surveillance system. So far, 94 cameras have been deployed in what the Namibian Police Inspector General has described as a milestone in combating crime, and the country's history. - Source - [New Era.com](#)

Now see what they missed - Ten months after a seven year old boy in foster care went missing from a housing complex in Brooklyn, New York, his mother has now filed a lawsuit claiming negligence by the management. Despite the NYPD having conducted thousands of interviews and carried out extensive searches, the mother's claim focuses on alleged failures with the buildings security camera system, which was unable to record any persons entering or exiting the building. - Source - [NY Daily News](#)

United we stand - Barnsley Council in Yorkshire, UK have provided a special grant to shop owners in the village of Goldthorpe, to help them buy their own security cameras. It's hoped that by setting up their own small community based CCTV scheme, this will act as a deterrent against low level crime. - Source - [BBC News](#)

Accused cleared by camera - A 21 year old has been jailed after accusing a man of sexually assaulting her in front of a group of people, in a bizarre attempt to clear her £ 3k (US\$4.5k, €3.4k) drug debt. The accused was arrested and bailed for 15 weeks before police managed to establish through CCTV evidence that he was entirely innocent of the trumped up charges. Having admitted perverting the course of justice, the woman is now serving an 18 month prison sentence. - Source - [Mail Online](#)

Location, location, location - The plan to move town centre CCTV monitoring equipment from Malmesbury town hall to the local police station, have been shelved as part of a cost cutting exercise. Local councillors are now desperately looking for an alternative venue, and are appealing for suggestions from the public. - Source - [This is Wiltshire](#)

Working 9 till 5 - A 17 year old mugging victim is just one of almost a thousand residents that has petitioned Cotswold District Council, to increase the number of hours that Cirencester's CCTV system is monitored by operators. Following significant staffing cuts to the towns CCTV control room, worried residents are demanding that operators be allowed to monitor the cameras for at least 112 hours a week, and not simply during restricted periods leaving many out of hours crimes unobserved and undetected. - Source - [Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard](#)



Pedalling a new message - New York City's MTA transit authority are adopting a novel approach for warning drivers about their new Bus Lane enforcement CCTV cameras. Eight cyclists are being employed to cycle along the busways, towing a poster that promises a \$ 115 (£ 75, € 84) fine for anyone caught on camera driving in the restricted lanes. - Source - [NY Daily News](#)

Cameras concentrating on cuts - The UK supermarket operator Morrisons, has announced their intention to install CCTV in their abattoirs. Within weeks, cameras will be deployed at two meat processing sites, to help raise animal welfare standards, in a move which has been warmly welcomed by the RSPCA. - Source - [BBC News](#)

Pilgrims make progress unhindered - The installation of over 2,000 CCTV cameras in Makkah (Mecca) and around the holy sites, is leading to a significant reduction in the number of pickpockets. Security forces challenged with protecting visitors on the annual Haj (pilgrimage to Mecca) have arrested a number of thieves who are now scheduled to appear in court. - Source - [Arab News.com](#)

Community cameras curb crime - In recent months, the Derbyshire town of Swandlincote has reported a 46% drop in shoplifting, and a 42% reduction in thefts from vehicles, since a £ 50,000 CCTV scheme was launched. According to the local crime reduction partnership, anti social behaviour has also seen a significant reduction over the summer months. - Source - [BBC News](#)

Going back up in downtown - Immediately following the G20 summit held in June, it was agreed that simply based on privacy concerns, the host city of Toronto would decommission the 77 Public Space CCTV cameras that were deployed to help secure the gathering. Now the city's police chief is expected to request that the cameras be retained to help improve security in key locations. - Source - [CTV.ca](#)



DJ's pick of recent CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued



Promise you won't look - Despite local police having requested access to council CCTV footage over 1,200 times in the last two years, leaders at Darlington Borough Council have now decided that enough is enough. In an effort to cut budgets, a senior council officer has been removed from the CCTV team, and in future they will no longer review recordings on behalf of the police. Fortunately, senior councillors have been quick to confirm that normal monitoring of cameras will not be affected. - Source - [The Northern Echo](#)

Milanese to get ... protection - Announcing a major investment in new surveillance systems across the city of Milan, the vice Mayor has confirmed that 1 million euros have been earmarked for extra cameras and software upgrades in 14 districts across the city. - Source - [adnkronos international](#)

Charity begins ... - A rapid increase in thefts from Salvation Army donation bins in Australia, has forced a decision to roll out CCTV across their stores nationwide. With losses now approaching AUS\$ 1m per year, it's hoped that security cameras will lead to a marked reduction in stealing from their outlets. - Source - [Herald Sun](#)

Captured on a joint operation - Three hapless soldiers from Fort Carson, Colorado got more than they bargained for, when they broke in to the Rocky Road Remedies, medicinal marijuana outlet. Having forced their way in to the store, the trio were captured on camera "... like rats in a maze", after the doors automatically locked shut behind them. Unaware that the entire stock was actually stored away in a secure safe, the bungling burglars are now being held on bail. - Source - [ABC News](#)

On the right tracks - New York City's "Lower Manhattan Security Initiative" has reached an important milestone, with 1,300 cameras now fully operational, and nearing the projects half way target. The recent huge increase in numbers has been down to installations in subway stations, which are a vital part of the \$ 201 million project. - Source - [Government Video](#)

What price justice ...? - After having had to endure 12 months of accusations relating to a minor "shoplifting" incident, a senior police officer has now been cleared of the charges, thanks to vital CCTV evidence. The 45 year old Chief Inspector was taken to court charged with having stolen a £ 12.72 pot of make up cream, from a Tesco store in Nottingham. The judge instructed the jury to dismiss the case, after having reviewed 20 minutes of the stores CCTV recordings, it was quite apparent that "... it was an act of forgetfulness rather than dishonesty". - Source - [Brighthouse Echo](#)

Driven off the roads - During a two week period, police officers mounted a targeted operation against illegal drivers in Wales, making extensive use of ANPR cameras. Involving all four of the country's constabularies, a total of 400 vehicles were seized, and 30 people arrested on a variety of charges. - Source - [News Wales](#)



When push came to shove - An 83 year old motorist from Bristol, has been banned from driving for 12 months, after having been caught on CCTV using his car to shunt another vehicle that was blocking access to his garage. This being the second offence of it's kind, the pensioner also received fines and damages amounting to almost £ 2k (US\$ 3k, € 2.2k) after pleading guilty to the first offence, and having been convicted by jury on the second count. - Source - [The Telegraph](#)

Shamed by surveillance - Two mortuary technicians were caught on a network of security cameras, dragging a deceased male from a fourth floor apartment in New York, through various parts of the building, before unceremoniously dumping the corpse in the back of their van. Now the local Medical Examiners office is facing legal action over the appallingly disrespectful behaviour of their employees. - Source - [Metro.co.uk](#)

A shocking lapse in security - Investigations into a deadly attack on the Karachi port police station have been seriously compromised, after it was revealed that the sites CCTV was not working. The Criminal Investigation Department's office was devastated in a terrorist outrage involving 10 suspects, who carried out a highly co-ordinated attack which left 19 people dead. It's since been revealed that vital security camera recordings were not available, because the local power company had shut off the electricity supply to the building, the day before the attack. - Source - [India Talkies](#)

High tech cameras on Poles - Scientists from the joint Polish-Japanese Institute of Information Technology, are working on a two year research programme, to develop video analytic systems that will enhance the operation of Public Space CCTV. Their studies will initially be based around the street surveillance cameras currently being used in Bytom, Poland. - Source - [Krakow Post](#)



DJ's pick of recent CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued

An open and shut case - After months of investigations at the Philadelphia International Airport, four American Airlines baggage handlers have been arrested on various charges relating to theft of valuables. Police were originally alerted to a problem by the airline, and following intensive investigations, the suspects were eventually caught on covert security cameras removing property from passengers bags - Source - [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

Tipping the scales - Following a spate of thefts from a fish pool in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, the owners have been forced to install CCTV to try and tackle the problem. In the last couple of years, perhaps twenty high value carp are believed to have been lifted from the waters without permission, costing the operators around £ 20k (\$ 32k, €23k) to replace the fish, some of which are up to 12 Kgs. in weight. - Source - [Shropshire Star](#)

One more year in - The Interior Minister in Luxembourg has announced that the CCTV cameras currently in use in the capital, will have their operation extended for yet another year. The announcement follows a vocal anti CCTV rally held just days earlier in Luxembourg city centre. - Source - [352LuxMag](#)

That's just not fare - A Nottingham cab driver has lost his job, after posting videos of his passengers on YouTube. The driver collected CCTV recordings of his fare's from the vehicles on board CCTV system, and then posted them on the media sharing website, in direct contravention of the UK's Data Protection Act. - Source - [NineMSN News](#)

Hardly a soar away success - Officers from Greater Manchester Police have had to admit defeat, after plans to deploy an advanced surveillance blimp, were scuppered by the weather. The £ 800k (US\$1.22m, €900k) aerial platform, should have provided the ideal base for airborne observations using state of the art imaging systems, but it's deployment at large outdoor events has been less than spectacular, with significant damage to the envelope being caused simply by windy conditions. - Source - [Telegraph.co.uk](#)

A paper bag exercise - An irate passer-by has been caught on camera, tackling a local authority CCTV parking enforcement vehicle. The City of Westminster car was parked up on double yellow lines on a street in Maida Vale, London, when a passing gent decided to challenge the two man crew over their use of CCTV to capture errant motorists. Having made his views clear on the use of surveillance, he then proceeded to cover the car's mast mounted camera with a paper bag, that quickly fell away as the camera was extended. - Source - [Daily Mail](#)



Smoking out the suspects - Guy Fawkes night is a traditional time for pyrotechnics, but for fire officers responding to an unauthorised bonfire in Dumfries, Scotland, coming under sustained 'rocket' attack by a gang of local youths, was never supposed to be considered as part of the job. Given that all the brigades appliances are now fitted with on-board CCTV, recordings of the incident may be passed to local police in an attempt to identify the suspects. - Source - [Dumfries & Galloway Standard](#)

You don't mess with them - Private investigators have been hiding miniature covert CCTV cameras in parks across Milton Keynes, UK in an attempt to identify irresponsible dog owners who are allowing their pets to foul, without clearing up afterwards. Images from around 15 sites are streamed onto the internet, and remotely monitored to help identify persistent offenders. - Source - [MailOnline](#)

A case of criminal ineptitude ...? - In their ongoing investigation into the abduction of Madeleine McCann, the Daily Express interviewed the former detective Goncalo Amaral who led the search for the missing toddler. On a walkabout at the now infamous Praia da Luz resort, Amaral revealed that vital CCTV evidence that may have identified her abductor, was actually deleted by the time his officers managed to gain access to the recording system. - Source - [Express.co.uk](#)

And now, the end is near ... - Given the low conviction rate achieved by the CCTV cameras in Earley Town Centre, Berkshire, UK, local councillors have passed over the opportunity to acquire the system from Wokingham Borough Council. Citing the huge cost of taking on responsibility for the street surveillance, and the fact that police officers are increasingly being equipped with Body Worn Video (BWV) systems, it's now common knowledge that both the borough council and constabulary are looking to decommission their CCTV operations to save on cost. - Source - [Get Wokingham](#)

Careful what you wish for ... - In an attempt to tackle legalised prostitution in the Dolly red light district of Surabaya, Indonesia, the city authorities are planning to install a town centre CCTV system to dissuade patrons. Whilst there are currently estimated to be 1,600 sex workers operating in the area, one less than impressed East Java Councillor is quoted as saying that "... by installing CCTV cameras in every brothel, people would be too embarrassed to come and therefore the clientele would shrink". - Source - [Jakarta Globe](#)



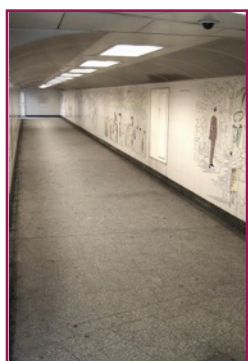
DJ's pick of recent CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued

Smugglers scuppered by sophisticated surveillance - A new \$ 20 million high tech. surveillance system is already proving it's worth, helping to tackle the problems of illegal immigrants being smuggled along the St. Clair River, on the US border. Recent attempts to bring illegals in on boats have been thwarted thanks to surveillance towers dotted along the river, each equipped with cameras optimised for both day and night observations. - Source - [The Detroit News](#)

A view like no other - After three years of development and costing around \$ 17.5 million per set, the US military is about to deploy it's latest airborne surveillance system. Somewhat colourfully named "Gorgon Stare", the imaging pod is to be fitted to an MQ-9 "Reaper" Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) operating over sensitive locations in Afghanistan. The unique onboard imaging systems can provide a composite 80 megapixel colour image, alongside a composite 32 megapixel infra red view, both stored onboard for post operation analysis, and also streamed live at two images per second to the ground crew and battlefield commanders. - Source - [Aviation Week](#)

A true case of Forensic Surveillance - Detectives investigating the murder of Asha Muneer in Berkshire, UK, had a suspect firmly in their sights, but no evidence to prove a case. Having established through mobile phone (cellphone) records that his statements to police were peppered with lies, officers retrieved the call locations, and then plotted the suspects route in the hours before the attack. Having gathered up hundreds of hours of surveillance footage, they meticulously built a case which based on the CCTV recordings eventually lead to a guilty verdict in court. - Source - [getreading](#)

Veiled suspect escapes unveiled cameras - Just days after the new 18 camera surveillance system was officially inaugurated at the Niloufer Hospital in Hyderabad, India, an 11 month old baby was abducted by a woman who's identity was obscured through her wearing a burqa. Challenging for any CCTV installation, but all the more embarrassing when investigating officers discovered that the entire camera system was not functioning at the time. It's since been revealed that hospital authorities also failed to install the cameras at the precise locations recommended by the police. - Source - [Express Buzz](#)



Charity tin crim caught short - A Magistrates Court in Canberra, Australia, has sentenced a 32 year old man to a month in jail, for stealing a charity tin containing just AUS\$ 5. The collection box which was placed in a restaurant to help raise funds for a child diagnosed with cancer, was taken by the accused and stuffed down the front of his shorts, all in clear view of the premises CCTV camera. - Source - [ABC News](#)

Movies, monitoring and emotion - The Machine Vision Lab at the University of the West of England has awarded a contract to specialist analytics company Aralia Systems, to develop an imaging system for use in cinemas (movie theatres). In an attempt to tackle the constant problems of 'pirates' with camcorders making copies of blockbuster films, the project is tasked with designing an advanced surveillance system that can analyse certain physical reactions and emotions. - Source - [TechSpot](#)

Looks as good as it sounds? - A specialist UK audio company has developed an analytics system that they claim can identify certain stress situations from the pitch and content of sounds picked up by a microphone. The technology is primarily intended to provide CCTV operators with an automatic system that can differentiate aggressive behaviour or individuals in distress, hopefully increasing the efficiency of large surveillance systems which are inherently difficult to manage. - Source - [BBC News](#)

On the defence against an avoidable assault - Naples Police in Florida have arrested a man on suspicion of having molested a teenage boy at least three times, in the toilet at the local shopping centre. Now the boys mother has issued a law suit against the security company and the mall, on the basis that their failure to monitor the CCTV cameras contributed to the assaults, as they failed to spot the suspect loitering in or near the scene of the crime. - Source - [Wink News Now](#)

It's not all just for show - Exhibitors at the ASIS 2010 event held in Dallas, Texas, were shocked to discover that overnight, valuable items had been removed from a number of stands. Ordinarily it would be nigh on impossible for police to establish any reasonable suspects, but given that ASIS is one of the country's largest security shows, it didn't take long for investigators to review the security camera recordings made by neighbouring exhibitors, and quickly identify the individuals concerned - Source - [Business Solutions](#)

Well spotted sir - Leedswatch CCTV Operator David Illingworth has been presented with a Royal Humane Society Award for his part in saving a collapsed woman. Earlier in the year, he spotted a woman dressed only in pyjamas and socks, wandering along a street in the Osmondthorpe district of Leeds, moments before she collapsed unconscious in deep snow. His prompt action in directing the police to her location, almost certainly saved the womans life. - Source - [Yorkshire Evening Post](#)



DJ's pick of recent CCTV related news stories from around the globe - continued

A tragic investigation - Staff at the KEM hospital in Mumbai, India were frantic to locate a missing six week old baby, after the mother reported her abducted from the maternity ward. Within minutes, security staff reviewing CCTV recordings were able to establish that the mother had left the room carrying the infant, but returned to her bed alone a short time later. Under questioning, the mother eventually confessed to having thrown one of her twins out of a bathroom window, where sadly she later succumbed to her injuries. - Source - [Times of India](#)

More than five a day - A seven man gang of prolific fruit machine bandits, have each received custodial sentences after police successfully prosecuted them for thieving from gaming machines. Using electronic jamming devices, the thieves managed to trick machines into paying out jackpots, which are thought to have run into possibly hundreds of thousands of pounds. Using extensive CCTV evidence, investigating officers charged the gang members over 50 offences, although significantly more were held over. - Source - [Oxford Mail](#)

Who really cared? - A 37 year old Wiltshire man left paralysed after a serious car accident some years ago, was becoming increasingly worried about the general standard of medical care he was receiving at home. Having arranged for a CCTV camera to be installed by his bedside just as a precaution, a matter of days later an agency nurse was filmed accidentally switching off his ventilator. In the twenty minutes that elapsed before emergency paramedics eventually managed to restart the life support machine, tragically the patient suffered serious brain damage. - Source - [The Telegraph](#)

Well, goodness gracious me - Mr Surendra Jain was sufficiently concerned about security at his jewellery shop in Marol, India, that he went to the expense of having six decent CCTV cameras installed. Imagine how devastated he must have been to find that his shop had been broken in to and a large quantity of valuable stock stolen; then to discover that during his preparations for the Diwali festival days earlier, he had accidentally unplugged the power supply for the entire security camera system. - Source - [Hindustan Times](#)



A vision of despair - After seven years of trying to get their CCTV system up and running, the city of New Orleans have finally decided to pull the plug on the project. Having spent millions of dollars on the scheme, only six indictments have ever been raised, three for crimes caught on camera, and three for bribes and kickbacks allegedly relating to the CCTV procurement process - Source - [WWLTV.com](#)

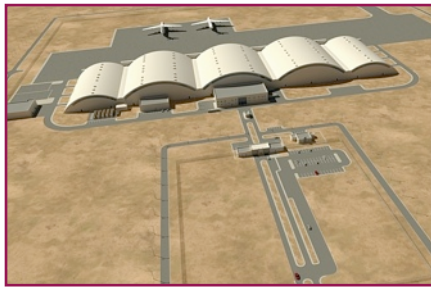
Thanks but no thanks - News from Australia, where a public CCTV system staffed entirely by community volunteers has been described by an advocate as " ... a waste of time". Mick McKettrick became the volunteers team leader when the scheme was first launched back in 2005, and having worked tirelessly on the project since then, he has now resigned citing a general lack of support from council officers, and a failure of police to respond to incidents reported by the CCTV Operators. - Source - [In my Community](#)

Some things you shouldn't see - Instead of enjoying his holiday away at Disney Land, for one Florida resident, the whole trip turned out to be not quite what he expected. Having rigged up a six camera security surveillance system throughout his home, he was left helplessly watching over the internet as a team of burglars ransacked his property over 200 miles away. Over a period of some hours the thieves returned again and again, but for some strange reason, the victim apparently didn't think to inform the police. - Source - [Mail Online](#)

You can't knock it - The St. Clair County Sheriff's Department have just unveiled their new surveillance equipped armoured vehicle, nicknamed "The Exterminator". The high visibility vandal proof truck is designed to be parked up in a local crime hotspot, and provide an active deterrent to low level criminal activity. Where a handful of similar units have been deployed in other parts of the States, rather than transmitting or recording video images of crimes in progress, in practice the actual level of offences has been seen to drop virtually to zero. - Source - [KMOX.com](#)

So there you have it - Speaking at the official launch for the latest phase of Dublin's Ballymun district CCTV project, Minister for Justice Dermot Ahern said that recent research carried out by his ministry, indicated that there was generally no increase in crime reporting, outside of areas where CCTV has been deployed. The Ballymun system which is operated by the Garda (police) has been increased to 82 PSS cameras using € 1m (£ 855k, US\$ 1.28m) in government grants. - Source - [The Irish Times](#)

If it moves ... - It's been reported that the authorities in Burma (Myanmar) have embarked on an exercise to deploy a significant number of CCTV cameras along their southernmost border with Thailand, apparently to monitor possible anti government protesters, and also to tackle the ongoing problems associated with human trafficking and terrorism. - Source - [The Irrawaddy](#)



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[OnSSI Ocularis open platform network management software at ASIS 2010](#)
[Dallmeier H.264 recorders integrated into Dorlet Management Software >>>](#)
[Videotec's latest ULISSE NETWORK CAM pan, tilt and zoom camera released](#)
[Control Center receives Detektor International's "Innovative Achievement" award](#)
[IndigoVision grows Sales and Products as latest trading figures are released](#)
[Pelco announces Digital Sentry® NVs version 7.1 Video Management Software](#)



[Southend University Hospital deploys largest Mobotix MegaPixel system in NHS Trust](#)
[Avigilon announces new line of ONVIF compliant High Definition H.264 IP cameras](#)
[<<< New Scallop Imaging A7-180 analogue 7 MegaPixel camera announced](#)
[DM founder Mike Newton takes on strategic role as President of American Operations](#)
[Altronix showcases innovative Power Solutions at ASIS 2010 event](#)
[Chubb Security provides Fire and Security protection for Kendal K Village](#)
[Arecont Vision unveils new compact H.264 model cameras at Essen 2010/=0](#)

[Allied Vision Technologies \(AVT\) premieres nine new cameras at VISION 2010](#)
[Videotec launch ULISSE PLUS integrated PTZ system for long zoom lenses](#)
[American Fibretek's full suite of transmission products on display at Essen 2010](#)
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What a difference a decade makes

For most Londoners it's often difficult to recall a world without CCTV, and as I'm increasingly being reminded, for anyone less than 25 years of age, in a literal sense there effectively wasn't one. When it comes to the application of video surveillance in all its guises, the opinions of criminologists and civil libertarians have until relatively recently, not been viewed with any particular degree of authority, but then I suppose much could also be said for a relatively tiny number of CCTV experts, who's views and insights may not in the past have been quite so carefully considered. Ten years ago, the world was a very different place; despite decades of terrorism on the UK mainland, the shock and enormity of 9/11 had yet to be realised, and the increasingly rapid growth of CCTV was very much driven as a politically engineered potential solution, to a wide range of everyday societal problems. In much the same way as government funding for Public Space Surveillance was increasing to meet demand then, we're now seeing vast sums spent both as Homeland Security grants in the US, and increasingly as the media reports in this newsletter testify, across a broad range of countries throughout the world. And yet many of the operational problems that were correctly foreseen before the boom, are only now being more seriously addressed in the context of trying to drive urgent cost savings. Where funding the initial deployment of cameras used to be a primary concern, now issues with monitoring and maintenance are increasingly being viewed as the key reason for reducing coverage, and in some places withdrawing operator monitoring; will this situation get any worse in the coming 'teens ... well what do you think?. Whilst proponents and cynics cite research as proving that CCTV either works or doesn't depending on their perspective, the truth of course lays somewhere in between. Thus far, no significant work has really been undertaken to determine what techniques coupled with which CCTV technology, is most likely to provide the most effective approach for any given situation, even though some in the know have been aware of many of the answers for a not insignificant period of time; historically, the straightforward installation of cameras has generally been a ready recipient for funding, whereas simply evaluating whether the cameras are the most appropriately configured for the job, has not. Whilst turning back the clock isn't really an option, simply on the basis of achieving a best value for money return on investment, we could perhaps look forward to a more considered approach to deploying and operating Video Surveillance, hopefully in the not too distant future. Whilst the coming years will undoubtedly see a continued rapid growth in both specification and uptake of MegaPixel cameras, Network centric systems and Video Analytics, we have good reason to believe that more effort will in future be placed on applying the technology more intelligently, and that increasingly we'll see products and systems emerge that do precisely what stakeholders require, and not simply what some manufacturers choose to develop and sell.



It hardly seems possible that it's now well over three years since the Dok first launched the TRUSTED CCTV Image improvement project, but hold your horses, it's about to jump up to a whole new level.



Taking a more 'holistic' approach to many everyday aspects of CCTV, the latest development work will undoubtedly be of interest to a broad range of industry players, from manufacturers to end users, consultants to the Criminal Justice System. Whilst a new series of guidance documents and supporting literature are due to be announced early in the new year, there's still plenty of work to do in the coming months, so ... watch this space!!

.... and finally, tomorrow will be here much sooner than you think

As we all look forward to the holiday season, it only remains for me to wish you all the very best over the coming festivities, and here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year ahead.

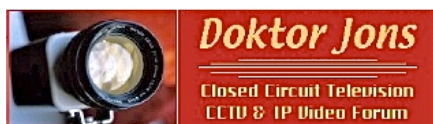
If you have any comments or suggestions, or if you'd like to register a friend or colleague to receive future copies of this regular CCTV / IP Video Newsletter, please drop a line to:- newsdesk@doktorjon.co.uk

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CCTV Image Quality Improvement Project
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