

# Why Camera Surveillance Systems Fail To Deliver

Avoiding these surprisingly common pitfalls in your camera surveillance system will ensure this mission critical business tool performs as needed.

### 1. Inadequate Needs Analysis

It is imperative that the right questions are asked from the start. Serious consideration must be given to discover surface level, as well as the deeper business reasons, for the implementation of this tool. Without this initial work, there is little chance that the correct solution will be formulized.

### 2. Lack Of A Detailed Facility Walk-Thru

Fully understanding the nuances of the building structure in which the camera surveillance system is being implemented can be cause for unwanted surprises when it comes time for cable runs, tying into fiber optics or placement of system components including DVR's. Knowing and understanding critical issues, such as the locations of firewalls and acceptable locations for power supplies, can potentially alter system design and implementation.

### 3. Specifying Incorrect Camera Lens'

Specifying the correct lens in each camera is not rocket science, however science is involved! It all starts with correctly identifying the role of each camera. Is a camera going to be used to simply identify motion within a specific area? What about the ability to give a physical description of a person or vehicle? Would it be helpful to actually identify a person or vehicle license plate? Much of this comes down to the correct lens being specified.

# 6.5. You Get What You Pay For

This axiom holds true for camera surveillance just as it does in many other aspects of the business world. If you are looking to partner with an integrator based solely on low price, chances are you will experience the pitfalls above. Partnering with a professional integrator might result in spending a little more to get a lot more.

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#### 4. Inferior Equipment Quality

Due to the vast adoption of camera surveillance as a missioncritical business tool, there are many manufacturers who have entered the market. With an over abundance of surveillance cameras, DVR's, power supplies, and so on, it is paramount to make sure you are purchasing quality items and not shortlived inferior products that may be better suited as toys.

### 5. Poor Camera Placement And Coverage

Oddly enough, this is one of the most common reasons camera surveillance systems lack the "reliability" to provide the right image at the moment a crime is taking place. Without taking into account important "field of view" factors, including where the sun rises and sets, ambient light levels and the potential impedance caused by objects like delivery trucks, the images that you need to capture and record might end up being highly elusive.

## 6. DVR Is Not Up To The Task

The Digital Video Recorder is truly the heart of any camera surveillance system. It takes the images that each camera collects and does a great deal with them. Frame Rate, Image Rate and Compression Technology are common "pitfall" areas where many manufacturers cut corners. Do you want or need fluid video to identify and apprehend a thief, or do you want to see an obscure figure doing the "Robot"? Getting the DVR correct is of prime importance.