Top 9 Reasons Enterprise IT Leaders are Moving Their Video Surveillance to the Eagle Eye Cloud

As camera counts rise and system complexity increases, it's crucial for IT leaders to make smart choices when it comes to their video management system. Questions like the total cost of maintenance, how the VMS manages bandwidth, what cameras are supported, what level of cybersecurity is provided, and what integrations are available, are all important when determining the right solution for the organization.

Overview

As camera counts rise and system complexity increases, it's crucial for IT leaders to make smart choices when it comes to their video management system. Questions like the total cost of maintenance, how the VMS manages bandwidth, what cameras are supported, what level of cybersecurity is provided, and what integrations are available, are all important when determining the right solution for the organization.

With these in mind, the benefits of migrating video surveillance to the cloud are clear. Cloud offers greater agility and empowers businesses to scale and respond to changing needs. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS is a secure, reliable, and fully scalable system designed specifically for IT leaders.

1. Reduced IT Overhead and Operations

Traditional video surveillance systems require substantial hardware, complex installations, software maintenance, and significant capital investments. These systems typically need to be deployed in multiple locations and require distributed maintenance and support. However, when IT leaders choose a true cloud solution, they minimize their initial capital investment, avoid complex installations, avoid software maintenance headaches, eliminate the need for distributed skilled staff, and enjoy a pay as you go model.

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS provides 100% cloud recording and cloud management, significantly reducing the maintenance required from the IT team. The IT team is no longer plagued with managing OS updates, security patches, hardware upgrades, disk drive replacements, backups, and cybersecurity concerns as these enhancements are provided automatically, ensuring the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS is always up to date. .

Businesses can also scale the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS as needed, without having to plan and purchase equipment in advance for additional surveillance needs. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS works with any number of cameras or any amount of retention, meaning the IT team no longer needs to plan and allocate storage, or upgrade storage when additional video or retention is required.

2. Increased Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is absorbing more and more of the IT department's budget. It's challenging and requires detailed knowledge of every product on the network when an IT team is managing it themselves. Patches must be applied, firewall rules maintained, and encryption ensured. This continuous vigilance requires talented staff.

From the beginning, the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS has prioritized cybersecurity. It was built by cybersecurity experts and has a professional team dedicated to maintaining its cybersecurity. Eagle Eye Networks performs continuous penetration testing and fully encrypts all video during transit and at rest. Encryption at rest is done by almost no other VMS.

The Eagle Eye Bridges and CMVRs isolate cameras from the internet using the Eagle Eye Camera Cyber Lockdown, so there's no possible backdoor into the network,often introduced by faulty or outdated cameras. Keeping systems with a variety of cameras from different manufactured generations up to date and secure is a challenge. With the Eagle Eye Camera Cyber Lockdown, this is no longer required to ensure cybersecurity because the cameras are fully isolated.

3. Increased Reliability

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS provides a fully fault tolerant redundant environment. Very few on-premises VMS solutions are deployed to be fully redundant. With the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS, every server, storage unit, switch and power supply in the environment is redundant. This provides a higher level of uptime than can typically be obtained in an on-premises environment.

 A typical on-premises environment will not be able to backup all the video data because there is simply too much data for a typical backup strategy to function properly. A quality on-premises environment will utilize a RAID storage system. However, this does not provide backups, it simply provides higher reliability if one or two disks fail. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS actually stores three copies of all video on three different servers, providing a level of reliability against hardware failure that is unparalleled.

Regardless of internet connection, the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS continues recording. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS can typically record video for up to 5 days during an internet outage. This reliability is crucial.

4. Lower TCO

Traditionally, video surveillance solutions have been costly investments that require significant upfront and maintenance costs. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS has significantly reduced the total cost of ownership (TCO) for video surveillance systems.

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS offers a much lower upfront cost with substantial economies of scale. Customers pay on a subscription-based model, so they're only charged for what they actually need. With over 3,000 compatible IP, analog, and HD over Coax cameras, customers save money by choosing to use their own cloud cameras or using the cameras that are already installed on-premises. Maintenance costs are also greatly reduced, with bug fixes and security improvements being delivered wirelessly, eliminating the need to replace existing hardware.

5. Flexible Retention

In the video surveillance industry, one of the constants is change. The requirements placed on a system are constantly evolving based on risks, legal requirements, and threats. Often the video resolution or the retention period needs to be increased due to these changing needs. In an on-premises system or a cloud-managed system, this means deployment of new storage systems, servers, cameras, or a complete system redesign.

With a true cloud system, where the video is actually stored in the cloud, none of this is necessary. It's simple and easy to adjust the settings in the interface to increase the retention duration as needed. Retention can be increased up to 20 years on the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS. Customers can also lower retention at any time to cut costs, this can't be done if they have purchased and deployed additional storage hardware.

6. Camera Compatibility

Surveillance systems are complex and require a significant amount of wiring. Installing a new system can also mean installing all new cameras and other hardware. However, it's rare that a company has the budget for all new installations across each location. Compatibility with existing wiring and camera systems is a critical feature for making IT's tasks easier.

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS is compatible with the vast majority of existing IP cameras. In fact, less than 1% of the existing cameras are unadaptable with the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS. Furthermore, the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS supports analog cameras and a full selection of the most popular HD-TVI and HD-CVI cameras.

With the broad support of wiring and cameras provided by the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS, it's not necessary to "rip and replace" when it's time to move video surveillance onto a single cloud platform. New sites can be installed with new cameras and existing sites can utilize the cameras and wiring already in place. Customers still get all the advantages of a single, modern cloud platform across the enterprise.

7. Bandwidth Management

Transmission and storage of video requires bandwidth. Eagle Eye Networks has developed and incorporated three key items into the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS to measure, minimize, and manage bandwidth used by video:

Eagle Eye Intelligent Bandwidth Management

This tool constantly monitors bandwidth usage and availability. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS will reduce video bandwidth using motion detection, compression, and de-duplication; all while keeping the video encrypted during transit and at rest. The bandwidth system can also be set to only transmit video during off-work hours (at night) to avoid congestion with regular internet traffic.

Eagle Eye Cloud-Premise Flex Storage

When deploying cameras globally or at a wide number of locations, some locations may experience issues with bandwidth. It's rare, but sometimes the bandwidth to transmit all the video to the cloud is not available. Eagle Eye Networks developed the Eagle Eye Cloud-Premise Flex Storage for these situations. Utilizing this tool and the Eagle Eye Cloud Managed Video Recorder, cameras can individually be selected for local recording or cloud recording. Customers can also select cameras for high resolution local recording and low resolution cloud recording and visa-versa. The customer experiences no difference in operation, usage, or the user interface for cameras that are recorded locally.

Eagle Eye Bandwidth Measurement Tools

When managing video surveillance, bandwidth is important. The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS comes complete with a built-in toolset that measures available bandwidth, records exactly how much bandwidth was used, when it was used, and by which devices, and provides notifications when something is amiss. IT professionals have a set of tools to locate and diagnose any bandwidth issues.

8. AI and Analytics

Using analytics and AI with a video surveillance system makes it possible to track customers, detect intrusions, reduce security staff, search video for particular cars or people, and more. The best way to take advantage of this ever-changing world is with an open platform, such as the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS.

Analytics and AI can be implemented at three different points in any video surveillance system:
- In the camera
- In the VMS
- In third-party hardware/software solutions

As of 2020, the most popular solutions for complex analytics are in third-party hardware/software solutions while the most popular solution for basic analytics is in the camera.

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS supports analytics in all three locations and also includes a growing set of analytics built right into the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS.

9. Future-Proof Platform

No one product can address every need, but leveraging a cloud-based open platform, like the Eagle Eye Video API Platform, which is the basis of the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS, makes it possible to integrate, and incorporate tools for all current and future needs. With the open API platform, the IT team can integrate the VMS with the SSO server, third party analytics, POS system data, command and control center, and more. Many third-party applications already leverage and integrate with the Eagle Eye Video API Platform.

The Eagle Eye Video API Platform handles all the heavy lifting of interfacing with the cameras, recording video, securely transmitting and storing video to the cloud and making video available for use in the integrated applications. This open API ecosystem makes it easy for businesses and developers to integrate any number of applications with the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS platform.

The Eagle Eye Cloud VMS is being continuously enhanced with AI, search functions, analytics, and more. All customers get access to these features as they are developed and enhanced. As new AI technologies are developed, they will become available on the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS for anyone to utilize as they see fit — without any need to deploy expensive hardware, upgrade current systems, or replace existing systems.
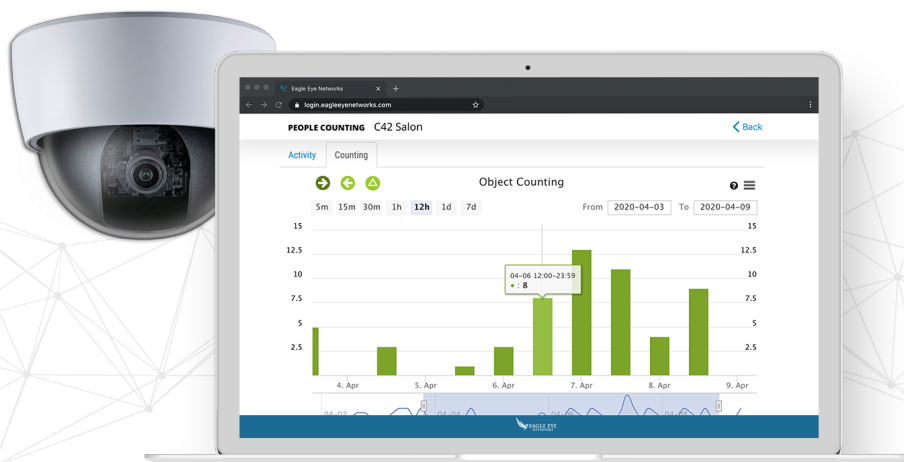
Conclusion

Businesses will continue to move their video surveillance systems to the cloud because of reduced upfront costs, minimal hardware requirements, low-levels of maintenance, and the ability for infinite scalability.

Contact us to learn how Eagle Eye Networks can modernize your video surveillance and improve your IT operations today. Get higher reliability, higher cybersecurity and lower TCO with the Eagle Eye Cloud VMS.

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