

AXIS Q1656-LE Box Camera

AXIS Q1656-LE Box Camera

AXIS Q1656-BE Box Camera

AXIS Q1656-BLE Box Camera

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Installation



Installation video for the device.

Preview mode

Preview mode is ideal for installers when fine tuning the camera view during the installation. No login is required to access the camera view in preview mode. It is available only in factory defaulted state for a limited time from powering up the device.



This video demonstrates how to use preview mode.

Get started

Find the device on the network

To find Axis devices on the network and assign them IP addresses in Windows®, use AXIS IP Utility or AXIS Device Manager. Both applications are free and can be downloaded from axis.com/support.

For more information about how to find and assign IP addresses, go to *How to assign an IP address and access your device*.

Browser support

You can use the device with the following browsers:

	Chrome™	Edge™	Firefox®	Safari®
Windows®	✓	✓	*	*
macOS®	✓	✓	*	*
Linux®	✓	✓	*	*
Other operating systems	*	*	*	*

✓: Recommended

*: Supported with limitations

Open the device's web interface

1. Open a browser and type the IP address or host name of the Axis device. If you don't know the IP address, use AXIS IP Utility or AXIS Device Manager to find the device on the network.
2. Type the username and password. If you access the device for the first time, you must create an administrator account. See *Create an administrator account, on page 5*.

For descriptions of all features and settings in the web interface of devices with AXIS OS, see *AXIS OS web interface help*.

Create an administrator account

The first time you log in to your device, you must create an administrator account.

1. Enter a username.
2. Enter a password. See *Secure passwords, on page 6*.
3. Re-enter the password.
4. Accept the license agreement.
5. Click **Add account**.

Important

The device has no default account. If you lose the password for your administrator account, you must reset the device. See *Reset to factory default settings, on page 33*.

Secure passwords

Important

Use HTTPS (which is enabled by default) to set your password or other sensitive configurations over the network. HTTPS enables secure and encrypted network connections, thereby protecting sensitive data, such as passwords.

The device password is the primary protection for your data and services. Axis devices do not impose a password policy as they may be used in various types of installations.

To protect your data we strongly recommend that you:

- Use a password with at least 8 characters, preferably created by a password generator.
- Don't expose the password.
- Change the password at a recurring interval, at least once a year.

Make sure that no one has tampered with the device software

To make sure that the device has its original AXIS OS, or to take full control of the device after a security attack:

1. Reset to factory default settings. See *Reset to factory default settings, on page 33*.
After the reset, secure boot guarantees the state of the device.
2. Configure and install the device.

Web interface overview

This video gives you an overview of the device's web interface.



Axis device web interface

Configure your device

Replace the lens

1. Stop all recordings and disconnect power from the device.
2. Disconnect the lens cable and remove the standard lens.
3. Attach the new lens and connect the lens cable.
4. Reconnect the power.
5. Log in to the device's web interface and go to **Video > Image > Exposure**.
6. Select the **P-Iris** lens you have installed.

Note

If you use a DC iris, manual iris or optional i-CS lens there is no need to select a lens driver.

7. For the changes to take effect, you need to restart the device. Go to **Maintenance** and click **Restart**.
8. Adjust the zoom and focus.

Note

For a lens with P-Iris, DC-iris, or manual iris, manually adjust the focus on the lens before you fine-tune the focus through the web interface.

Adjust the image

This section includes instructions about configuring your device. If you want to learn more about how certain features work, go to *Learn more, on page 19*.

Adjust the zoom and focus

Select scene profile

A scene profile is a set of predefined image appearance settings including color level, brightness, sharpness, contrast and local contrast. Scene profiles are preconfigured in the product for quick setup to a specific scenario, for example **Forensic** which is optimized for surveillance conditions. For a description of each available setting, see *The web interface, on page 18*.

You can select a scene profile during the initial setup of the camera. You can also select or change scene profile later.

1. Go to **Video > Image > Appearance**.
2. Go to **Scene profile** and select a profile.

Select exposure mode

To improve image quality for specific surveillance scenes, use exposure modes. Exposure modes lets you control aperture, shutter speed, and gain. Go to **Video > Image > Exposure** and select between the following exposure modes:

- For most use cases, select **Automatic** exposure.
- For environments with certain artificial lighting, for example fluorescent lighting, select **Flicker-free**. Select the same frequency as the power line frequency.
- For environments with certain artificial light and bright light, for example outdoors with fluorescent lighting at night and sun during daytime, select **Flicker-reduced**. Select the same frequency as the power line frequency.
- To lock the current exposure settings, select **Hold current**.

Optimize IR illumination

Depending on the installation environment and the conditions around the camera, for example external light sources in the scene, you can sometimes improve the image quality if you manually adjust the intensity of the LEDs. If you have problems with reflections from the LEDs, you can try to reduce the intensity.

1. Go to **Video > Image > Day-night mode**.
2. Turn on **Allow illumination**.
3. Click  in the live view and select **Manual**.
4. Adjust the intensity.

Benefit from IR light in low-light conditions by using night mode

Your camera uses visible light to deliver color images during the day. But as the visible light diminishes, color images become less bright and clear. If you switch to night mode when this happens, the camera uses both visible and near-infrared light to deliver bright and detailed black-and-white images instead. You can set the camera to switch to night mode automatically.

1. Go to **Video > Image > Day-night mode**, and make sure that the **IR-cut filter** is set to **Auto**.

Reduce noise in low-light conditions

To reduce noise in low-light conditions, you can adjust one or more of the following settings:

- Adjust the trade-off between noise and motion blur. Go to **Video > Image > Exposure** and move the **Blur-noise trade-off** slider toward **Low noise**.
- Set the exposure mode to automatic.

Note

A high max shutter value can result in motion blur.

- To slow down the shutter speed, set max shutter to the highest possible value.

Note

When you reduce the max gain, the image can become darker.

- Set the max gain to a lower value.
- If there is an **Aperture** slider, move it towards **Open**.
- Reduce sharpness in the image, under **Video > Image > Appearance**.

Reduce motion blur in low-light conditions

To reduce motion blur in low-light conditions, adjust one or more of the following settings in **Video > Image > Exposure**:

Note

When you increase the gain, image noise also increases.

- Set **Max shutter** to a shorter time, and **Max gain** to a higher value.

If you still have problems with motion blur:

- Increase the light level in the scene.
- Mount the camera so that objects move toward it or away from it rather than sideways.

Maximize the details in an image

Important

If you maximize the details in an image, the bitrate will probably increase and you might get a reduced frame rate.

- Go to **Video > Stream > General** and set the compression as low as possible.
- Below the live view image, click  and in **Video format**, select **MJPEG**.
- Go to **Video > Stream > Zipstream** and select **Off**.

Handle scenes with strong backlight

Dynamic range is the difference in light levels in an image. In some cases the difference between the darkest and the brightest areas can be significant. The result is often an image where either the dark or the bright areas are visible. Wide dynamic range (WDR) makes both dark and bright areas of the image visible.



Image without WDR.



Image with WDR.

Note

- WDR can cause artifacts in the image.
 - WDR may not be available for all capture modes.
1. Go to **Video > Image > Wide dynamic range**.
 2. Turn on **WDR**.
 3. Use the **Local contrast** slider to adjust the amount of WDR.
 4. If you still have problems, go to **Exposure** and adjust the **Exposure zone** to cover the area of interest.

Find out more about WDR and how to use it at axis.com/web-articles/wdr.

Stabilize a shaky image with image stabilization

Image stabilization is suitable in environments where the product is mounted in an exposed location where vibrations can occur, for example, due to wind or passing traffic.

The feature makes the image smoother, steadier, and less blurry. It also reduces the file size of the compressed image and lowers the bitrate of the video stream.

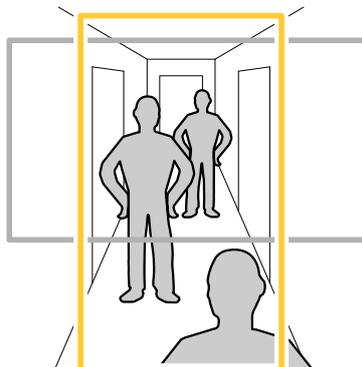
Note

When you turn on image stabilization, the image is slightly cropped, which lowers the maximum resolution.

1. Go to **Video > Installation > Image correction**.
2. Turn on **Image stabilization**.

Monitor long and narrow areas

Use corridor format to better utilize the full field of view in a long and narrow area, for example a staircase, hallway, road, or tunnel.

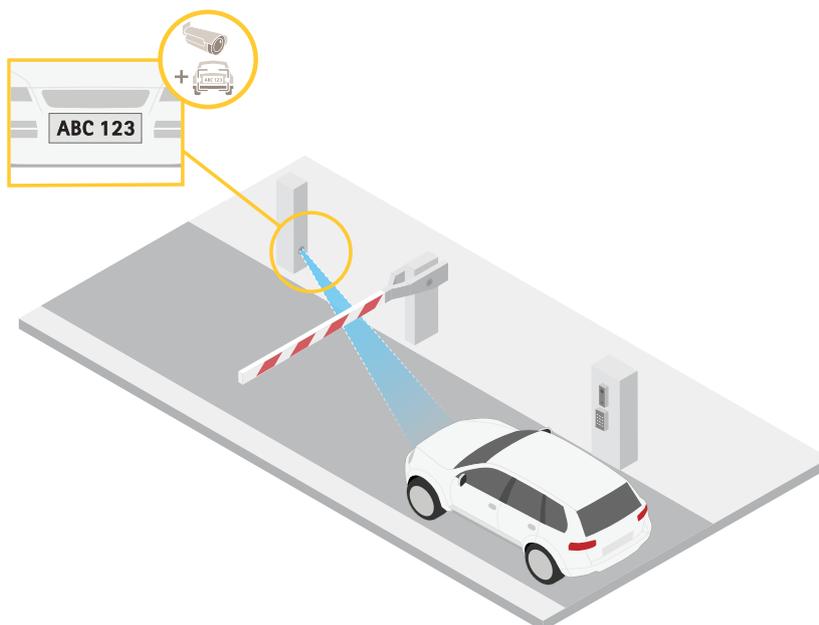


1. Depending on your device, turn the camera or the 3-axis lens in the camera 90° or 270°.
2. If the device doesn't have automatic rotation of the view, go to **Video > Installation**.
3. Rotate the view 90° or 270°.

To see how to rotate the lens, see *Installation, on page 4*

Verify the pixel resolution

To verify that a defined part of the image contains enough pixels to, for example, recognize license plates, you can use the pixel counter.



1. Go to **Video > Image**.
2. Click .
3. Click  for **Pixel counter**.
4. In the camera's live view, adjust the size and position of the rectangle around the area of interest, for example where you expect license plates to appear.

5. You can see the number of pixels for each of the rectangle's sides, and decide if the values are enough for your needs.

Hide parts of the image with privacy masks

You can create one or several privacy masks to hide parts of the image.

1. Go to **Video > Privacy masks**.
2. Click .
3. Click the new mask and type a name.
4. Adjust the size and placement of the privacy mask according to your needs.
5. To change the color for all privacy masks, click **Privacy masks** and select a color.

See also *Privacy masks, on page 19*

Show an image overlay

You can add an image as an overlay in the video stream.

1. Go to **Video > Overlays**.
2. Click **Manage images**.
3. Upload or drag and drop an image.
4. Click **Upload**.
5. Select **Image** from the drop-down list and click .
6. Select the image and a position. You can also drag the overlay image in the live view to change the position.

Add street names and compass direction to the image

Note

The street name and compass direction will be visible on all video streams and recordings.

1. Go to **Apps**.
2. Select **axis-orientationaid**.
3. Click **Open**.
4. To add a street name, click **Add text** and modify the text to fit the street.
5. To add a compass, click **Add compass** and modify the compass to fit the image.

Record and watch video

Record video directly from the camera

1. Go to **Video > Stream**.
2. To start a recording, click .

If you haven't set up any storage, click  and . For instructions on how to set up network storage, see *Set up network storage, on page 12*

3. To stop recording, click  again.

Watch video

1. Go to **Recordings**.

2. Click  for your recording in the list.

View and record video

This section includes instructions about configuring your device. To learn more about how streaming and storage works, go to *Streaming and storage, on page 20*.

Reduce bandwidth and storage

Important

Reducing the bandwidth can lead to loss of detail in the image.

1. Go to **Video > Stream**.
2. Click  in the live view.
3. Select **Video format AV1** if your device supports it. Otherwise select **H.264**.
4. Go to **Video > Stream > General** and increase **Compression**.
5. Go to **Video > Stream > Zipstream** and do one or more of the following:

Note

The **Zipstream** settings are used for all video encodings except MJPEG.

- Select the **Zipstream Strength** that you want to use.
- Turn on **Optimize for storage**. This can only be used if the video management software supports B-frames.
- Turn on **Dynamic FPS**.
- Turn on **Dynamic GOP** and set a high **Upper limit GOP length** value.

Note

Most web browsers don't support H.265 decoding and because of this the device doesn't support it in its web interface. Instead you can use a video management system or application that supports H.265 decoding.

Set up network storage

To store recordings on the network, you need to set up your network storage.

1. Go to **System > Storage**.
2. Click  **Add network storage** under **Network storage**.
3. Type the IP address of the host server.
4. Type the name of the shared location on the host server under **Network share**.
5. Type the username and password.
6. Select the SMB version or leave it on **Auto**.
7. Select **Add share without testing** if you experience temporary connection issues, or if the share is not yet configured.
8. Click **Add**.

Set up rules for events

You can create rules to make your device perform an action when certain events occur. A rule consists of conditions and actions. The conditions can be used to trigger the actions. For example, the device can start a recording or send an email when it detects motion, or show an overlay text while the device is recording.

To learn more, see *Get started with rules for events*.

Trigger white light when the camera detects an object during night mode

This example explains how to set the camera to trigger white light when it detects an object in night mode. The image becomes bright and colored.

Make sure that AXIS Object Analytics is running:

1. Go to **Apps > AXIS Object Analytics**.
2. Start the application if it is not already running.
3. Make sure you have set up the application according to your needs.

Create a rule:

1. Go to **System > Events** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, under **Application**, select **Object Analytics**.
4. In the list of conditions, under **Video**, select **Day-night mode**.
5. Select **Night**.
6. In the list of actions, under **Illumination**, select **Use light**.
7. Select **White light**.
8. Set the duration time.
9. Click **Save**.

Trigger a notification when the enclosure is opened

This example explains how to set up an email notification when the housing or casing of the device is opened.

Add an email recipient:

1. Go to **System > Events > Recipients** and click **Add recipient**.
2. Type a name for the recipient.
3. Select **Email** as the notification type.
4. Type the recipient's email address.
5. Type the email address that you want the camera to send notifications from.
6. Provide the login details for the sending email account, along with the SMTP hostname and port number.
7. To test your email setup, click **Test**.
8. Click **Save**.

Create a rule:

9. Go to **System > Events > Rules** and click **Add a rule**.
10. Type a name for the rule.
11. In the list of conditions, select **Casing open**.
12. In the list of actions, select **Send notification to email**.
13. Select a recipient from the list.
14. Type a subject line and message for the email.
15. Click **Save**.

Record video when the camera detects an object

This example explains how to set up the camera to start recording to the SD card when the camera detects an object. The recording will include five seconds before detection and one minute after detection ends.

Before you start:

- Make sure you have an SD card installed.

Make sure that AXIS Object Analytics is running:

1. Go to **Apps > AXIS Object Analytics**.
2. Start the application if it is not already running.
3. Make sure you have set up the application according to your needs.

Create a rule:

1. Go to **System > Events** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, under **Application**, select **Object Analytics**.
4. In the list of actions, under **Recordings**, select **Record video while the rule is active**.
5. In the list of storage options, select **SD_DISK**.
6. Select a camera and a stream profile.
7. Set the prebuffer time to 5 seconds.
8. Set the postbuffer time to 1 minute.
9. Click **Save**.

Provide visual indication of an ongoing event

You have the option to connect the AXIS I/O Indication LED to your network camera. This LED can be configured to turn on whenever certain events occur in the camera. For example, to let people know that video recording is in progress.

Required hardware

- AXIS I/O Indication LED
- An Axis network video camera

Note

For instructions on how to connect the AXIS I/O Indication LED, see the installation guide provided with the product.

The following example shows how to configure a rule that turns on the AXIS I/O Indication LED to indicate that camera is recording.

1. Go to **System > Accessories > I/O ports**.
2. For the port that you connected the AXIS I/O Indication LED to, click  to set the direction to **Output**, and click  to set the normal state to **Circuit open**.
3. Go to **System > Events**.
4. Create a new rule.
5. Select the **Condition** that must be met to trigger the camera to start recording. It can, for example, be a time schedule or motion detection.
6. In the list of actions, select **Record video**. Select a storage space. Select a stream profile or create a new. Also set the **Prebuffer** and **Postbuffer** as required.
7. Save the rule.
8. Create a second rule and select the same **Condition** as in the first rule.
9. In the list of actions, select **Toggle I/O while the rule is active**, and then select the port the AXIS I/O Indication LED is connected to. Set the state to **Active**.

10. Save the rule.

Other scenarios where AXIS I/O Indication LED can be used are for example:

- Configure the LED to turn on when the camera starts, to indicate the presence of the camera. Select **System ready** as a condition.
- Configure the LED to turn on when live stream is active to indicate that a person or a program is accessing a stream from the camera. Select **Live stream accessed** as a condition.

Show a text overlay in the video stream when the device detects an object

This example explains how to display the text "Motion detected" when the device detects an object.

Make sure that AXIS Object Analytics is running:

1. Go to **Apps > AXIS Object Analytics**.
2. Start the application if it is not already running.
3. Make sure you have set up the application according to your needs.

Add the overlay text:

1. Go to **Video > Overlays**.
2. Under **Overlays**, select **Text** and click .
3. Enter #D in the text field.
4. Choose text size and appearance.
5. To position the text overlay, click  and select an option.

Create a rule:

1. Go to **System > Events** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, under **Application**, select **Object Analytics**.
4. In the list of actions, under **Overlay text**, select **Use overlay text**.
5. Select a video channel.
6. In **Text**, type "Motion detected".
7. Set the duration.
8. Click **Save**.

Note

If you update the overlay text it will be automatically updated on all video streams dynamically.

Record video when a PIR detector senses motion

This example explains how to connect a PIR detector (normally closed) to the device, and to start recording video when the detector senses motion.

Required hardware

- 3-wire cable (ground, power, I/O)
- PIR detector, normally closed

NOTICE

Disconnect the device from power before connecting the wires. Reconnect to power after all connections are done.

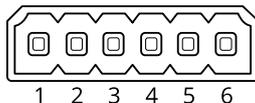
Connect the wires to the device's I/O connector

Note

For information on the I/O connector, see *Connectors, on page 26*.

1. Connect the ground wire to pin 1 (GND/-).
2. Connect the power wire to pin 2 (12V DC output).
3. Connect the I/O wire to pin 3 (I/O input).

Connect the wires to the PIR detector's I/O connector



1. Connect the other end of the ground wire to pin 1 (GND/-).
2. Connect the other end of the power wire to pin 2 (DC input/+).
3. Connect the other end of the I/O wire to pin 3 (I/O output).

Configure the I/O port in the device web interface

1. Go to **System > Accessories > I/O ports**.
2. Click  to set the direction to input for port 1.
3. Give the input module a descriptive name, for example "PIR detector".
4. If you want to trigger an event whenever the PIR detector senses motion, click  to set the normal state to circuit closed.

Create a rule

1. Go to **System > Events** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, select **PIR detector**.
4. In the list of actions, under **Recordings**, select **Record video while the rule is active**.
5. In the list of storage options, select **SD_DISK**.
6. Select a camera and a stream profile.
7. Set the prebuffer time to 5 seconds.
8. Set the postbuffer time to 1 minute.
9. Click **Save**.

Record video when the camera detects loud noises

This example explains how to set up the camera to start recording to the SD card five seconds before it detects loud noise and to stop two minutes after.

Turn on audio:

1. Set up the stream profile to include audio, see *Add audio to your recording, on page 17*.

Turn on audio detection:

1. Go to **System > Detectors > Audio detection**.
2. Adjust the sound level according to your needs.

Create a rule:

1. Go to **System > Events** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, under **Audio**, select **Audio Detection**.
4. In the list of actions, under **Recordings**, select **Record video**.
5. In the list of storage options, select **SD_DISK**.
6. Select the stream profile where audio has been turned on.

7. Set the prebuffer time to 5 seconds.
8. Set the postbuffer time to 2 minutes.
9. Click **Save**.

Detect tampering with input signal

This example explains how to send an email when the input signal is cut or short-circuited. For more information about the I/O connector, see *page 26*.

1. Go to **System > Accessories > I/O ports** and turn on **Supervised** for the relevant port.

Add an email recipient:

1. Go to **System > Events > Recipients** and add a recipient.
2. Type a name for the recipient.
3. Select **Email** as the notification type.
4. Type the recipient's email address.
5. Type the email address that you want the camera to send notifications from.
6. Provide the login details for the sending email account, along with the SMTP hostname and port number.
7. To test your email setup, click **Test**.
8. Click **Save**.

Create a rule:

1. Go to **System > Events > Rules** and add a rule.
2. Type a name for the rule.
3. In the list of conditions, under **I/O**, select **Supervised input tampering is active**.
4. Select the relevant port.
5. In the list of actions, under **Notifications**, select **Send notification to email** and then select the recipient from the list.
6. Type a subject line and message for the email.
7. Click **Save**.

Audio

Add audio to your recording

Turn on audio:

1. Go to **Video > Stream > Audio** and include audio.
2. If the device has more than one input source, select the correct one in **Source**.
3. Go to **Audio > Device settings** and turn on the correct input source.
4. If you make any changes to the input source, click **Apply changes**.

Edit the stream profile that is used for the recording:

5. Go to **System > Stream profiles** and select the stream profile.
6. Select **Include audio** and turn it on.
7. Click **Save**.

The web interface

To read about all the features and settings available in the web interface of devices with AXIS OS, go to *AXIS OS web interface help*.

Learn more

Long-distance connections

This product supports fiber-optic cable installations through a media converter. Fiber-optic cable installations offer a number of benefits such as:

- Long-distance connection
- High speed
- Long lifetime
- Large capacity of data transmission
- Electromagnetic interference immunity

Find out more about fiber-optic cable installations in the white paper "Long distance surveillance - Fiber-optic communication in network video" at axis.com/learning/white-papers.

For information about how to install the media converter see the Installation Guide for this product.

View area

A view area is a cropped part of the full view. You can stream and store view areas instead of the full view to minimize bandwidth and storage needs. If you enable PTZ for a view area, you can pan, tilt and zoom within it. By using view areas you can remove parts of the full view, for example, the sky.

When you set up a view area, we recommend you to set the video stream resolution to the same size as or smaller than the view area size. If you set the video stream resolution larger than the view area size it implies digitally scaled up video after sensor capture, which requires more bandwidth without adding image information.

Capture modes

What capture mode to choose depends on the requirements for the frame rate and resolution of the specific surveillance setup. For specifications about available capture modes, see the product's datasheet at axis.com.

Remote focus and zoom

The remote focus and zoom functionality allows you to make focus and zoom adjustments to your camera from a computer. It is a convenient way to ensure that the scene's focus, viewing angle and resolution are optimized without having to visit the camera's installation location.

Privacy masks

A privacy mask is a user-defined area that covers a part of the monitored area. In the video stream, privacy masks appear either as blocks of solid color or with a mosaic pattern.

You'll see the privacy mask on all snapshots, recorded video, and live streams.

You can use the VAPIX® application programming interface (API) to hide the privacy masks.

Important

If you use multiple privacy masks it may affect the product's performance.

You can create several privacy masks. Each mask can have 3 to 10 anchor points.

Overlays

Overlays are superimposed over the video stream. They are used to provide extra information during recordings, such as a timestamp, or during product installation and configuration. You can add either text or an image.

Streaming and storage

Video compression formats

Decide which compression method to use based on your viewing requirements, and on the properties of your network. The available options are:

Motion JPEG

Note

To ensure support for the Opus audio codec, the Motion JPEG stream is always sent over RTP.

Motion JPEG, or MJPEG, is a digital video sequence that is made up of a series of individual JPEG images. These images are then displayed and updated at a rate sufficient to create a stream that shows constantly updated motion. For the viewer to perceive motion video the rate must be at least 16 image frames per second. Full motion video is perceived at 30 (NTSC) or 25 (PAL) frames per second.

The Motion JPEG stream uses considerable amounts of bandwidth, but provides excellent image quality and access to every image contained in the stream.

H.264 or MPEG-4 Part 10/AVC

Note

H.264 is a licensed technology. The Axis product includes one H.264 viewing client license. To install additional unlicensed copies of the client is prohibited. To purchase additional licenses, contact your Axis reseller.

H.264 can, without compromising image quality, reduce the size of a digital video file by more than 80% compared to the Motion JPEG format and by as much as 50% compared to older MPEG formats. This means that less network bandwidth and storage space are required for a video file. Or seen another way, higher video quality can be achieved for a given bitrate.

H.265 or MPEG-H Part 2/HEVC

H.265 can, without compromising image quality, reduce the size of a digital video file by more than 25% compared to H.264.

Note

- H.265 is licensed technology. The Axis product includes one H.265 viewing client license. Installing additional unlicensed copies of the client is prohibited. To purchase additional licenses, contact your Axis reseller.
- Most web browsers don't support H.265 decoding and because of this the camera doesn't support it in its web interface. Instead you can use a video management system or application supporting H.265 decoding.

How do Image, Stream, and Stream profile settings relate to each other?

The **Image** tab contains camera settings that affect all video streams from the product. If you change something in this tab, it immediately affects all video streams and recordings.

The **Stream** tab contains settings for video streams. You get these settings if you request a video stream from the product and don't specify for example resolution, or frame rate. When you change the settings in the **Stream** tab, it doesn't affect ongoing streams, but it will take effect when you start a new stream.

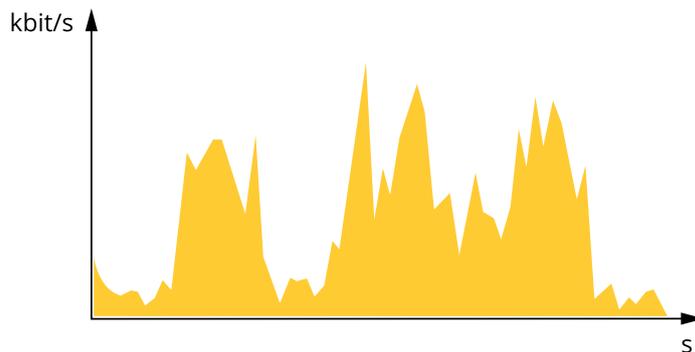
The **Stream profiles** settings override the settings from the **Stream** tab. If you request a stream with a specific stream profile, the stream contains the settings of that profile. If you request a stream without specifying a stream profile, or request a stream profile that doesn't exist in the product, the stream contains the settings from the **Stream** tab.

Bitrate control

Bitrate control helps you to manage the bandwidth consumption of your video stream.

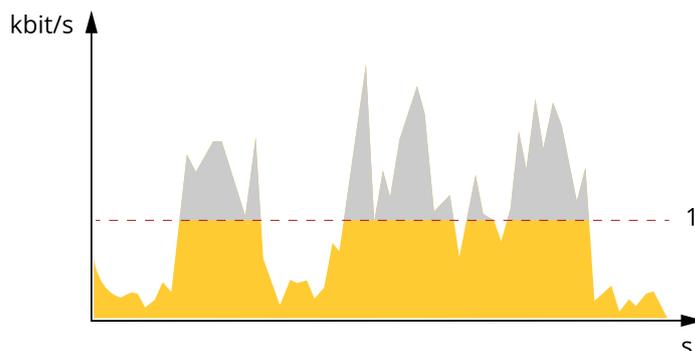
Variable bitrate (VBR)

Variable bitrate allows the bandwidth consumption to vary depending on the level of activity in the scene. The more activity, the more bandwidth you need. With variable bitrate you are guaranteed constant image quality, but you need to make sure you have storage margins.



Maximum bitrate (MBR)

Maximum bitrate lets you set a target bitrate to handle bitrate limitations in your system. You might see a decline in image quality or frame rate as the instantaneous bitrate is kept below the specified target bitrate. You can choose to prioritize either image quality or frame rate. We recommend that you configure the target bitrate to a higher value than the expected bitrate. This gives you a margin in case there is a high level of activity in the scene.

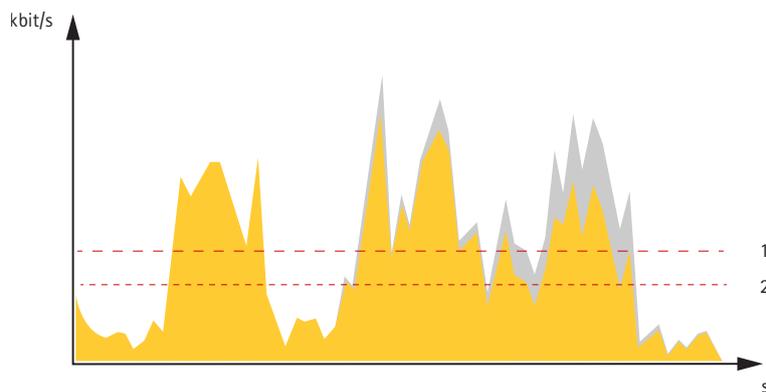


1 Target bitrate

Average bitrate (ABR)

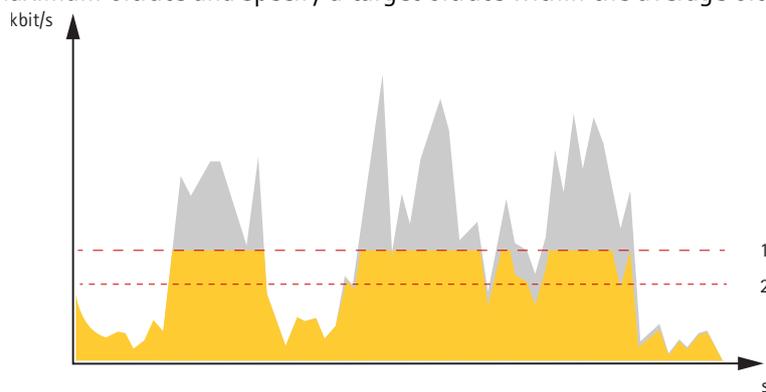
With average bitrate, the bitrate is automatically adjusted over a longer period of time. This is so you can meet the specified target and provide the best video quality based on your available storage. Bitrate is higher in scenes with a lot of activity, compared to static scenes. You are more likely to get better image quality when in scenes with a lot of activity if you use the average bitrate option. You can define the total storage required to store the video stream for a specified amount of time (retention time) when image quality is adjusted to meet the specified target bitrate. Specify the average bitrate settings in one of the following ways:

- To calculate the estimated storage need, set the target bitrate and the retention time.
- To calculate the average bitrate, based on available storage and required retention time, use the target bitrate calculator.



- 1 Target bitrate
- 2 Actual average bitrate

You can also turn on maximum bitrate and specify a target bitrate within the average bitrate option.



- 1 Target bitrate
- 2 Actual average bitrate

Analytics and apps

With analytics and apps you can get more out of your Axis device. AXIS Camera Application Platform (ACAP) is an open platform that makes it possible for third parties to develop analytics and other apps for Axis devices. Apps can be preinstalled on the device, available for download for free, or for a license fee.

To find the user manuals for Axis analytics and apps, go to help.axis.com.

Note

- Several apps can run at the same time but some apps might not be compatible with each other. Certain combinations of apps might require too much processing power or memory resources when run in parallel. Verify that the apps work together before deployment.

AXIS Object Analytics

AXIS Object Analytics is an analytic application that comes preinstalled on the camera. It detects objects that move in the scene and classifies them as, for example, humans or vehicles. You can set up the application to send alarms for different types of objects. To find out more about how the application works, see *AXIS Object Analytics user manual*.

AXIS Image Health Analytics

AXIS Image Health Analytics is an AI-based application that can be used to detect image degradations or tampering attempts. The application analyzes and learns the behavior of the scene to detect blurriness or underexposure in the image, or to detect an obstructed or redirected view. You can set up the application to send events for any of these detections, and trigger actions through the camera's event system or third-party software.

To find out more about how the application works, see *AXIS Image Health Analytics user manual*.

Metadata visualization

Analytics metadata is available for moving objects in the scene. Supported object classes are visualized in the video stream through a bounding box surrounding the object, along with information about the object type and confidence level of the classification. To learn more about how to configure and consume analytics metadata, see *AXIS Scene Metadata integration guide*.

Cybersecurity

For product-specific information about cybersecurity, see the product's datasheet at axis.com.

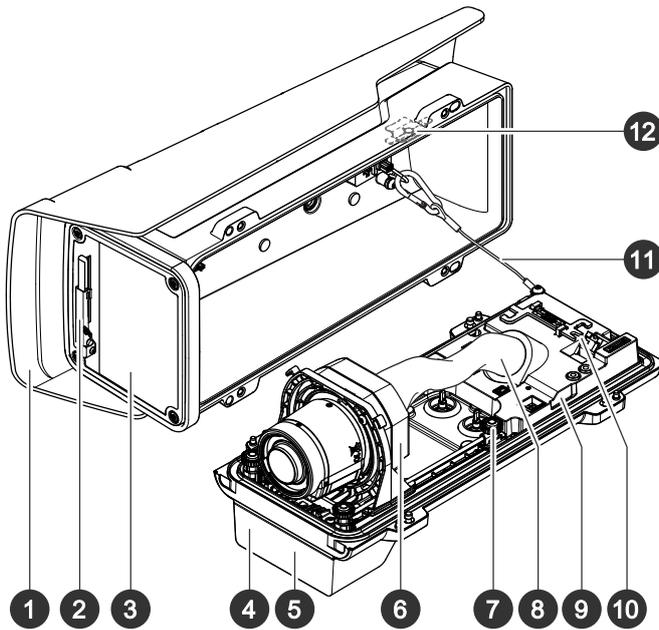
For in-depth information about cybersecurity in AXIS OS, read the *AXIS OS Hardening guide*.

TPM module

The TPM (Trusted Platform Module) is a component that provides cryptographic features to protect information from unauthorized access. It is always activated and there are no settings you can change.

Specifications

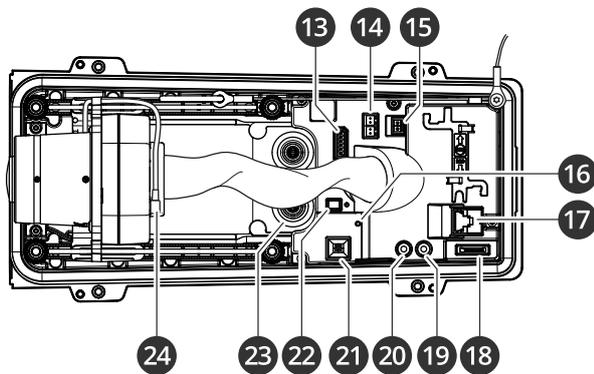
Product overview



- 1 Weather shield
- 2 Wiper
- 3 Window
- 4 Light sensor
- 5 IR illumination LED
- 6 Optical unit
- 7 Spring loaded thumb screw (4x)
- 8 Cable cover
- 9 Intrusion alarm sensor
- 10 IK10 tool
- 11 Safety wire
- 12 Intrusion alarm magnet

NOTICE

Do not lift the product in the cable cover.



- 1 I/O connector
- 2 RS485/422 connector
- 3 Power connector
- 4 Status LED
- 5 Network connector (PoE)
- 6 microSD card slot

- 7 Audio out
- 8 Audio in
- 9 Wiper connector
- 10 Control button
- 11 Cable gasket M20 (2x)
- 12 Iris connector

LED indicators

Note

- The Status LED can be configured to flash while an event is active.
- The LEDs turn off when you close the casing.

Status LED	Indication
Unlit	Connection and normal operation.
Green	Shows steady green for 10 seconds for normal operation after startup completed.
Amber	Steady during startup. Flashes during device software upgrade or reset to factory default.
Amber/Red	Flashes amber/red if network connection is unavailable or lost.
Red	Device software upgrade failure.

Buzzer

Buzzer signal for leveling assistant

For information about the control button used for leveling the image, see *page 26*.

Buzzer	Camera position
Continuous beep	Level
Fast beep	Almost level
Medium beeps	Not level
Slow beeps	Far from level

SD card slot

NOTICE

- Risk of damage to SD card. Don't use sharp tools, metal objects, or excessive force when inserting or removing the SD card. Use your fingers to insert and remove the card.
- Risk of data loss and corrupted recordings. Unmount the SD card from the device's web interface before removing it. Don't remove the SD card while the product is running.

This device supports microSD/microSDHC/microSDXC cards.

For SD card recommendations, see *axis.com*.

 microSD, microSDHC, and microSDXC Logos are trademarks of SD-3C LLC. microSD, microSDHC, microSDXC are trademarks or registered trademarks of SD-3C, LLC in the United States, other countries or both.

Buttons

Control button

The control button is used for:

- Resetting the product to factory default settings. See *Reset to factory default settings, on page 33*.
- Ensuring the camera is level. Press the button for not more than two seconds to start the leveling assistant and press again to stop. The buzzer signal (see *page 25*) assist leveling of the camera. The camera is level when the buzzer beeps continuously.

Connectors

Network connector

RJ45 Ethernet connector with Power over Ethernet (PoE).

Audio connector

- **Audio in** – 3.5 mm input for a digital microphone, an analog mono microphone, or a line-in mono signal (left channel is used from a stereo signal).
- **Audio out** – 3.5 mm output for audio (line level) that can be connected to a public address (PA) system or an active speaker with a built-in amplifier. A stereo connector must be used for audio out.



Audio input

1 Tip	2 Ring	3 Sleeve
Unbalanced microphone (with or without electret power) or line-in	Electret power if selected	Ground
Balanced microphone (with or without phantom power) or line-in, "hot" signal	Balanced microphone (with or without phantom power) or line-in, "cold" signal	Ground
Digital signal	Ring power if selected	Ground

Audio output

1 Tip	2 Ring	3 Sleeve
Channel 1, unbalanced line, mono	Channel 1, unbalanced line, mono	Ground

I/O connector

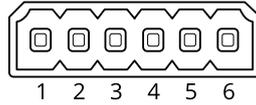
Use the I/O connector with external devices in combination with, for example, motion detection, event triggering, and alarm notifications. In addition to the 0 VDC reference point and power (12 V DC output), the I/O connector provides the interface to:

Digital input – For connecting devices that can toggle between an open and closed circuit, for example PIR sensors, door/window contacts, and glass break detectors.

Supervised input – Enables possibility to detect tampering on a digital input.

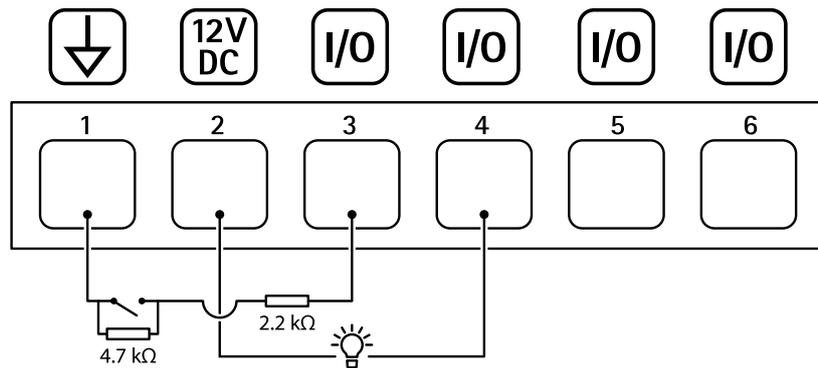
Digital output – For connecting external devices such as relays and LEDs. Connected devices can be activated by the VAPIX® Application Programming Interface, through an event or from the device's web interface.

6-pin terminal block



Function	Pin	Notes	Specifications
DC ground	1		0 VDC
DC output	2	 Can be used to power auxiliary equipment. Note: This pin can only be used as power out.	12 VDC Max load = 50 mA
Configurable (Input or Output)	3-6	Digital input or Supervised input – Connect to pin 1 to activate, or leave floating (unconnected) to deactivate. To use supervised input, install end-of-line resistors. See connection diagram for information about how to connect the resistors.	0 to max 30 VDC
		Digital output – Internally connected to pin 1 (DC ground) when active, and floating (unconnected) when inactive. If used with an inductive load, e.g., a relay, connect a diode in parallel with the load, to protect against voltage transients.	0 to max 30 VDC, open drain, 100 mA

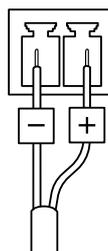
Example:



- 1 DC ground
- 2 DC output 12 V, max 50 mA
- 3 I/O configured as supervised input
- 4 I/O configured as output
- 5 Configurable I/O
- 6 Configurable I/O

Power connector

2-pin terminal block for DC power input. Use a Safety Extra Low Voltage (SELV) compliant limited power source (LPS) with either a rated output power limited to ≤ 100 W or a rated output current limited to ≤ 5 A.

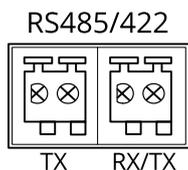


RS485/RS422 connector

Two 2-pin terminal blocks for RS485/RS422 serial interface.

The serial port can be configured to support:

- Two-wire RS485 half duplex
- Four-wire RS485 full duplex
- Two-wire RS422 simplex
- Four-wire RS422 full duplex point to point communication



Function	Notes
RS485/RS422 TX(A)	TX pair for RS422 and 4-wire RS485
RS485/RS422 TX(B)	
RS485A alt RS485/422 RX (A)	RX pair for all modes (combined RX/TX for 2-wire RS485)
RS485B alt RS485/422 RX (B)	

PTZ drivers

APTP

This is a list of models supported by this driver. The physical installation depends on your Axis product and the PTZ unit.

Important

Check what serial communication your Axis product and the PTZ unit will support.

Supported models with RS485 2-wire interface:

- AXIS T99A Positioning Unit Series.
For information about compatible Axis products, see *axis.com*.

Other models may be supported but this has not been verified by Axis.

Technical information

DEFAULT capabilities for PTZ driver:

Driver	APTP
Version	1.1.0

DEFAULT serial configuration:

PortMode	RS485
BaudRate	115,200
DataBits	8
StopBits	1
Parity	None

DEFAULT supported capabilities in this PTZ driver:

Note

Different PTZ units may have other capabilities (both less and more).

Movement	Absolute	Relative	Continuous
Pan	yes	yes	yes
Tilt	yes	yes	yes

Connection

For the RS485/RS422 pin assignment on your device, see *RS485/RS422 connector, on page 28*.

To change serial port settings, go to **System > Plain config > Serial** in the device's web interface.

Pelco

This is a list of models supported by this driver. The physical installation depends on your Axis product and the PTZ unit.

Important

Check what serial communication your Axis product and the PTZ unit will support.

Supported models:

- Pelco DD5-C
- Pelco Esprit ES30C/ES31C
- Pelco LRD41C21
- Pelco LRD41C22
- Pelco Spectra III
- Pelco Spectra IV
- Pelco Spectra Mini
- Videotec DTRX3/PTH310P
- Videotec ULISSE
- PTK AMB
- YP3040

Other models may be supported but this has not been verified by Axis.

Technical information

DEFAULT capabilities for PTZ driver:

Driver	Pelco
Version	4.17

DEFAULT serial configuration:

PortMode	RS485
BaudRate	2,400
DataBits	8
StopBits	1
Parity	None

DEFAULT supported capabilities in this PTZ driver:

Note

Different PTZ units may have other capabilities (both less and more).

Movement	Absolute	Relative	Continuous
Pan	no	yes	yes
Tilt	no	yes	yes
Zoom	no	yes	yes
Focus	no	yes	yes
Iris	no	yes	yes

AutoIris	yes
AutoFocus	yes
IrCutFilter	no

BackLight	yes
OSDMenu	yes

Connection

For the RS485/RS422 pin assignment on your device, see *RS485/RS422 connector, on page 28*.

To change serial port settings, go to **System > Plain config > Serial** in the device's web interface.

Visca

This is a list of models supported by this driver. The physical installation depends on your Axis product and the PTZ unit.

Important

Check what serial communication your Axis product and the PTZ unit will support.

Supported models with RS422 4-wire interface:

- Sony EVI-D70/D70P
- WISKA DCP-27 (PT-head)

Supported models with RS232 interface (may require external RS422-4-wire/RS232 converter):

- Axis EVI-D30/D31
- Sony EVI-G20/G21
- Sony EVI-D30/D31
- Sony EVI-D100/D100P
- Sony EVI-D70/D70P

Other models may be supported but this has not been verified by Axis.

Technical information

DEFAULT capabilities for PTZ driver:

Driver	Visca/EVI
Version	4.11

DEFAULT serial configuration:

PortMode	RS422
BaudRate	9,600
DataBits	8
StopBits	1
Parity	None

DEFAULT supported capabilities in this PTZ driver:

Note

Different PTZ units may have other capabilities (both less and more).

Movement	Absolute	Relative	Continuous
Pan	yes	yes	yes
Tilt	yes	yes	yes
Zoom	yes	yes	yes
Focus	yes	yes	yes
Iris	yes	yes	no

AutoIris	yes
AutoFocus	yes
IrCutFilter	yes
BackLight	yes
OSDMenu	no

Connection

For the RS485/RS422 pin assignment on your device, see *RS485/RS422 connector, on page 28*.

To change serial port settings, go to **System > Plain config > Serial** in the device's web interface.

Troubleshooting

Reset to factory default settings

Important

Reset to factory default should be used with caution. A reset to factory default resets all settings, including the IP address, to the factory default values.

To reset the product to the factory default settings:

1. Disconnect power from the product.
2. Press and hold the control button while reconnecting power. See *Product overview, on page 24*.
3. Keep the control button pressed for 15–30 seconds until the status LED indicator flashes amber.
4. Release the control button. The process is complete when the status LED indicator turns green. If no DHCP server is available on the network, the device IP address will default to one of the following:
 - **Devices with AXIS OS 12.0 and later:** Obtained from the link-local address subnet (169.254.0.0/16)
 - **Devices with AXIS OS 11.11 and earlier:** 192.168.0.90/24
5. Use the installation and management software tools to assign an IP address, set the password, and access the device.
The installation and management software tools are available from the support pages on axis.com/support.

You can also reset parameters to factory default through the device's web interface. Go to **Maintenance > Factory default** and click **Default**.

AXIS OS options

Axis offers device software management according to either the active track or the long-term support (LTS) tracks. Being on the active track means continuously getting access to all the latest product features, while the LTS tracks provide a fixed platform with periodic releases focused mainly on bug fixes and security updates.

Using AXIS OS from the active track is recommended if you want to access the newest features, or if you use Axis end-to-end system offerings. The LTS tracks are recommended if you use third-party integrations, which are not continuously validated against the latest active track. With LTS, the products can maintain cybersecurity without introducing any significant functional changes or affecting any existing integrations. For more detailed information about Axis device software strategy, go to axis.com/support/device-software.

Check the current AXIS OS version

AXIS OS determines the functionality of our devices. When you troubleshoot a problem, we recommend that you to start by checking the current AXIS OS version. The latest version might contain a correction that fixes your particular problem.

To check the current AXIS OS version:

1. Go to the device's web interface > **Status**.
2. Under **Device info**, see the AXIS OS version.

Upgrade AXIS OS

Important

- When you upgrade the device software, your preconfigured and customized settings are saved. Axis Communications AB can't guarantee that the settings are saved, even if the features are available in the new AXIS OS version.
- Starting from AXIS OS 12.6, you must install every LTS version between your device's current version and the target version. For example, if the currently installed device software version is AXIS OS 11.2, you

have to install the LTS version AXIS OS 11.11 before you can upgrade the device to AXIS OS 12.6. For more information, see *AXIS OS Portal: Upgrade path*.

- Make sure the device remains connected to the power source throughout the upgrade process.

Note

- When you upgrade the device with the latest AXIS OS version in the active track, the product receives the latest functionality available. Always read the upgrade instructions and release notes available with each new release before you upgrade. To find the latest AXIS OS version and the release notes, go to axis.com/support/device-software.
1. Download the AXIS OS file to your computer, available free of charge at axis.com/support/device-software.
 2. Log in to the device as an administrator.
 3. Go to **Maintenance > AXIS OS upgrade** and click **Upgrade**.

When the upgrade has finished, the product restarts automatically.

You can use AXIS Device Manager to upgrade multiple devices at the same time. Find out more at axis.com/products/axis-device-manager.

Technical problems and possible solutions

Problems upgrading AXIS OS

AXIS OS upgrade failed

If the upgrade fails, the device reloads the previous version. The most common reason is that the wrong AXIS OS file has been uploaded. Check that the name of the AXIS OS file corresponds to your device and try again.

Problems after AXIS OS upgrade

If you experience problems after the upgrade, roll back to the previously installed version from the **Maintenance** page.

Problems setting the IP address

Can't set the IP address

- If the IP address intended for the device and the IP address of the computer used to access the device are located on different subnets, you can't set the IP address. Contact your network administrator to obtain an IP address.
- The IP address could be in use by another device. To check:
 1. Disconnect the Axis device from the network.
 2. In a Command/DOS window, type `ping` and the IP address of the device.
 3. If you receive: `Reply from <IP address>: bytes=32; time=10...` this means that the IP address might already be in use by another device on the network. Obtain a new IP address from the network administrator and reinstall the device.
 4. If you receive: `Request timed out`, this means that the IP address is available for use with the Axis device. Check all cabling and reinstall the device.
- There could be a possible IP address conflict with another device on the same subnet. The static IP address in the Axis device is used before the DHCP server sets a dynamic address. This means that if the same default static IP address is also used by another device, there could be problems accessing the device.

Problems accessing the device

Can't log in when accessing the device from a browser

When HTTPS is enabled, make sure that you use the correct protocol (HTTP or HTTPS) when you try to log in. You might need to manually type `http` or `https` in the browser's address field.

If you've lost the password for the root account, you must reset the device to the factory default settings. For instructions, see *Reset to factory default settings, on page 33*.

The IP address has been changed by DHCP

IP addresses obtained from a DHCP server are dynamic and could change. If the IP address has been changed, use AXIS IP Utility or AXIS Device Manager to locate the device on the network. Identify the device using its model or serial number, or by the DNS name (if the name has been configured).

If required, you can assign a static IP address manually. For instructions, go to axis.com/support.

Certificate error when using IEEE 802.1X

For authentication to work properly, the date and time settings in the Axis device must be synchronized with an NTP server. Go to **System > Date and time**.

The browser isn't supported

For a list of recommended browsers, see *Browser support, on page 5*.

Can't access the device externally

To access the device externally, we recommend you to use one of the following applications for Windows®:

- AXIS Camera Station Edge: free of charge, ideal for small systems with basic surveillance needs.
- AXIS Camera Station Pro: 90-day trial version free of charge, ideal for small to mid-size systems.

For instructions and download, go to axis.com/vms.

Problems with streaming

Multicast H.264 only accessible by local clients

Check if your router supports multicasting, or if you need to configure the router settings between the client and the device. You might need to increase the TTL (Time To Live) value.

No multicast H.264 displayed in the client

Check with your network administrator that the multicast addresses used by the Axis device are valid for your network.

Check with your network administrator to see if there is a firewall that prevents viewing.

Poor rendering of H.264 images

Ensure that your graphics card uses the latest driver. You can usually download the latest drivers from the manufacturer's website.

Color saturation is different in H.264 and Motion JPEG

Modify the settings for your graphics adapter. Check the adapter's documentation for more information.

Lower frame rate than expected

- See *Performance considerations*, on page 36.
- Reduce the number of applications running on the client computer.
- Limit the number of simultaneous viewers.
- Check with the network administrator that there is enough bandwidth available.
- Lower the image resolution.
- The maximum frames per second is dependent on the utility frequency (60/50 Hz) of the Axis device.

Can't select H.265 encoding in live view

Web browsers don't support H.265 decoding. Use a video management system or application that supports H.265 decoding.

Problems with MQTT

Can't connect over port 8883 with MQTT over SSL

The firewall blocks traffic that uses port 8883 since it's regarded insecure.

In some cases the server/broker might not provide a specific port for MQTT communication. It might still be possible to use MQTT over a port normally used for HTTP/HTTPS traffic.

- If the server/broker supports WebSocket/WebSocket Secure (WS/WSS), typically on port 443, use this protocol instead. Check with the server/broker provider to see if WS/WSS is supported and which port and basepath to use.
- If the server/broker supports ALPN, the use of MQTT can be negotiated over an open port, such as 443. Check with your server/broker provider to see if ALPN is supported and which ALPN protocol and port to use.

Problems with operating the device

Front heater and wiper aren't working

If the front heater or wiper are not turning on, confirm that the top cover is properly fastened to the bottom of the housing unit.

If you can't find what you're looking for here, try the troubleshooting section at axis.com/support.

Performance considerations

When you set up your system, it's important to consider how different settings and situations affect performance. Some factors affect bandwidth (bitrate), others affect frame rate, and some affect both.

The most important factors to consider:

- High image resolution or lower compression levels result in images containing more data which in turn affects the bandwidth.
- Rotating the image in the GUI can increase the product's CPU load.
- Access by large numbers of Motion JPEG clients or unicast H.264/H.265/AV1 clients affects the bandwidth.
- Simultaneous viewing of different streams (resolution, compression) by different clients affects both frame rate and bandwidth.

Use identical streams wherever possible to maintain a high frame rate. Stream profiles can be used to ensure that streams are identical.

- Accessing video streams with different codecs simultaneously affects both frame rate and bandwidth. For optimal performance, use streams with the same codec.
- Heavy usage of event settings affects the product's CPU load which in turn affects the frame rate.
- Using HTTPS may reduce frame rate, in particular if streaming Motion JPEG.
- Heavy network utilization due to poor infrastructure affects the bandwidth.
- Viewing on poorly performing client computers lowers perceived performance and affects frame rate.
- Running multiple AXIS Camera Application Platform (ACAP) applications simultaneously may affect the frame rate and the general performance.

Contact support

If you need more help, go to axis.com/support.

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2026-02 (M26.2)

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