Mirasys VMS software, Rel 6.1
Release Description
Introduction

Mirasys VMS software Release 6.1 continues on the road started with Release 6.0 and further enhances the solutions’ leadership in critical focus areas. The focus in Release 6.0 was mainly in providing support for advanced networking configurations, based on technologies such as multi-streaming, multicasting and edge storage. In Release 6.1 the key focus areas are **user experience** and **system management**

Spotter for Windows

“Spotter for Windows” is the new Mirasys VMS client application for Windows workstations. It provides a modern user experience for video surveillance based on the latest Windows technologies and tools. Continuing on the path of renowned “Spotter Mobile” applications available for iPhone, iPad and Android based devices, the new Spotter for Windows sets the new standard for usability in the area of video management solutions.

Spotter for Windows is an additional client application available for end-users, who can now select between using the Spotter or Workstation client applications. Spotter is a great choice for end-users looking for intuitive and simple access to live- and playback-video, whereas Workstation is targeted for power-users needing more advanced functionality e.g. digital I/O, audio, alarms.

The initial focus on Spotter for Windows is to optimize the user experience for the most commonly used tasks in video surveillance – live view, search, playback and export. The user can access all this functionality intuitively straight from the main screen of the application, without having to go through a series of steps, menus and dialogs.
In Spotter, cameras are opened by double-clicking or dragging them to a specific tab in the work area. Tabs provide a modular way of logically organizing cameras to different synchronized groups. When opening a new camera to a specific camera tab in the system, the video window is automatically positioned and sized for best fit on the application.

All cameras opened in the same tab follow the playback controls in a synchronized manner. Playback controls include traditional “VHS style” buttons, a playback slider with which the playback direction and speed can be controlled very easily, and time/date selector controls.

The user can also open an additional scalable TimeSlider control, which combines time and activity search to one intuitive and simple control. When dragging the TimeSlider with mouse, again all cameras in the tab follow this movement instantaneously thus making it a breeze to move in time when searching for a particular event in the video footage. To ease the searching even more the activity search with smart peek functionality is available with a click of the mouse.

For exporting a video clip from chosen cameras, the TimeSlider can be used to easily select the cameras and timeline that shall be exported to a file. Different video formats (ASF, AVI, Matroska) are supported, and exported clips can be viewed either with Mirasys Media Player or standard video player applications such as Windows Media Player or VLC.

Spotter for Windows client application is from the grounds up designed for multi-monitor environments. Each tab in the application can be dragged outside of the main workspace to another monitor connected on the workstation PC, and can be operated independently there – e.g. maximized to the monitor for true full-screen viewing of cameras only. A layout definition remembers all these independent monitors, so activating a specific layout will render them all quickly to a specific layout. With all this functionality, the Spotter for Windows provides a true “Video Wall” user experience.

While providing this optimized user experience, the Spotter for Windows also establishes a highly extensible tab-based client application framework, which makes it easy to seamlessly expand the user experience with new functionality going forward – such as dynamic maps, vca visualization, etc. It is also designed with touch PC screens in mind, and allows full personalization of UI control size according to end-user preferences.
System Management

In addition to the new user experience, the Mirasys VMS Release 6.1 introduces a wealth of new functionality and options which make the everyday administration tasks much easier:

- **Unique hybrid camera license** means that when migrating from an analogue camera to a network camera, there is no need to change anything in the license. Administrator can just delete the existing analogue camera from the system, which frees up a camera channel license which can be taken into use for a new network camera.

- **Centralized software update** allows the administrator to automatically distribute and install new versions of the Mirasys software from a centralized management/master server to all connected Mirasys slave servers. This, combined with the automatic client application upgrading feature, means that a complicated networked setup with multiple servers and clients can be updated from a single central management server with no need to physically access other machines involved.

- **Restoring configuration settings to another PC** makes it possible to easily copy settings of one server to another. This speeds up the installation of multiple “copy” servers, where most of the configuration options should always be the same. It also provides an easy and fast method for using a cold-standby spare server for failover purposes.

- **Manual alarm enabling/disabling** is made possible by a new “Disable alarms” action. Now it is possible to define that all alarms in a server will be enabled/disabled e.g. based on a digital I/O state. This is an addition to existing capability of being able to enable/disable alarms based on a time schedule.

- **Custom user roles** allow granular definition of various new user roles, where the access to specific Workstation client application features can be enabled/disabled for the users. It is possible to e.g. define a user role, which doesn’t allow the user to modify existing layouts, change any of the user configuration settings, or even close or resize the workstation application.

Furthermore, Release 6.1 includes also a new plug-in interface for creating drivers that forward alarms to centralized alarm center applications. Similar possibility exists also for technical health-check messages (watchdog). So now it is possible to create **customized alarm center connectors**, in order to integrate Mirasys VMS deeply into the service portfolio of alarm centers. This makes Mirasys VMS the optimal choice for video management in alarm center environments.