

Camcloud Deployment Guide: IP Camera Support

AI-powered Cloud Video Surveillance for any IP camera - it's that easy.

Cloud Video Surveillance, sometimes known as Cloud VMS, is a video surveillance platform that is 100% cloud-based, and gives you the ability to work with a large number of IP cameras. This Deployment Guide outlines the key considerations when selecting IP cameras and explains how Camcloud offers maximum flexibility to use the IP cameras of your choice.

Camcloud's platform offers a large variety of plug-and-play cameras that work securely and seamlessly with our cloud, while providing customers with options to configure and connect any other cameras through our Secure Tunnel Manager or other generic connection methods.



Plug-and-Play Support

Camcloud has built a large selection of plug-and-play integrations that establish a secure, encrypted connection from camera to cloud with no need for port-forwarding or on-site hardware or appliance. Our list of plug-and-play brands include:



Secure Tunnel Manager

In situations where customers want to use their existing cameras that may not have plug-and-play support, Camcloud offers the Secure Tunnel Manager, a lightweight software install that can run on-premise and ensures all cameras have a secure, encrypted tunnel to our cloud with no port-forwarding.



Lightweight software install



Connects them securely and encrypted to the cloud



Scans local network for available cameras

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Top considerations when evaluating cameras for cloud video surveillance

- ✓ Do I need to purchase new cameras or can I use my current IP cameras?
- ✓ If I'm going to deploy new cameras, be sure they have plug-and-play support with Camcloud.
- ✓ If I'm going to use existing cameras, do I have a machine on-site that can run Secure Tunnel Manager? If not, is there the ability to port forward the cameras so they connect directly to the cloud?
- ✓ What are my bitrate limits at each site and do my cameras offer good variable bitrate control?
- ✓ Do I need AI or analytic based event-detection and will I do that at the edge (camera) or in the cloud?
- ✓ Should I source the cameras and the cloud platform from different providers in order to avoid vendor lock-in?
- ✓ How long do I need to store my video data? Most cloud providers should provide a range of storage lengths, including long-term, low cost archival options.

Putting it Together: Camera Options for Cloud Video Surveillance



1. New Camera Deployments with Plug-and-Play Cameras

Cameras that are enabled as plug-and-play for Camcloud's platform are the ideal solution, and should be the only choice for new deployments where cameras need to be acquired. Cameras with this capability automatically connect to the cloud, establish a secure connection and can be configured and managed through the Camcloud apps. This eliminates the need for any special software or hardware on-site, reducing your upfront costs and ongoing maintenance. Supported plug and-play brands are: Amcrest, Axis, Hanwha Vision, Milesight and Speco, with more being added regularly.



2. Redeploy Existing Cameras to the Cloud

The power of Camcloud is its open platform approach, enabling almost any IP camera to be connected to the cloud, including legacy cameras that may be already deployed. Customers often want to redeploy these cameras and eliminate legacy NVRs or video management systems (VMS), replacing those systems with a modern cloud platform. Camcloud provides multiple options for deploying non plug-and-play cameras, including our Secure Tunnel Manager which is a lightweight software install that runs on-site and connects the cameras securely to the cloud. For some clients, port forwarding a generic IP camera and publishing the video to the cloud is a great approach to extend the life of your cameras.



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3. Understand and Estimate Bandwidth at Each Location

Cloud video surveillance is an incredibly efficient deployment platform, minimizing on-site hardware, off-loading expensive AI and other processing to the cloud but adequate upload bandwidth is required. Regardless of what cameras you select, you will want to properly estimate your bandwidth consumption at each site and ensure the selected cameras can operate within any constraints.

Most modern IP cameras have advanced variable bitrate features that allow upload of high quality video with minimal bandwidth requirements. Sometimes legacy cameras do not have this level of capability, so it's a matter of understanding upload bandwidth at each site and calculating how many cameras will be uploading video. Fortunately, Camcloud provides easy tools to configure camera bitrate, resolution and framerate the most efficient configuration can be established.



4. Future-Proof Your Solution

While the top priority is addressing your immediate requirements, it's important to future-proof the system by giving yourself maximum flexibility. This starts by selecting an Open Platform cloud vendor that works with a wide variety of IP cameras, and offers the ability to integrate 3rd party systems such as LPR or various business systems. If you pick a closed-system vendor, you'll be constrained in your ability to adapt and modify your deployment in the future

Learn More

Camcloud's 100% cloud-based VMS offers maximum flexibility with a wide selection of supported plug-and-play cameras as well as secure connection options for your existing or legacy cameras. With a proven track record of success we can help you build a solution that fits your requirements.

"Camcloud doesn't need any device at the customer's premises to work which aligns perfectly with our strategy. This eliminates possible hardware failures and lowers deployment and maintenance costs. The integration capabilities that Camcloud affords us also made the decision easy to select this platform."

Jason Nagy, J&M Solutions



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