

Rugged hands-free video recorder

US COMPANY Digital Ally has developed a professional, wearable video system for law enforcement officers.

The system is a compact digital video and audio recorder and photographic camera that is designed to capture hands-free evidence.

The company says it allows officers to record criminal activity and other evidence in real time, regardless of the location or lighting situation. The system is small, lightweight and completely housed in a single enclosure, eliminating the issue of obstructing cables and additional components.

Impact and weather resistant, it utilises solid-state memory that is unaffected by violent motion. Other key features include: infrared illumination for recording in darkness; pre-event recording; password protection; a feature to mark important recorded events; the ability to add detailed metadata, such as age and ethnicity; 16GB of internal memory; optional removable microSD cards; a long-lasting rechargeable lithium polymer battery; and back-office video management software.



NEW BEST FRIEND: Digital Ally's camera system has been designed to be easily wearable

Digital Ally/1392640

Airborne imagery aids L'Aquila relief

A PORTABLE aerial video system that can be installed in a standard helicopter cockpit in less than an hour was used in disaster relief operations after the earthquake in L'Aquila, Italy, last year.

Helica is a remote sensing company specialising in airborne laser terrain mapping, hyperspectral surveys and aerial photography. It operates two Eurocopter AS350s and both helicopters have been modified to carry the specialist laser and hyperspectral equipment.

Airborne data is then processed by Helica at its headquarters in the Venezia Friuli Giulia region of Northern Italy so it can be used by customers. In April 2009, a team from Helica

used an AS350 equipped with a Wescam MX-15HDi EO/IR turret integrated with an HD video system (HDVS) to provide high-definition airborne imagery to the Italian Department of Civil Protection, who were co-ordinating the multi-agency relief effort in L'Aquila.

The HDVS comprises an HD display, HD downlink with a range of 150km, recorder and moving map system, all within a single box.

The whole system is European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) certified and can be installed in less than an hour.

The downlink receive site was quickly set-up and for every day of the relief mission, the system provided real-time HD imagery.

Boost for information superhighway

WEST MIDLANDS Police in the UK is using a new networking system to boost the capacity and reliability of its converged data, voice and video IP network.

The force is responsible for policing one of the busiest sections of Europe's motorway network. Recent innovations, such as live video streaming for officer briefing, mean

greater capacity and resilience are required. The new networking system will increase the force's capacity to cope with the data generated and allow it to be easily shared and accessed. The force's network, including H3C and 3Com switches and other vendors' systems, is centrally managed with H3C's Intelligent Management Center.

Knife carriers in UK get probed

THE Metropolitan Police Service in the UK has been using lightweight handheld metal detectors to conduct stop and search operations for knives in Kingston-upon-Thames.

The Adams AD360 has a detection area that is the entire length, circumference and tip of the detection probe. It gives the user a fast way of carrying out a search procedure, yet is small and light enough to wear on the belt, the makers claim.

It is designed for law enforcement, correctional and general guarding use and detects all metals.

The device uses a silent vibration alert only when metal is detected, enabling the user a safer and more tactical advantage.

Adams claim the AD360's rugged all-weather construction makes it suitable for street use regardless of hot, cold or wet conditions. The battery compartment, for a single standard 9-volt battery, is located at the back of the detector and has a screw cap, similar to that of a standard flash light.