

Nokia remote camera

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The Nokia remote camera allows users to setup a wireless home monitoring system that is capable of control through and reporting to a mobile phone. The 1 megapixel camera can also be controlled over Bluetooth and images or video can be sent to an email address. In addition, the device can be triggered remotely through a compatible phone and it can be set to send pictures or video recordings at prespecified times or when triggered using a built in motion sensor[1]. With this unit, a user can also call the phone number associated with the device and listen in, real time, to the area where the camera is located.



A requirement of this system is the availability of a MMS/SMS enabled Nokia cell phone for reporting to a mobile device. System configuration and general control can be done via Bluetooth or with text messages. The camera uses JPEG encoding for still images and H.263 for video, which may be outdated with products

One of the main benefits of this product is its independence. Most security solutions require some form of internet connection along with a PC connection, whereas this camera requires neither. Similar offerings from other companies, such as the Motorola Home Monitoring and Control system need a USB connection to establish camera control and require an internet connection to control and monitor the camera over a web interface [2]. Another difference between the two systems is the overall system design. The Nokia is meant to be a completely standalone device, where the Motorola system is capable of handling up to six multiple separate input peripherals including cameras, door/window sensors, temperature sensors and water sensors.

The main downfall of this product is the limitation introduced by using a cellular GSM connection to transmit data. Sending video or images over a cellular network is substantially slower than a broadband connection, which most security systems would normally be attached to. Another major detraction is the cost of bandwidth on cellular connections, which is often billed by the kilobyte. However, in the role of a security camera, where a constant stream of images or long videos may not be required, this device may not use a lot of bandwidth if it is only used for intermittent reporting.

References:

1 – Nokia Remote Camera <http://www.nokia.com/nokia/0,,63911,00.html>

2 – Motorola Home Monitoring and Control System -
http://broadband.motorola.com/consumers/home_monitoring.asp