AXIS Site Designer

User manual

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What's new

This is where you'll find information about the latest updates to AXIS Site Designer. If you're curious about previous updates, go to .

November 2025

- It's now possible to add AXIS Audio Manager Pro as an additional management software to your AXIS Camera Station pro recording solution, taking AXIS Audio Manager Pro's new licensing model into account.

- We've now added speaker coverage for AXIS D4200 Network Strobe Speaker in the map view.

To watch this video, go to the web version of this document.

This video provides a quick overview of some of the latest updates made to AXIS Site Designer.

About AXIS Site Designer

With AXIS Site Designer, you can efficiently plan and design a system that meets your needs. Use the tool to find the right products, place them on a map or floor plan of the site, and visualize their coverage. Based on your selection, the tool estimates power, bandwidth, and storage requirements and suggests a suitable recording and networking solution. Finally, you can create sales quotes, generate a comprehensive bill of materials, and share valuable insights with installers, such as site notes and recommendations.

To discover the tool, go to *axis.com/support/tools/axis-site-designer* and launch AXIS Site Designer.

Considerations

Browser support

AXIS Site Designer is a web application, and the tool is compatible with the latest version of most common web browsers. You can access it from both Windows, macOS, as well as most tablet devices. The tool is not supported on mobile phones.

Data storage

The projects you create in AXIS Site Designer are stored locally on your computer or tablet, using your browser's local storage. Keep in mind that each browser has its own storage, so if you're working across multiple browsers, your list of projects can differ.

We recommend that you sign in to sync and save your projects online. Signing in also lets you work with your projects from multiple devices and browsers. You sign in using your My Axis account.

Working offline

You can always work offline in AXIS Site Designer from your web browser. When you're back online, your projects will sync with AXIS Site Designer's servers. If you prefer to work offline only, you can create projects that are only available locally. For more information, see .

Get started with AXIS Site Designer

To quickly get started with a project in AXIS Site Designer, we recommend you to follow these steps:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5. Create reports like sales quotations or bill of materials. For more information, see .

Register a My Axis account

1. Register a **My Axis** account at *axis.com/my-axis/login*.

2. Choose one of the multi-factor authentication (MFA) methods **Authenticator App (TOTP)** or **Email** and follow the on-screen instructions. MFA is a security system that adds another layer of verification to ensure the user's identity.

Create a project

1. In AXIS Site Designer, click **Add project**.
   To be able to sync and save your project, create it in the **My projects** page.

2. In **Project overview**, fill in details like the name of the project, whom it is prepared for, and any notes you might have.

3. Click **Location** to set a location for your site.

Note

Make sure to select the correct country or region in **Country or region where the project will be installed**. This field affects the part numbers that are added to the sales quote and bill of materials.

4. Click **Settings** to set installation height, select your preferred regional units and temperature scale, and select what you want to base your power calculations on.

5. To modify or add new **scenarios** for your project, see .
   The scenario settings help to estimate storage and bandwidth required for the cameras in your project.

6. To add cameras and other devices to your project, you can either go to the **Maps** page or the **Devices** page. For more information, see .

Add devices to your project

There are two ways to add devices to your project. If you have a floor plan, we recommend that you import it in the tool's map view and add devices directly to your plan. You can also add all required devices to a list, and add them to the floor plan later.

Add devices in the map view

To add devices in the map view, you can either add devices directly to a map, or upload a floor plan and then add your devices to the plan.

Add a floor plan:
1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Maps** page.

3. Click to select and upload a file.
   AXIS Site Designer supports the upload of PNG, JPG, JPEG, and PDF files with a maximum size of 10 MB.

4. Enter a name and click **Add floor plan**.

5.   Set a scale for the floor plan.

Add devices to your map or floor plan:

1.   In the menu just next to the map, go to the tab for the device type you wish to add.
In this instruction, we'll use the camera tab as an example.

2.   Click and drag to place a generic camera on the map.
If you already know which camera you want to add, click **Camera** and select the model directly from the drop down list.

3.   Click on the camera on the map to add and edit its settings. For example:

–   Click and drag the camera to move it

–   Click and drag the anchor points to rotate the view and adjust the coverage area

–   Go to the menu next to the map for more settings

4.   To select a camera model, click on the camera on the map, and then click on its icon in the menu next to the map to open the device selector. For more information, see .

Note

The cameras you add will be assigned a default scenario. To learn more about scenarios, see .

For more information about available controls in the map view, see .

Add devices to a list

1.   Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2.   Go to the **Devices** page.

3.   Click **Add device** to go to the device selector.
If you already know the name of the device you wish to add, you can add it directly by clicking on **Quick add a device**.

4.   Select the type of device you wish to add from the top right menu: **Cameras, F/FA series, Encoders...**.

5.   Use filters to define the requirements for your site. To learn more, see .

6.   Select a model, either from the list of **Top recommendations**, or from the list of **Matching products**.

Note

•   To review the specifications for a device, click **Datasheet** to download the device's datasheet.

•   To include discontinued devices in the list of matching products, toggle **Include discontinued**.

7.   Click **Add** to add the device to your project.
If you wish to add the model later, select **Pick model later** and click **Add**. The requirements you have specified will be saved.

8.   To add more devices, repeat the steps.

Note

The cameras you add will be assigned a default scenario. To learn more about scenarios, see .

Add recording and networking devices

1.   Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2.   Go to **Recording**.

3.   Under **Choose your solution**, select the vendor of your choice.

4.   If you select Axis or Genetec, you will get a recommended solution for recording, storage, and power based on the estimated requirements for your project. Click on the solution to select it.

5.   To design your own solution, select and add devices from the list of servers, terminals, switches, and licenses.
An overview indicates if the selected devices cover the estimated requirements of the project, or if you need to add additional devices.

The solution or devices you select are added to the project with information about available licenses, server capacity, storage options, and specifications on available ports and PoE.

Manage your projects

Add your projects into folders

You can organize your projects by adding them into folders.

Create and add projects to a folder:
1. Go to your list of projects in AXIS Site Designer.

2. To create a folder, click **Add folder**.

3. Name your folder and click **Add**.

4. Move existing projects into your folder. There are three ways to do it:

    4.1. Drag and drop one project at a time into the folder.

    4.2. Use the checkboxes to select several projects and drag and drop them into the folder.

    4.3. Use the checkboxes to select one or more projects, click **Move**, and select the folder you wish to add them to.

Move projects back to My projects:
1. Go to the selected folder.

2. There are three ways to move projects out of your folder:

    2.1. Drag one project at a time and drop it on **My projects**.

    2.2. Use the checkboxes to select several projects and drag and drop them on **My projects**.

    2.3. Use the checkboxes to select one or more projects, click **Move**, and move it to **My Projects**.

To watch this video, go to the web version of this document.

This video shows how you can add folders to organize your projects.

Duplicate a project

To save time, you can duplicate an existing project instead of creating a new project from scratch.

1. Go to your list of projects in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Click ⋮ to open the drop-down menu for the project you wish to duplicate.

3. Click **Duplicate**.

4. Enter a new name for the duplicated project.

Export a project

You can export an AXIS Site Designer project, either for backup or sharing, or in order to import your project settings into a VMS.

Export a project as a file

To make a backup or share a project with someone else, export the project as a file. You can export one project at a time, or many at the same time.

1. Go to your list of projects in AXIS Site Designer.

Export one project:

2. Click ⋮ to open the drop-down menu for the project you wish to export.

3. Click **Export project**.

4. **Download project file.**

Export one or more projects:

5. Select the projects you wish to export by checking the boxes.

6. Click **Export**.

Your project is exported as a **.aspdx** project file and is available in the **Downloads** folder on your computer.

Export project settings to a VMS

When your project is complete, you can export your project settings from AXIS Site Designer and import them to AXIS Camera Station, or Milestone Xprotect using AXIS Optimizer.

1. Go to your list of projects in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Select the project you want to export.

3. Click ⋮ to open the drop-down menu for the project you wish to export.

4. Click **Export project**.

5. If your VMS is connected to the internet, click **Generate code** to create a snapshot of the settings online. To import the settings, type the code into AXIS Camera Station or AXIS Optimizer.

6. If your VMS operates offline, click **Download settings file** and import the file to AXIS Camera Station or AXIS Optimizer.

Import a project

1. In AXIS Site Designer, click **Import project**

2. Select the project file you wish to import.

Note

The file ending for AXIS Site Designer projects is **.asdpx** for newer projects, or **.asdp** for older projects.

When the import is done, the project is available in the top of your list.

Merge two projects

You can merge two projects into one by importing an existing project into another.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. In the project overview, click **Import from project**.

Note

Importing a project into another can't be undone. We recommend that you select the option **Back up this project before importing**.

3. If you want to import an existing project file, click **Select file**.

4. If you want to import a project from your current list of projects, click **Select project**.

When the import is done, you can start working on your merged project.

Archive a project

If you have a long list of projects, or many large projects that take time to load, you can archive them. You can archive one project at a time, or many at the same time.

1. Go to your list of projects in AXIS Site Designer.

To archive one project:

2. Click ⋮ to open the drop-down menu for the project you wish to archive.

3. Click **Archive**.

To archive one or more projects:

4. Select the projects you wish to archive by checking the boxes.

5. Click **Archive**.

To show or hide archived projects, toggle **Show archived projects**.

Work with maps

In the **Maps** page, you can add devices to maps and floor plans, visualize their coverage, add filters and blockers to the map, and adjust some of the device's settings.

Use map controls

The following controls are available within the map or floor plan:

⊕ : Click to upload a floor plan. The floor plan is added to a new tab.

Note

Supported file formats for floor plans are PNG, JPG, JPEF, and PDF. The maximum file size for a floor plan is 10 MB.

❓ : Click to view videos about how to use maps and floor plans, and learn more about available keyboard shortcuts.

📍 : Click to add a preset map location through Google maps. Available in the **Map** tab.

🗺️ : Click to adjust the opacity of the floor plan in the map. Available when you've added a floor plan to the **Map** tab.

🌐Add to map: Click to add your floor plan to a map. Available when you've uploaded a floor plan.

⚙️Settings: Click to edit the settings for your floor plan, for example to change the name or edit the scale. Available when you've uploaded a floor plan.

◈ : Click to add filters to your map or floor plan. For example, select colors for your devices, and select what type of information to show or hide.

＋ : Click to zoom in on your map or floor plan.

－ : Click to zoom out on your map or floor plan.

T : Click to add a text box to your map or floor plan.

⟦⟧ : Click if you want to scale the map or floor plan to fit into map view.

╱ : Click to start drawing a blocker in your map or floor plan. Blockers represents solid objects in the scene, such as walls or aisles.

✏️ : Click to edit a blocker.

🗑️ : Click to delete a blocker.

📏 📐 : Click to toggle the measuring tool. You can measure distances in your map or floor plan, for example to make cable management easier.

DORI : Click to toggle DORI pixel zones in your map or floor plan.

🖨️ : Click to print a copy of your map or floor plan.

Use keyboard shortcuts

The following keyboard shortcuts are available when you work with maps and floor plans:

General	
Undo	**PC**: CTRL + Z
	Mac: ⌘ + Z
Redo	**PC**: CTRL + Y
	Mac: ⌘ + Y

Devices	
Add selected device to the map. The device is added at the position of your cursor.	A
Increase the quantity of the device	**PC**: ALT + Click and drag
	Mac: ⌥ + Click and drag
Duplicate the device	**PC**: CONTROL + ALT + Click and drag
	Mac: ⌘ + ⌥ + Click and drag
Remove the device from map	**PC**: DELETE
	Mac: fn + ⌫
Move the device on the map	∧ ⟨ ∨ ⟩
Rotate the device	SHIFT + ∧ ⟨ ∨ ⟩
Select multiple devices	SHIFT + Click

Blockers	
Toggle the blocker tool. Click on the map to start drawing and click again to add additional points.	B
Finish drawing blockers	ENTER
Cancel drawing blockers	ESCAPE
Snap to 15°	SHIFT

Measuring tool	
Toggle the measuring tool. Click on the map to start measuring and click again to add additional points.	M
Finish measuring	ENTER
Cancel measuring	ESCAPE

Text	
Add a text box at the position of your cursor	T
Finish writing text	ENTER

DORI	
Toggle DORI pixel zones on or off	D

Add devices

Next to the map and floor plans, there is a menu for adding devices and adjusting some of the device settings.

: Click to go to the camera tab where you can select cameras, and intercoms with integrated cameras.
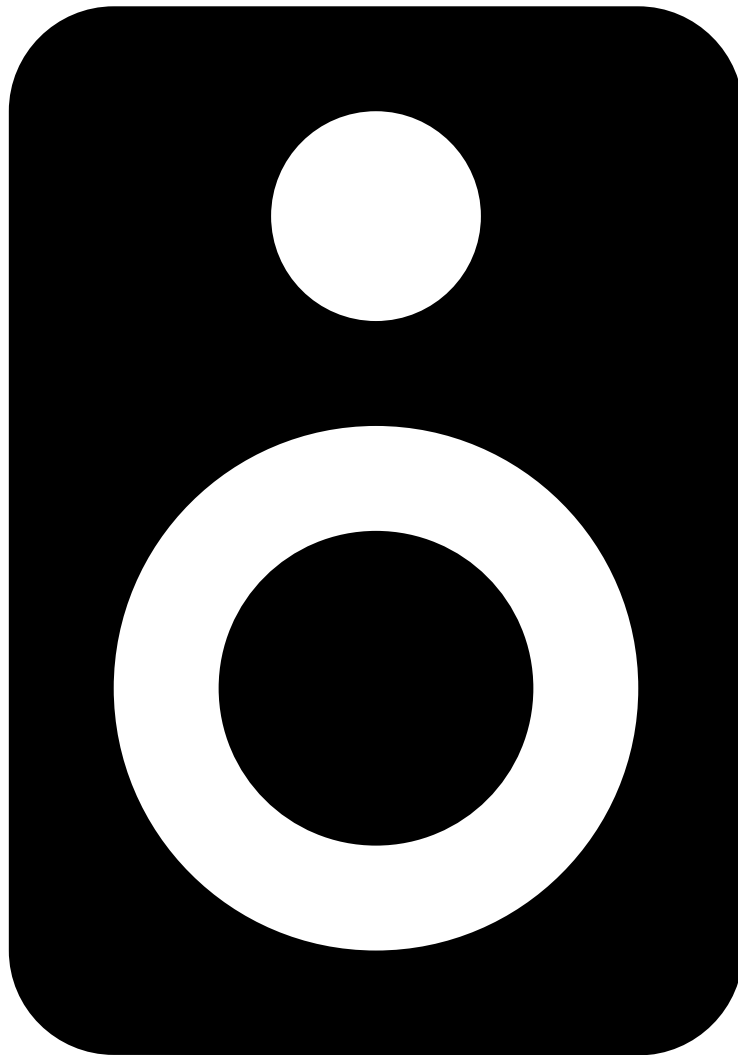
: Click to go to the speaker tab.
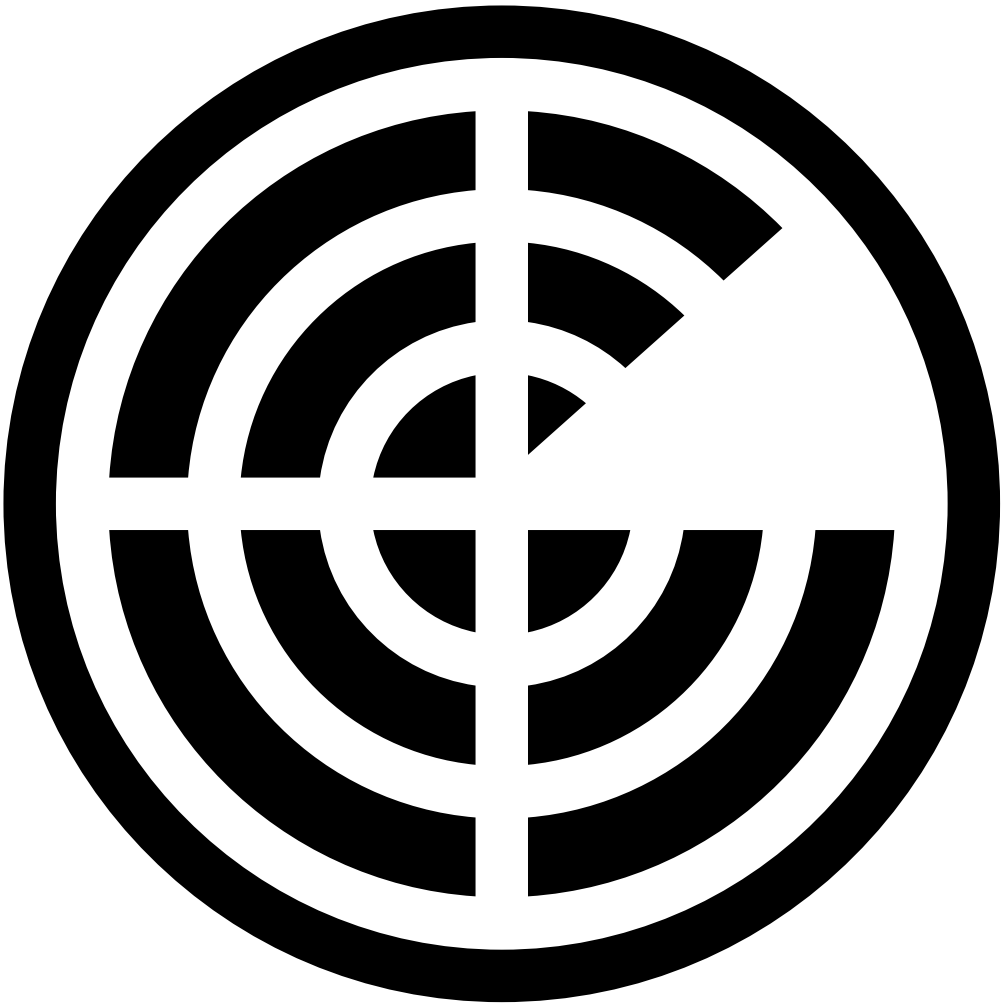
: Click to go to the radar tab.
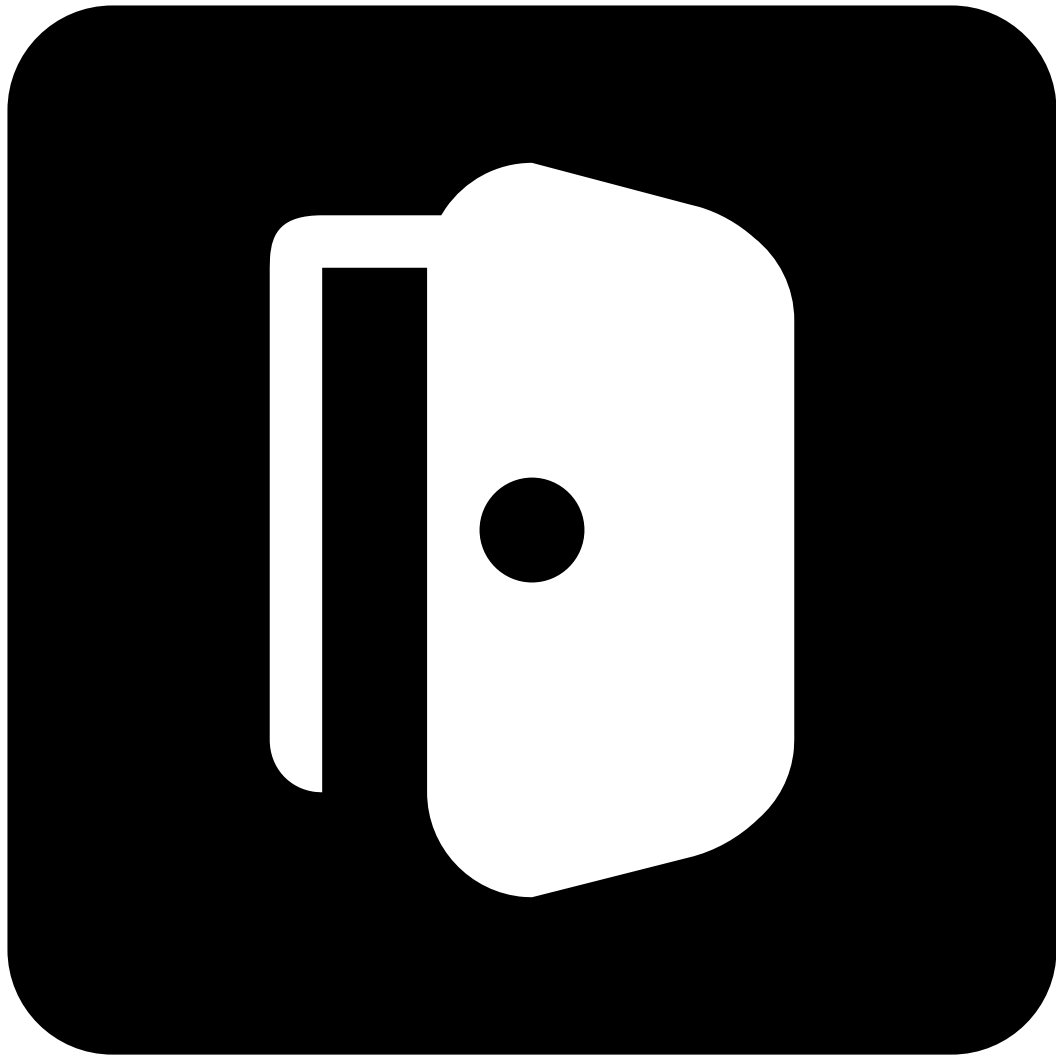
: Click to go to the door controller tab.
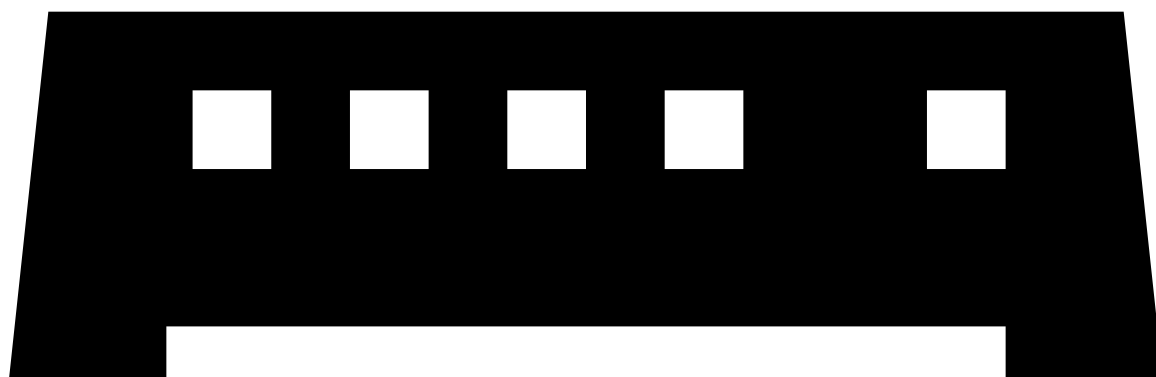
: Click to go to the modular camera tab.

...: Click to go the tab where you can select other types of devices.

For more information about how to add a device to a map or floor plan, see .

Add a group of devices

You can group devices of the same model. This feature is handy if the devices share the same settings, eliminating the need to add each device and its settings individually. You can group devices in the list on the **Devices** page, or on the **Maps** page.

Grouped devices share color, mounting options, accessories, and applications. When grouping cameras, they will also share the same scenarios and pixel density. You have the option to add unique names, notes, as well as setting a unique installation height and target height (if supported by the device).

Add a group of devices on the Devices page
1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Devices** page.

3. Add a device to the list. For instructions, see .

4. Under **Quantity**, increase the number.

Add a group of devices on the Maps page

1. Go to the **Maps** page.

Note

If you already have added a group of devices on the **Devices** page, you can find them represented by a device icon under **Not on map** in the menu next to the map.

If you're adding a new device to the map, first select your device according to the instruction in .

2. Click and drag the device icon onto the map. A numbering next to the name indicates that the device is part of a group.

3. To increase the quantity, click and drag the device icon again onto the map.
You can also use the keyboard shortcut ALT + Click and drag (PC) or ⌥ + Click and drag (Mac) to place a grouped device on the map.

To watch this video, go to the web version of this document.

This video demonstrates how to group devices of the same model on the Devices page and on the Maps page.

Add accessories

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Devices** or **Maps** page and select the device you wish to add accessories to.

3. To open the **Accessories** tab, click ▲■●.

4. Select the placement of the device.
To exclude mounts that are recommended for indoor use only, make sure to turn on the **Outdoor** filter.

5. AXIS Site Designer suggests a compatible primary mount and additional mounting accessories if required. For alternatives, click on the primary mount or mounting accessory.

6. To select additional accessories for your device or mount, click **+ Accessories**.

Add applications

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Devices** or **Maps** page and select the device you wish to add applications to.

3. To open the **Applications** tab, click 🧩.

4. Select one or more compatible analytics applications from the list.

Note

Applications marked as **Included** are available without any extra cost, either pre-installed or for download. Included applications are not added to the sales quote or bill of materials.

Add system accessories

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Accessories** page.

3. Select a category of accessories, or select **All accessories**.

If you know the name of the accessory, you can search for it in the search field.

4. To add an accessory, click **Add**.

5. Adjust the quantity as required.

Add generic cameras

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Devices** page.

3. Click **Add device**.

4. In the **Cameras** tab, select **Pick model later** and click **Add**.

5. Go back to the **Devices** page.

6. Click on the icon of the camera you just added.

7. In the **Overview** tab, toggle **Generic camera**.

8. Add the relevant settings for your generic camera.

Add other items

You can add accessories from other vendors or any other item needed for the sales quote or bill of materials.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Other** page.

3. Enter or select the following details for your item: **Name**, **Vendor**, **Part number**, **Category**, and **Quantity**.

4. Click **Add my item**.

To edit an item, simply select the value you wish to edit. To duplicate or delete a post, click ⋮ to access a drop-down menu.

Manage scenarios and schedules

Use **Scenarios** to define the settings needed to estimate storage and bandwidth for the cameras in your project.

When you create a new project in AXIS Site Designer, there are two default scenarios. The scenario marked with a star is assigned to your devices. You can create new scenarios and edit existing ones, and assign them to the devices according to your needs. To learn more about what's included in a scenario and how you can define one, see .

Use **Schedules** if you're going to record during certain hours. There is one default schedule in AXIS Site Designer, and you can create new ones according to your needs.

Create a new scenario

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. In the **Project overview** page, click **Add scenario**.

3. Add a name for the scenario.

4. Select a scene and if necessary, adjust its light conditions.

5. Adjust the default settings if required, such as settings for recordings, Zipstream, and storage.

Note

To learn more about the settings you can define in a scenario, see .

6. When you're done, click **Close**.

Edit a scenario

There are two ways to edit a scenario; you can either edit the settings for all cameras assigned to the scenario, or edit the settings for a specific camera.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Open the scenario settings.
   2.1. **For all cameras**: Go to the **Project overview** page and click on the scenario you wish to edit.

You can also click

●

●

●
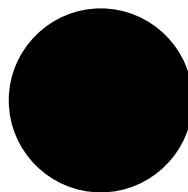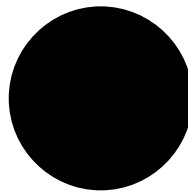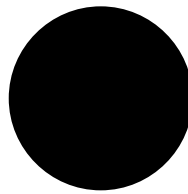
and select **Edit scenario** from the drop-down menu.

    2.2.   For a specific camera: Go to **Devices**, click on the scenario, and click **Edit scenario...**

3.   Edit the scenario settings according to your needs.

Note

To learn more about the settings you can define in a scenario, see .

4.   When you're done, click **Close**. Your changes are saved automatically.

Set a new default scenario

The scenario you set as default is assigned to each new camera you add to the project.

1.   Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2.   In the **Project overview** page, go to the scenario you wish to set as default.

3.   Click ☆ to set it as default.

You can also click
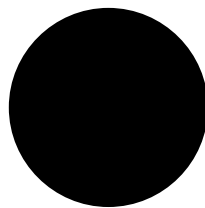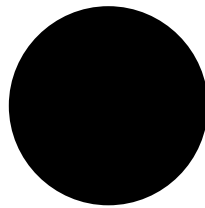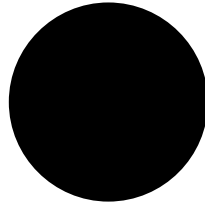
and select **Make default** from the drop-down menu.

Copy a scenario

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.
2. In the **Project overview** page, go to the scenario you wish to copy.

3. Click
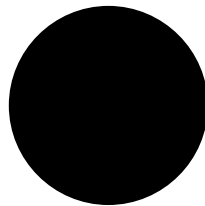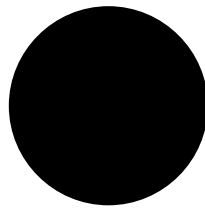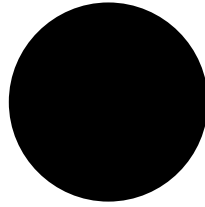
menu, select **Duplicate**.

A new scenario with the same settings is created.

Create a new schedule

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.
2. In the **Project overview** page, click **Add schedule**.
3. Click on the name of the schedule to edit it.
4. Adjust the time by moving the anchor points on the time line.
5. Specify the days that the schedule is active.
6. When you're done, click **Close**.

Edit a schedule

Note

When you edit a schedule, you will update all scenarios where the schedule is used.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. In the **Project overview** page, click on the schedule you wish to edit.
   You can also click
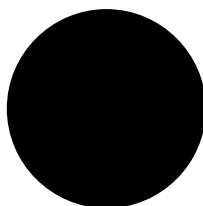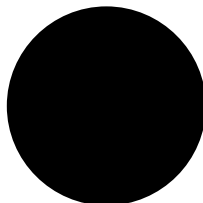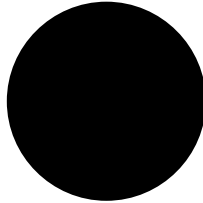
and select **Edit schedule** from the drop-down menu.

3. Edit the schedule name, time, or days according to your needs.

4. When you're done, click **Close**. Your changes are saved automatically.

Define Zipstream and storage time settings

There are two ways to define Zipstream and storage time settings for your project. You can either define the settings for your entire project, or define them for individual scenarios.

Note

To learn more about how Zipstream works, see the whitepaper *Axis Zipstream Technology*.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Project overview** page.

Define project settings:

3. To define the Zipstream settings for all projects, move the anchor point on the slider under **Project Zipstream settings**.

4. To define the storage time, adjust the number of days under **Project storage time**.

Define scenario-specific settings:

5. Click on the scenario you wish to edit.

6. Go to **Zipstream** and turn off **Use project setting**.

7. Select the Zipstream settings you require, like strength, dynamic GOP and minimum fps.

8. Go to **Storage** and turn off **Use project setting**.

9. Adjust the number of storage time days.

Delete a scenario or a schedule

Important

A scenario that have been assigned to a camera (including the default scenario) can't be deleted, and a schedule that's used in a scenario can't be deleted.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. In the **Project overview** page, find the scenario or schedule you wish to delete.

3. Click
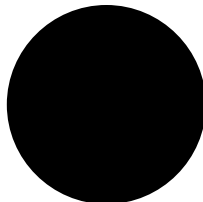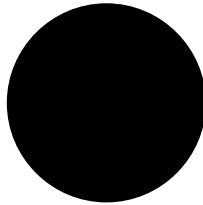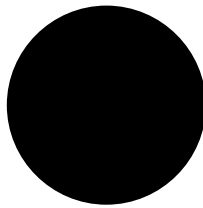
and select **Delete** from the drop-down menu.

Manage reports and documentation

Create a sales quote

The sales quote lets you review the bill of materials and edit the quote price before sending the document to the end customer.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. To get a preview of the sales quote, click on the **Sales quote** tab.

4. Add your quote prices, and details like a logo, header, and valid until date.

5. To see the details as they will appear when sent, click **View sales quote**.

6. To edit the sales quote, click **Edit quotation**.

7. When you're done, click **Lock project**.

8. To download the quote as an Excel file, click **Export to Excel**

9. To print a copy of the quote, or to save it as a PDF file, click **Print**.

Create a bill of materials (BOM)

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page and click on the **Bill of materials** tab.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. To download the bill of materials (BOM) as a file in JSON format, for example to submit it for project pricing, there are two options:

    3.1. If you have access to Axis Partner Web, click **Request project pricing**. For further instructions, see .

    3.2. If you don't have access to Axis Partner Web, click **Export BOM file** to download the file.

4. To download the BOM as an Excel file, click **Export to Excel**

5. To print a copy of the BOM, or to save it as a PDF file, click **Print**.

Request project pricing

You can download the bill of materials (BOM) and submit it when you request special pricing for your project. If you have the required access, you can include the BOM directly in Axis Project Pricing Tool. You can also download the BOM and submit it separately.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page and click on the **Bill of materials** tab.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. Click **Request project pricing** in the top right corner.

To submit the request directly through Axis Partner Web:

4. Click **Open Axis Project Pricing Tool**.

5. Fill in the details for your project and submit it. Your BOM file is included automatically.

To submit the request through your distributor:
6. Click **Download the BOM file** and attach the file when you submit the request to your distributor.

Create a power and bandwidth report

Important

The generated power, bandwidth, and storage values in the report are estimates only.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page and click on the **Power and bandwidth** tab.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. To download the power and bandwidth report as an Excel file, click **Export to Excel**

4. To print a copy of the power and bandwidth report, or to save it as a PDF file, click **Print**.

Create an installation report

The installation report provides the number of devices to install, the estimated storage and bandwidth needed, and an overview of the schedules configured for the site.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page and click on the **Installation report** tab.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. To add notes to the installer, start typing under **Notes**.

4. To change how you show devices in the report, toggle **One page per device**.

5. To change the sort order in the report, click **Sort by...** and select if you want to sort by the name you have given the device, or by the name of the model

6. To print a copy of the installation report, or to save it as a PDF file, click **Print**.

Create a system proposal

The system proposal provides a complete overview of your project, including descriptions of your devices, floor plans, schedules, as well as bandwidth, storage and power requirements.

1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.

2. Go to the **Reports** page and click on the **System proposal** tab.

Note

You can also access the reports in the project overview. Click ⋮ next to the project and select **View reports**.

3. To print a copy of the system proposal, or to save it as a PDF file, click **Print**.

Download documentation

You can easily download the datasheets for the devices in your projects. If you're part of Axis Architecture & Engineering (A&E) program, you can also download additional documentation.

Download datasheets:
1. Open your project in AXIS Site Designer.
2. Go to the **Documentation** page.
3. To download an individual datasheet, click **Download**.
4. To download datasheets for multiple devices, either select the devices you're interested in or check **Select all**, and click **Download selected**.

Download additional documentation (A&E program):
1. Under **AXIS Specification Compiler**, click **Download specification**.
2. Log in and go to **A&E Media** to find all available documentation.

Learn more

Local projects

Local projects in AXIS Site Designer lets you work offline, and won't sync your project with the cloud. However, to work with AXIS Site Designer offline, you need to use it online once.

Local projects are only available in your browser's local storage and are never synced or saved online. Keep in mind that using a private browsing mode, or clearing your browsing data, will delete your local projects with no possibility of recovering them. To avoid losing your work, make sure to back up your local projects regularly by exporting them. Another thing to keep in mind is that anyone with access to your device and browser can view your project, so make sure not to create local projects on public or shared computers.

To create a local project, open AXIS Site Designer and go to ⛅ **Local projects**.

Device selector

AXIS Site Designer helps you select devices that meet the requirements for your project. You can find the device selector through the **Devices** page, or if you add a device through the **Maps** page.

The selector can differ based on the type of device you're looking for. The following types are available in the selector, all represented by a separate tab:

- Cameras
- F/FA series
- Encoders
- Speakers
- Access control
- Wearables
- Other

For all types of devices, you can filter on features or functionality to narrow down your search result. Some examples of filters you can apply are if the device have audio support, sustainability features, and if it's outdoor ready or not.

Note

Discontinued devices are not included in the search result. To include them, toggle **Include discontinued**.

Device specifics

Some device types have additional functionality, either before or after you make your selection.

- **Cameras**: In addition to filters, you can add requirements for your scene to find the right camera. You will also get a 3D visualization of the camera's field of view and coverage area.

- **F/FA series**: In the selector you get the option to select a modular main unit. After selecting one, AXIS Site Designer automatically adds the option to add connected sensor units based on the main unit's number of channels. The option to add sensor units is available in the **Devices** or **Maps** page.

- **Encoders**: When you have selected an encoder, AXIS Site Designer automatically adds generic analog cameras based on the selected encoder's number of channels. You can specify the analog camera further in the **Devices** or **Maps** page.

- **Speakers**: In the selector, you get help to calculate the recommended quantity of speakers. To do so, first select the required placement and set the installation height. For ceiling mounted speakers, enter the listening area, and for wall mounted speakers, enter the length of the wall. When you select a speaker from the list of matching speakers, AXIS Site Designer suggests the required quantity.

- **Access control**: Lets you select intercoms, door controllers, and I/O relay modules. For door controllers, AXIS Site Designer automatically adds a door, to which you can add card readers and related

accessories. For newer I/O relay modules, you get the option to add connected expansion modules. These options are available in the **Devices** or **Maps** page.

- **Wearables**: Lets you select devices for your body worn solution. Based on the device you select, AXIS Site Designer suggests compatible docking stations and the number of bays you require, as well as a system controller for your solution.

Bandwidth, recording and storage

Bandwidth estimates

AXIS Site Designer provides bandwidth estimates to help you find the right recording and storage solution. The estimates represent the cameras' average bandwidth while recording or viewing video.

The bandwidth estimates are based on a number of different parameters. These are some of the factors that affect the calculations:

Camera model
Axis measures bandwidth performance for most models to provide the best possible bandwidth estimates in AXIS Site Designer. Since different cameras have different capabilities, such as lens, image sensor, and chipset, the estimates will vary based on camera model.

Scenario settings
The scenario you use for your camera comes with predefined settings in terms of scene details, light conditions, and motion. If needed, you can adjust these settings.

In addition, the estimates can also vary based on the type of recording you select in your scenario. For motion-triggered recording, motion can occur at all times. Continuous recording on the other hand includes estimates for periods with low activity. Due to this, the bandwidth estimates are generally higher for motion-triggered recording compared to continuous recording.

To learn more about scenarios, see .

Multiple video streams
AXIS Site Designer can estimate bandwidth for up to three video streams; one for motion-triggered recordings, one for continuous recordings, and one for the live view (which doesn't contribute to storage estimates). The bandwidth estimate shown for a device in the bandwidth report is the sum of the bandwidth estimates for each of these video streams.

Scenarios

Scenarios are associated with the cameras you add in your AXIS Site Designer projects. They contain information about the scene and recordings, and help to estimate the cameras' bandwidth and storage requirements.

There are two default scenarios in each project; **Indoor scenario – Retail** and **Outdoor scenario – Parking**, but you can create as many scenarios as you need and define them to resemble your installation site.

Scenario settings

You can define the following settings in a scenario:

Scene settings

- **Type of scene**
  If your installation site is different from the default retail or parking scene, you can select another one. There are a number of different scenes available, such as **Perimeter**, **Busy station**, or **Pedestrian zone**. The scene you select is predefined either as an indoor or outdoor scene. The image that represents the scene shows the location.

- **Light conditions**
  Each scene has predefined light conditions. You can adjust the level of illumination in the scene, as well as the hours that are considered well-lit and low-lit.

- **Motion estimates and scene details**

Each scene has predefined motion estimates and scene level details. For example, the **Retail** scene is considered busier than the **Perimeter** scene, and is predefined to include more motion and details. If needed, you can edit the motion estimates in the recording settings.

Recording settings

- **Video streams**
  You can define recording settings for two video streams; one for motion-triggered recordings and one for continuous recordings. There's also a stream that represents the live view. The live view stream is included in the bandwidth estimate, but not in the storage estimate.
  For each video stream, you can adjust the following:

  - **Schedules**
    You can define when the recording of each video stream is supposed to be active. You can use schedules for recording, set to always record, or turn the recording off. For the live view, you basically define if and when the stream will be included in the bandwidth estimates.

  - **Motion estimates**

    Each scene comes with predefined motion estimates for well-lit and low-light hours. Use ⌄ to show the settings, and then use sliders to adjust **Motion in scene** and **Parts of scene moving**.

  - **Camera settings**
    For each video stream, you can adjust the camera's frame rate, resolution, video codec, and compression settings.

- **Audio**
  If your cameras support audio, you can select if you want to include audio in your recordings and live view.

- **Zipstream**
  You can adjust the settings for Zipstream, or select to turn it off completely.

- **Storage**
  You can adjust the number of days you plan to store your recordings. The default value is set to 30 days.

Additional settings
- **Bandwidth limit**
  If you already know what to expect in terms of bandwidth for your project, you can set a maximum bitrate in the scenario. This option is available when you edit a scenario for a specific camera. Look for this symbol ⊤⊤ on the top of the scenario page and click ✏ to set the max bitrate.

For more information about how to create and edit scenarios and schedules, see .

Camera-specific scenarios

A camera within a project is always associated with a single scenario that specifies a scene and recording settings. You can use the same scenario on several cameras. If needed, you can edit the scenario for a specific camera without changing the settings for the rest of the cameras.

Example:
Indoor scenario – Retail

- **Motion triggered recording**: schedule set to **Always**
- **Continuous recording**: schedule set to **Off**

Camera 1, 2, and 3 use the Indoor scenario - Retail. However, you want the continuous recording to be on all the time for camera 2. To adjust the scenario for camera 2 only, go to **Devices** and click on camera 2 to access its scenario. Edit the scenario and adjust the continuous recording setting to **Always** without affecting the scenario settings for camera 1 and 3.

In addition, you want to make changes to the Indoor scenario and set the motion-triggered schedule to **Office hours**. To adjust the schedule for all three cameras, go to **Project overview** and make the change to the scenario.

For more information about how to create and edit scenarios and schedules, see .

Recording and storage

The **Recording** page in AXIS Site Designer helps you choose the right recording solution for your project. Currently you can choose recording solutions from Axis, Genetec, and Milestone. In addition to recording devices, like servers or SD cards, the recommended solutions also include a video management system (VMS), as well as power and network devices.

The recording page features a **Project requirements** overview, detailing your needs for storage, video channels, licenses, bandwidth, PoE power, and PoE ports. After you select a recommended recording solution, the overview provides instant feedback on how the requirements are met. If you make changes to your project, or if you customize your solution, you can easily see if you still fulfill the requirements.

Project requirements breakdown	
Storage	Refers to the estimated amount of storage your project needs, covering all devices for the duration specified in your scenario. AXIS Site Designer aligns your project's storage requirements with the available storage in network video recorders or SD cards. For more information, see .
Channels	Refers to the number of video channels needed in your project. When recommending a recording solution, the channel requirements is used to match your devices to a suitable network video recorder.
Licenses	Refers to the number of VMS licenses needed for the devices in your project. Depending on your VMS, the number of licenses required per device, or IP address, can differ. For recording solutions that include AXIS Audio Manager Pro, **Licenses** represents both VMS and audio licenses. For more information about required licenses, see the documentation for your selected management software.
Bandwidth	Refers to the estimated bitrate per second for all devices in your project. When recommending a recording solution with network video recorders, AXIS Site Designer matches the estimated bandwidth to the recording bitrate of the recorder.
Power	Refers to the estimated amount of PoE power, in watts (W), required by the devices in your project. The requirement can be filled by network video recorders with integrated switch functionality, or by network switches. If your device comes with an included midspan, or if you already have selected a midspan as an accessory for the device, the device's requirements are excluded from the project requirements.
Ports	Refers to the amount of PoE ports needed in your project. The requirement can be filled by network video recorders with integrated switch functionality, or by network switches.

Recording considerations

Network video recorders
For recommendations including Axis network video recorders, the available storage is based on the RAID configuration out of the box (RAID 5). AXIS Site Designer can also add Axis hard drives to the recommended solution, if the option is supported by the recorder.

Additional hard drives
The capacity of a hard drive is advertised by its manufacturer using decimal units (TB), where 1 TB equals 1,000,000,000,000 bytes. However, operating systems display storage in binary units (TiB), with 1 TiB equaling 1,099,511,627,776 bytes. As a result, the usable capacity displayed in the operating system will always be lower than the advertized drive size. When drives are incorporated into a RAID array, the available capacity is further reduced, depending on the RAID level, due to parity, mirroring, or other overhead.

Manufacturer size (TB)	Operating system reported size (≈ TiB)
4 TB	3.64 TiB
8 TB	7.28 TiB
12 TB	10.91 TiB

Note

When additional hard drives are added to the project, the default RAID level is not recalculated. Additional drives are considered as separate storage added to the default RAID amount.

SD cards
AXIS Site Designer will only recommend a recording solution with AXIS Surveillance Cards if each device's storage needs can be met by a single SD card. If a device requires more storage than one card can provide, SD cards won't be suggested. To read more about AXIS Surveillance Cards, see *axis.com/products/edge-storage*.

Total cost of ownership report

The costs of a surveillance system can be divided into several phases; the initial costs during acquisition, the costs associated with operation, and the costs for decommissioning the system. While initial costs are relatively easy to estimate, it can be much more difficult to estimate costs over time. An analysis based on a total cost of ownership (TCO) model can help break down and estimate the costs over a system's lifecycle.

In AXIS Site Designer, you can use a TCO simulator to estimate costs and savings for your project over the years of operation. The simulator focuses on key aspects of Axis TCO model, such as costs for cameras and servers, as well as costs for required energy and storage. By comparing your Axis solution with another solution, the simulator estimates the savings you can make over time. The results are available in an overview or in a printable report.

Important

The TCO simulator and the generated report is based on parts of Axis TCO model. To learn more about the complete model, see *axis.com/about-axis/quality/total-cost-of-ownership*.

TCO simulator

The TCO simulator includes the following parameters.

Project parameters	
Energy cost (currency/kWh)	Energy cost per kWh for the cameras and servers in the project. The currency is based on the location of your project.
Years of operation	The years of operation to base the TCO report on. This is set to 7 years by default.
Factor for cooling	For regions where server cooling is required. Multiplies with each watt your servers use.

Cameras	
Camera cost	The cost of cameras in the project, based on the quoted price in the **Sales quote**.
Energy consumption (per year)	Based on the cameras' typical power consumption per year.
Energy cost (X years)	The estimated cost for the devices' energy consumption during the years of operation.

Servers	
Required storage	Based on the estimated storage requirement for the project.
Server cost	The cost of the servers in the project, based on the quoted price in the **Sales quote**.
Energy consumption (per year)	Based on the servers' typical power consumption per year.
Cooling consumption (per year)	Based on the power required for server cooling per year.
Energy cost (X years)	The estimated cost for the servers' energy consumption during the years of operation.

Comparison

With the comparison feature, you can easily compare your Axis solution with other solutions and visualize the cost breakdown in two bar charts.

To adjust the parameters for the other solution, you can either use a slider, or manually change the values for the camera cost, camera energy consumption, and required storage.

The default values of the other solution's energy consumption and storage requirements are based on typical market values.

Note

At Axis Communications, we work with independent third-party testers to continuously evaluate our cameras alongside similar devices on the market. These tests look at various factors, including power consumption and bitrate. The typical market values are based on the combined results from these evaluations.

Troubleshooting

Uploading maps and floor plans	
PNG, JPG, and JPEG files	Check the file size. The maximum allowed size is 10 MB.
PDF files	If you don't get a preview of the image when you upload a PDF file, try to open the PDF in a viewer and print it to a new PDF using a smaller paper size, such as A4 or A3. PDF files are converted to PNG format during upload and if the paper size in the PDF is large, the resulting PNG might exceed the 10 MB limit for floor plans – or even your 2 GB storage quota.

Loading projects	
Projects take a long time to load	Try the following: • Check your network connection. • If you have a lot of large projects, archive the ones you don't need immediate access to. For more information, see .

Bandwidth estimates	
The bandwidth estimate doesn't look right.	Axis measures the bandwidth performance for most models to provide the best possible estimates. Since different models have different capabilities, the bandwidth estimates sometimes vary. In addition, some older cameras haven't been measured and use default estimates based on a common camera model.

Release archive

May - June 2025

- You can now add folders to help organize your projects. For more information, see .

- We've added a new type of report. The total cost of ownership (TCO) report includes a simulator for TCO calculations. It takes the cost of cameras and servers into account, as well as the required energy and storage. You can also compare your Axis solution to another solution and get an overview of your estimated savings. To learn more, see .

- It's now possible to sort the list of devices in the map view.

To watch this video, go to the web version of this document.

This video provides a quick overview of AXIS Site Designer updates from the latest releases.

April 2025

- We've added more keyboard shortcuts to make your work easier in the map view. For more information, see .

- You can now use a calculator to determine how many AXIS Camera Station Cloud Storage licenses you need. You'll find the calculator on the **Recording** page when you select **Cloud storage**.

January - March 2025

- The device overview now includes more information, such as links to the device's datasheet and product page on axis.com, and a table with technical specifications.

- We have also made some improvements to the measuring tool. You can now measure distances between one or more points on your map or floor plan, and get the total distance at the final point as well as sub-measurements along the way.

- It's now easier to request project pricing. If you have the required access to Axis Partner Web, you can include the bill of materials (BOM) automatically when you submit your project for project pricing. To learn more, see .

- Last but not least, it's possible to merge two existing projects. To learn more, see .

To watch this video, go to the web version of this document.

This video provides a quick overview of AXIS Site Designer updates from January to March 2025