

Nokia Remote camera

The Nokia Remote Camera is a wireless and compact home monitoring solution. It has motion and temperature sensors and captures images, video clips, and sound, and sends them to a compatible phone or email address.

With the ability to capture mega pixel-quality images and video clips with sound, even in low-light and outdoor conditions, the Nokia Remote Camera brings a new twist to remote monitoring.

Combining a digital camera, GSM transceiver and MMS technology in the same unit, the Nokia Remote Camera can be used in a number places that need to be observed: including home, summer cottage, warehouse, office, or even a boat.

Consumers looking to add extra peace of mind to their lives will also find the Nokia Remote Camera both easy to install and convenient to use. The camera does not require a physical connection to a landline or to the Internet; all it needs is a regular main power supply and access to a GSM network. After inserting a SIM card, entering the PIN code and defining at least one user, the Nokia Remote Camera is ready for use.

The Nokia Remote Camera includes multiple functions. Taking an image on demand, taking an image after detecting motion, taking an image at a predefined time, a one-way audio connection from the camera to a phone, and a thermometer with a temperature alarm.

The Nokia Remote Camera sends images or video clips with sound to an MMS-enabled handset or e-mail address when motion is detected, at pre-defined intervals, or when an SMS query is sent directly to the device. Users can also receive notifications when a minimum or maximum temperature has been reached, and can even view the temperature history for the past 24 hours as a graph.

Users can control the camera via text messages or by using Blue tooth wireless technology, and the extended user access allows more than one person to control the device. The Remote Camera Manager application provides an enhanced user experience via graphical user interface for those owning a Series 60 smart phone, such as the Nokia 6670, Nokia 7610 or the Nokia 6600. The Nokia Remote Camera comes with a stand for placing it on a table, as well as a wall or ceiling mount, and a clip-on shield for outdoor use.

Users are authenticated by their mobile phone numbers used to access. Maximum of 10 users can have access to the Nokia Remote Camera. One user is the main user and has access to configure all the camera settings. Other users are able to request and receive images, audio, and temperature information, and to switch different camera functions like motion detection on and off. If the Nokia Remote Camera user level setting is set to "extended," all users have access to use different camera functions. There is also an option to allow everyone to request images or video clips from the Remote Camera without having defined user access.

Technical specification:

Video clip Resolution:	176 x 144 pixels (QCIF).
Still image format:	JPEG
Video file format:	H.263 format.
Operating temperature:	-20°C to +50°C
GSM frequency bands:	900/1800 MHz
Image resolution:	1152x864, 640x480, 320x240, or 160x120 pixels; true color
Power supply:	Power Supply AC-12, 100-240 VAC, Built-in back-up battery (operating time up to 12 h) Compatible with Nokia Mobile Charger LCH-12
Interfaces:	SMS, MMS, SMTP Internet email, and Bluetooth specification 1.1
Focus area	0.5 meters to infinity.

- Megapixel (1152x864) camera with digital zoom and infrared for night shots
- Video clips with sound
- Motion detector with adjustable sensitivity
- Remote control via compatible mobile phone
- Built-in back-up battery

Potential bottlenecks

The Nokia Remote Camera is expensive for most home automators and does not do video, however, which is a drawback compared to conventional cameras. Another drawback is Motion is not detected through walls or glass surfaces. It operates only on the GSM network. It's not accessible via a web browser. You can control it remotely with a Series 60 Nokia phone, but that's no substitute for regular HTTP access to the camera's images.

Positive:

1. Full Remote control.
2. Tweak ability.
3. Audio dial-in.

Conclusion

The Nokia Remote Camera brings a new twist to the concept of remote monitoring, and succeeds both in delivering useful features and rendering these easy to use. Its ability to provide instant notification is a boon both in consumer and enterprise scenarios, and its audio monitoring feature provides a unique opportunity to determine more accurately what is taking place on the other end of the line.

References:

1. Nokia Remote Camera PT-6
http://www.i2020.co.uk/p1457/nokia_remote_camera_pt-6.htm
2. Nokia Remote camera
<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/wlg/5643>