AXIS Camera Station

Installation Guide

AXIS Camera Station Installation Guide

Minimum recommended requirements

Install AXIS Camera Station on a stand-alone computer dedicated mainly for running this application

Hardware:

- Intel Pentium 4 with 2 GHz processor
- CD-drive
- 512 MB RAM
- Hard disk: 1 GB available space for installation
- NTFS file system
- XGA (1024 x 768) or higher resolution monitor
- AGP Graphic card, Direct Draw (for MPEG-2/4) with 32 MB or more memory
- 100 MB Ethernet with a static IP address

System:

- Microsoft Vista Business, Microsoft Windows XP Professional SP2, 2000 (SP4) 2003 Server (SP1), Internet Explorer Version 6.0 or later, DirectX 9.0c or later (for MPEG 2/4)
- TCP/IP support
- Internet Information Server (IIS) - for Web client
- Microsoft .NET 2.0 runtime environment (included in installation package)

Minimum recommended requirements for a full 25 camera system:

- Dual XEON 3 Ghz, 1024 MB RAM, Multiple SCSI disks
- 1000 Mbit Ethernet backbone

Overview

This document will help you install AXIS Camera Station and configure it for your Axis Network Cameras and Axis Video Servers. A brief introduction to the functionality of the software is covered here, see the online Help or the AXIS Camera Station User's Manual for a detailed description. The User's Manual is available on the CD and on www.axis.com

AXIS Camera Station is a complete monitoring and recording system for use with Axis Network Cameras and Video Servers.

The application's main window provides quick and easy access to all connected and configured cameras, recordings, inputs and outputs used in the system. A background service in Windows, AXIS Camera Station will start automatically upon system start-up and continue running even after the user logs out.

Configuration
All dialogs that allow control and configuration of all aspects of the AXIS Camera Station system are found under **Options** in the menu.

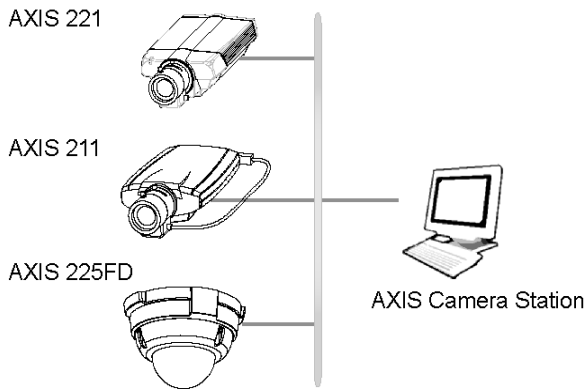
Remote clients
For remote clients you can use "*AXIS Camera Station Client*" described on page 21 or "*AXIS Camera Station Web Application*" described on page 23.

Network Configuration

AXIS Camera Station can record and play back video from cameras that are connected over a LAN (Local Area Network) or over a WAN (Wide Area Network).

LAN

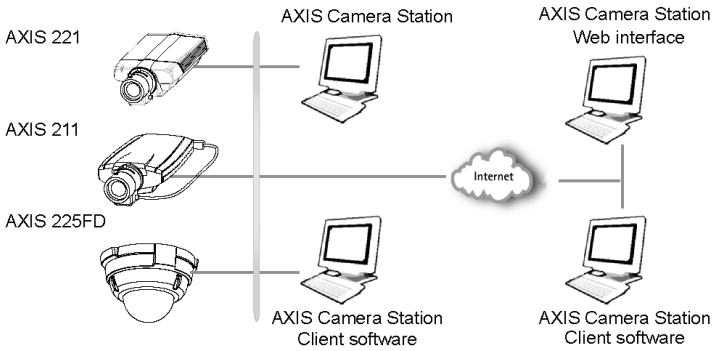
The cameras can be connected directly to the server running AXIS Camera Station using an Ethernet network.



Internet (WAN)

To access AXIS Camera Station from the Internet and get live images from the cameras you must open a set of IP addresses and port numbers in your firewall configuration.

See *Network Configuration* in AXIS Camera Station user's manual.

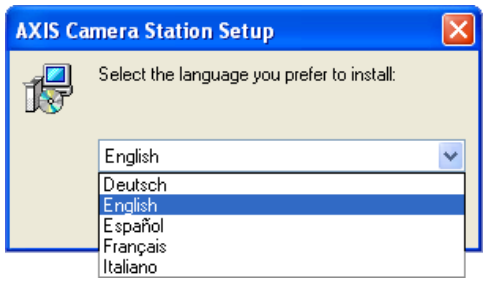


See the User's Manual for details, available on the CD and on www.axis.com

Install AXIS Camera Station Software

Install AXIS Camera Station on the dedicated stand-alone PC from where you wish to run the main administration of your cameras and video servers.

1. Insert the CD in the CD drive. If the installation CD does not auto-start, click autorun.exe in the CD's root folder.
2. From the CD's interface, click **Software** and then **AXIS Camera Station**
3. Select the preferred language to install.



Note:

You may be prompted to install .NET Framework. Simply follow the Installation Wizard's instruction.

4. Next, you will be asked where you wish to install the program. If nothing is specified the program is normally installed in **C:\Program Files\Axis Communications\AXIS Camera Station.**
5. Click your way through the Installation Wizard.

Note:

If running Windows XP, you will need to permit the firewall to accept incoming requests from AXIS Camera Station Client when prompted.

6. When the installation is finished, open AXIS Camera Station from **Start > All Programs** or click the program icon on your desktop:

AXIS Camera Station Activation

The first time you start the program you will be asked to register your license.

Activate the software with your License Key

The License Key can be used for only **one** current installation. Once registered, it cannot be used again. **Do not** request the access code to activate the software until AXIS Camera Station is installed on the target computer.

The License Key is your proof of purchase, keep it in a safe place for future reference.

Important!

When entering the License Key and Access Code, remember that they are both case sensitive.

License

A base license is required to run AXIS Camera Station and allows for a specified number of cameras to be used with the program. Licenses for additional cameras can be installed under **Options** > **General Settings** > **License**, see AXIS Camera Station User's Manual for more information.

Licenses for the AXIS Image Enhancer component can also be installed if you want to improve the image quality in poor visibility conditions, such as fog, smoke, rain and snow.

There are two types of upgrade licenses available for purchase at your local Axis reseller:

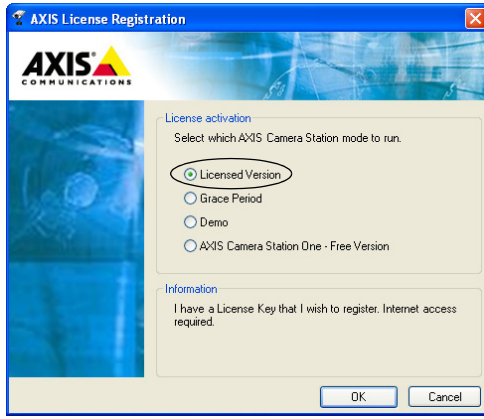
- **Additional camera license.**
- **Software upgrade license.** You can upgrade AXIS Camera Station for a limited time from www.axis.com and then extend the license.

Licenses and the time period remaining are displayed in the software interface. MyAxis (www.axis.com/reg/) shows your registered licenses and activation dates.

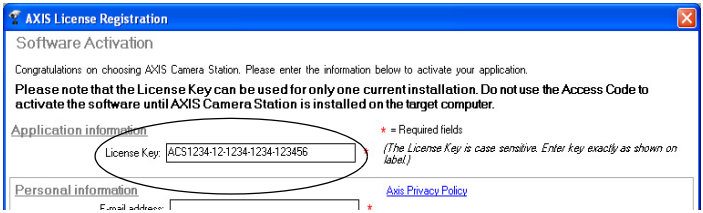
Fast Internet connection: Register automatically

If AXIS Camera Station is installed on a computer with fast Internet access you can register automatically. Your license information is sent directly to the Axis Web server.

1. Select **Licensed Version** and click on the **OK** button.



2. Fill in the requested information. The License Key is found on the inside of the AXIS Camera Station CD casing. Click **Activate.**



3. Your license information will be sent to Axis Communications and your software will be activated automatically.
4. You can now start using AXIS Camera Station.

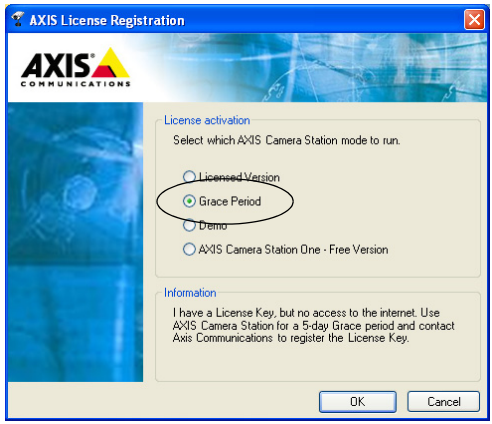
Note:

If the connection to the Axis Web server fails while registering the software, you can register manually by following the instructions for **No or low-speed Internet connection: Register manually.**

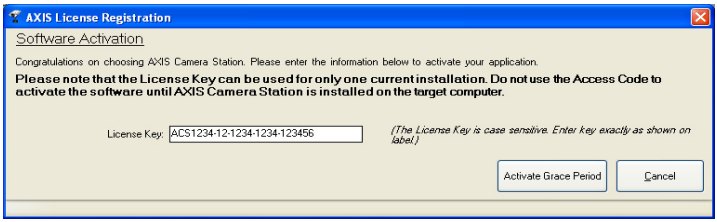
No or low-speed Internet connection: Register manually

If AXIS Camera Station is installed on a computer without (or with low-speed) access to the Internet, you can acquire the Access Code that is needed to activate the software from the Axis Web site and enter it manually.

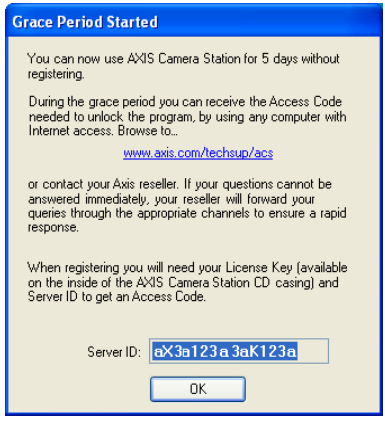
1. Select **Grace period** and click on the **OK** button



2. Enter the License Key and click **Activate Grace Period**.



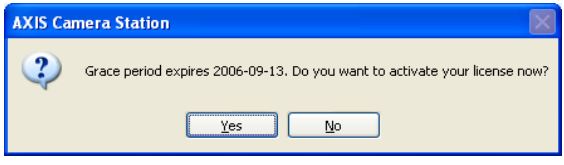
3. You will see your **Server ID** (a code containing information about your PC), make a note of it. You will need the Server ID when filling in information on the Internet form for your Access Code.



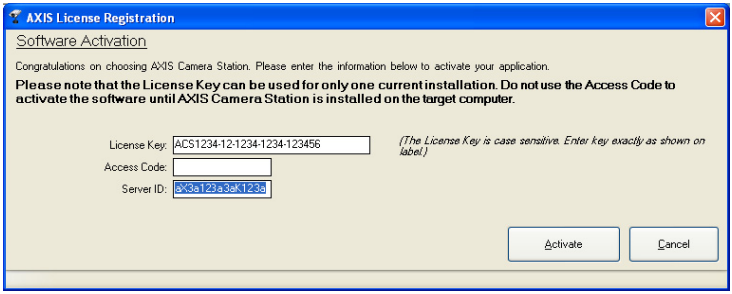
4. You can now use AXIS Camera Station for 5 days.

During the grace period you can receive the Access Code by using any computer with Internet access. Browse to **http://www.axis.com/techsup/acs** and fill in the requested information. When complete click **Submit**.

5. When you have received the Access Code, select **Yes** to this prompt when starting up AXIS Camera Station.



6. Enter your Access Code. License Key and Server ID are filled in automatically.



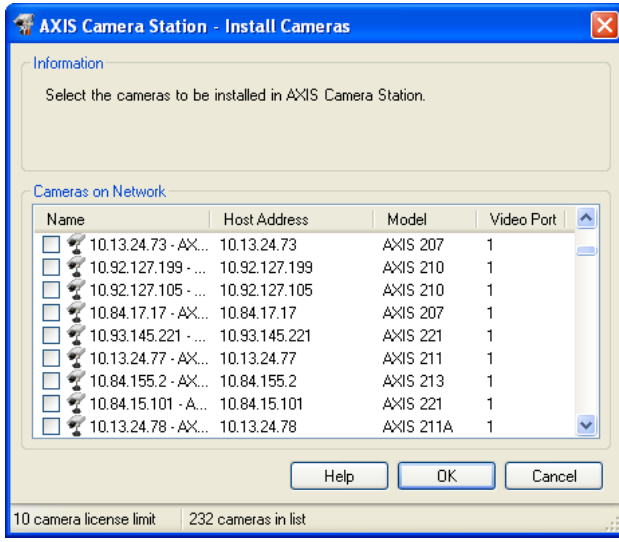
7. Click **Activate**.
8. You can now start using AXIS Camera Station.

Register License from 30-day Demo or AXIS Camera Station One

If you are currently running the Demo version or AXIS Camera Station One and wish to switch to the full version of AXIS Camera Station, you can register your license by selecting **Options** > **General Settings** > **License** from the main menu. Follow the instructions for "*Fast Internet connection: Register automatically*" described on page 10 or "*No or low-speed Internet connection: Register manually*" described on page 12.

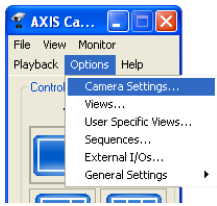
Configure AXIS Camera Station

After installing the software, it must be configured for your cameras and video servers. The first time AXIS Camera Station is started, a search function automatically finds and installs cameras/video servers on your network. If there are more cameras on your network than you have a license for, an **Install Cameras** dialog opens automatically. Simply check the boxes of the camera/video servers you would like to install in AXIS Camera Station.



Manual configuration of camera/video servers is done from **Options** menu.

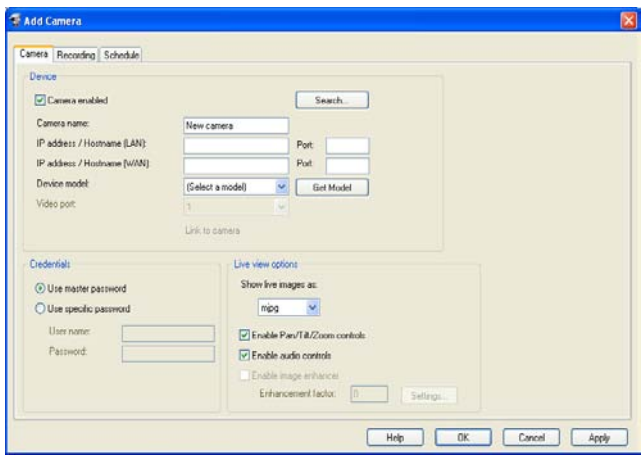
Adding a Camera/video server to AXIS Camera Station



1.From AXIS Camera Station, click **Options > Camera settings.**

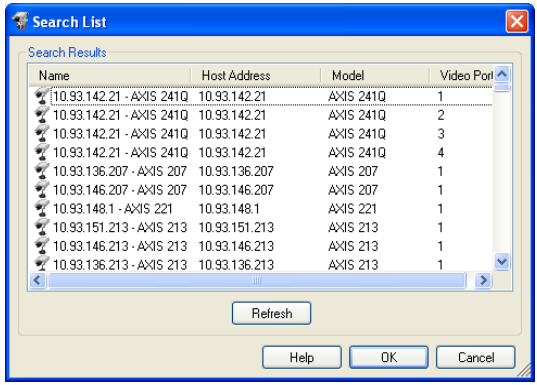
Note: All settings can be found under Options. Only a few of the most essential settings are covered in this guide. See the online Help or User's Manual for a full description.

2. From **Camera settings**, click on the **Add** button.

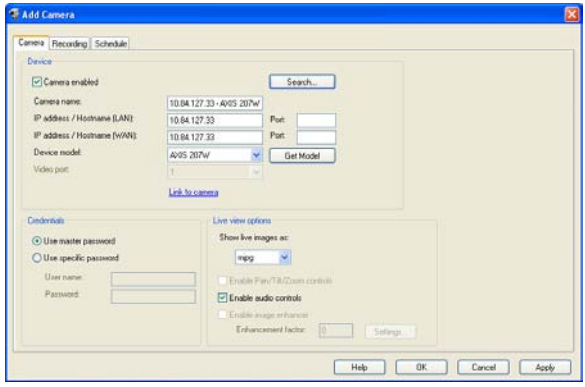


3. Information can be entered manually or click **Search** to get a list of available cameras and video servers on your network.

4. Click on the desired camera/video server and then OK.



5. All pertinent information appears in the window. **Camera Name** is how the camera will appear in AXIS Camera Station. If you like, you may change the name to something more descriptive such as “Backdoor” or “Garage”. The change will only affect AXIS Camera Station and not the camera.



6. Click **Link to Camera** to verify that you can access the camera.

Note:

The Camera Enabled box should be checked. If this box is not checked when registering a camera, recordings and live viewing are not possible

7. If cameras are set up to use a common user name and password, check the **Use master password** box under Credentials. If the camera has a unique password, check **Use specific password** and enter User Name and Password information.

Notes:

The Master Password is setup in AXIS Camera Station under **Options** > **General Settings** > **General** > **Master Credentials.**

Default User name = root, Password = pass.

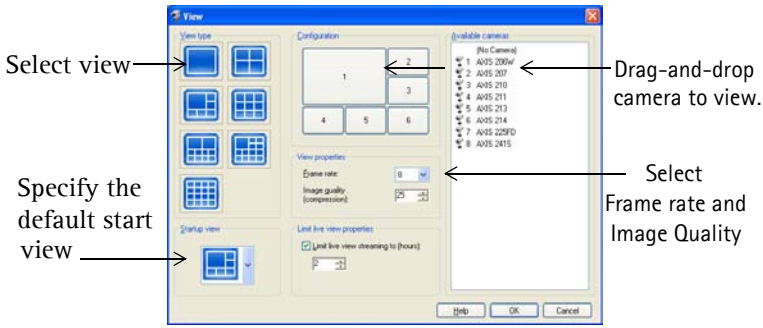
Set up Recording

Recording can be set up as continuous, triggered or scheduled. For information about Recording and Schedules, see the AXIS Camera Station User's Manual or help files.

Defining default camera views from AXIS Camera Station

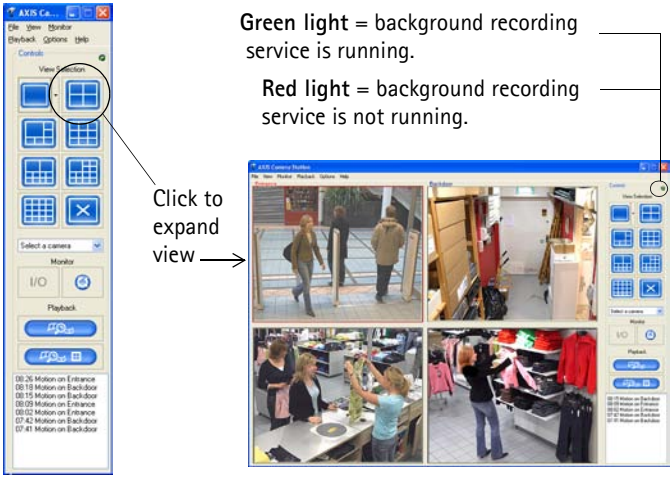
To define the camera views as seen from the main AXIS Camera Station user interface, click on **Options** > **Views** from the file menu.

1. Select the view according to the number of cameras you want to configure.



2. Specify the default view to display from the drop-down list when AXIS Camera Station is started. The **No Live Images** option is when only the controls are visible.
3. Arrange cameras in the view by clicking first on the position in the view and then the desired camera in the **Available Cameras** list. You can also drag-and-drop a camera to the desired position in the view.
4. Select Frame Rate (number of frames per second) and Image Quality for live video. A high value will require less bandwidth, but give lower quality images. A low value will give better images due to less compression, but requires more bandwidth. Note that the frame rate is a target value. The actual frame rate depends on the type of camera, network conditions and your PC configuration.
5. Click on **OK** to accept configuration.

AXIS Camera Station User Interface



The background recording service retrieves images from the connected cameras and stores them to hard disk. From AXIS Camera Station you can start or stop the background service, click **File > Start Server** or **Stop Server** or right-click on the **AXIS Camera Station** icon in the taskbar.

When the service is running there is a flashing green indicator in the upper right corner of the window. A flashing red indicator means the service was stopped, for example by the operator. When the service is running there is also a green icon in the task bar, a red icon means the service was stopped and a yellow icon indicates that the service is starting up or experiencing problems connecting to one of the cameras.

Recording is only possible if the background service is running, and will continue even after logging out from the PC where AXIS Camera Station is installed.

The background service will automatically start running upon system start-up.

AXIS Camera Station Client

The AXIS Camera Station Client application is used for remote operations on client workstations, where you can perform the same tasks as from AXIS Camera Station using a similar user interface.

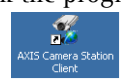
Install AXIS Camera Station Client Software

1. From the client workstation, insert the CD and select Software then AXIS Camera Station Client.
2. Click Open to launch the installation.

Note:

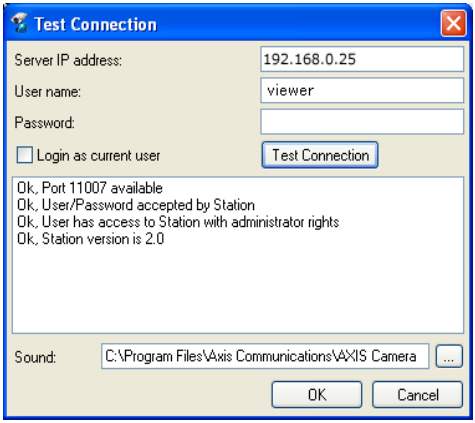
You may be prompted to install **.NET Framework**. Simply follow the installation Wizard's instructions

3. Next, you will be asked where to install the program. If nothing is specified, the program is normally installed here: **C:\Program Files\Axis Communications\AXIS Camera Station Client**
4. Click your way through the Installation Wizard. When you are finished, open AXIS Camera Station Client from **Start > All Programs** or click the program icon on the desktop:



5. Click **File > Connection** to complete the installation.

6. The first time you connect, this window will appear:



7. Enter the **IP address** or host name of the server PC where AXIS Camera Station is installed and, if required, the User Name and Password.
8. Click **OK**.

Notes:

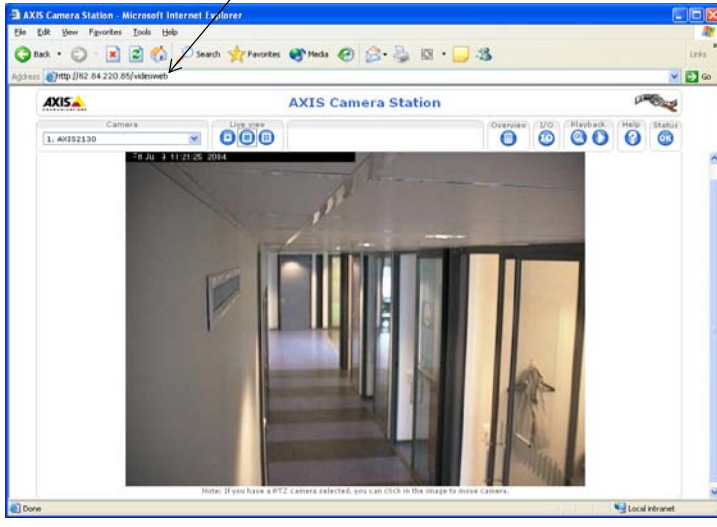
- When working with more one than one AXIS Camera Station, a list of recently accessed Camera Stations is available in the **File** menu.
- If there are problems connecting to the server, click **Test connection** to troubleshoot the problem. Port 11007 is used and must be opened in the firewall, router, etc.

AXIS Camera Station Web Application

A web browser can be used on client workstations to view cameras and perform simple operations, such as review or playback recordings.

Once the AXIS Camera Station Web Access has been enabled in AXIS Camera Station under **Options** > **General Settings** > **General** clients can access camera views from a browser by typing **http://<server IP address>/VideoWeb** in the Address field

Example: http://10.13.6.128/VideoWeb



See the online Help pages or the User's Manual for more information. The User's Manual is available on the AXIS Camera Station CD and on www.axis.com

AXIS Camera Station Installation Guide Rev. 4.2 April 2007
Copyright © Axis Communications AB, 2004-2007 Part No. 29156