OnSSI

White paper

Understanding Ocularis 5 Recording Modes

Prepared by:

Dan Berg, Sr. Sales Engineer, On-Net Surveillance Systems, Inc.
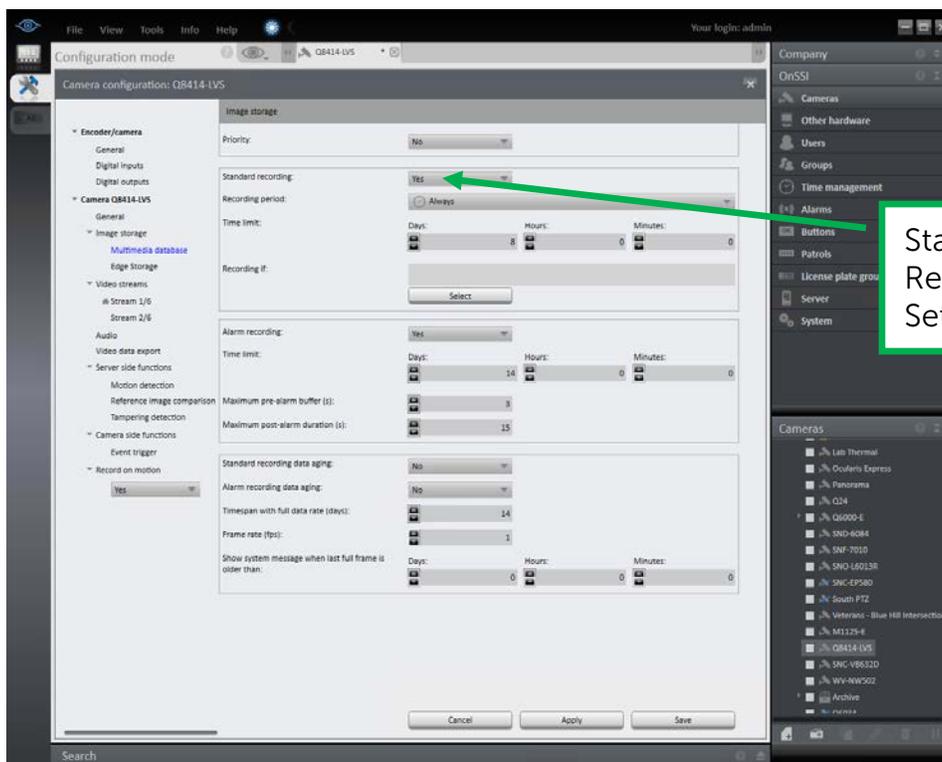
Date: February 16, 2016

Standard Recording and Alarm Recording

Ocularis 5 introduces the concept of standard recording and alarm recording. These two recording modes provide flexibility in retention policies and data management.

Standard Recording

Standard recording is continuous recording of all data streaming from the camera. The default configuration is to always record the stream and this is recommended to ensure all evidence is captured and to provide a complete video record.

Standard recording is indicated in Ocularis Client by green areas on the Kinetic Timeline in Browse mode for easy identification.
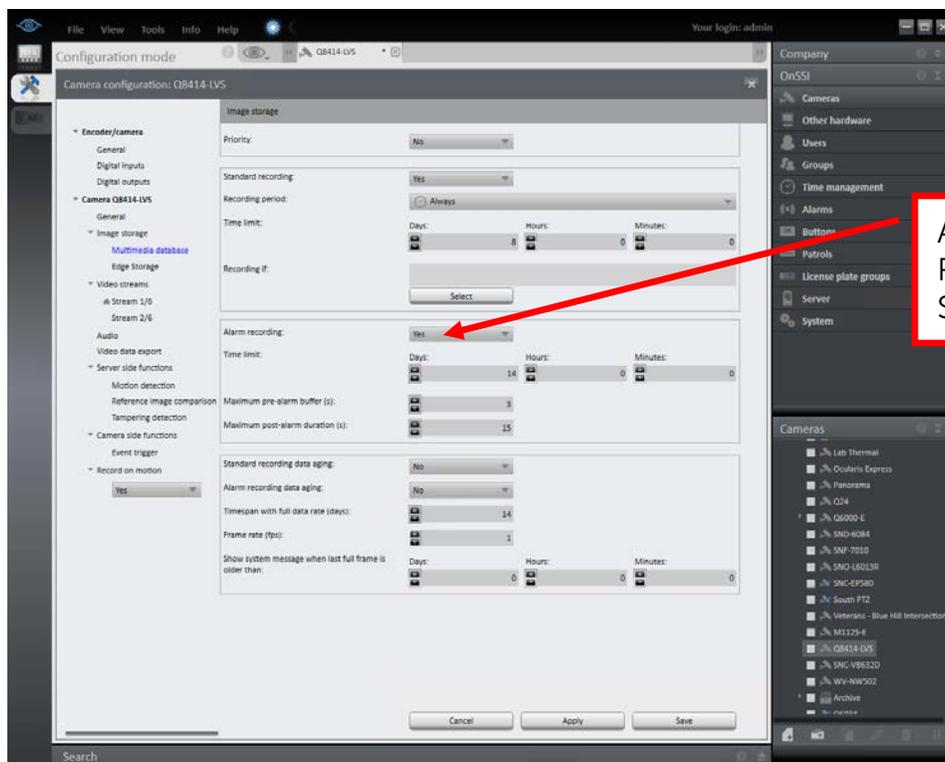
Alarm Recording

Alarm recording is recorded video data that has been associated with a configured event. Alarm events can include (but not limited to):

- Camera-side motion detection
- Server-side motion detection – either full frame or from one or more regions of interest
- Camera-side analytics
- Device relay inputs (I/O)
- Third-party integrations (network I/O using ASCII or HEX data) such as access control, video content analytics or LPR/ANPR systems

Alarms are configured separately in the Ocularis Recorder Manager using the Alarms menu. (See page 74 in the Ocularis Recorder Configuration Manual for more information on configuring alarms.)

Each alarm may include multiple event triggers and can be configured for pre-buffer and recording duration, as well as other functions such as triggering an output from a device. Additionally, a different frame rate may be configured for alarm recording. However, this feature is not recommended with H.264 streaming as it may result in video loss while the camera reconfigures the stream.

Alarm recordings are indicated in Ocularis Client by red areas on the Kinetic Timeline in Browse mode for easy identification.

Time Profiles

Both standard and alarm recording may be configured to occur during a specific time period by utilizing time profiles in the Ocularis Recorder.

Retention Policies

Ocularis 5 has the unique capability to age standard and alarm recording separately. For example, standard recordings may be retained for only a couple of days while alarm recordings may be retained for 30 days. In this scenario, all data is recorded, regardless of alarm condition, providing a complete video record and proper evidence.

If users wish to only retain alarm recordings, standard recording should be set to "No" in the Image Storage configuration menu for each camera in the Ocularis Recorder Manager.

When a camera is added to the Ocularis 5 Recorder, the default retention setting is 7 days for both standard and alarm recording. This can be batch changed for all or a group of cameras, or individually for each camera. If reducing the retention time, any data older than the new setting will be deleted automatically.