Blue Iris Blue Iris

Blue Iris Software User Manual

Comprehensive Guide for Installation, Operation, and Maintenance

1. INTRODUCTION TO BLUE IRIS

Blue Iris is a professional video security and webcam software designed for Windows PCs. It allows users to view, record, and manage video from IP cameras, webcams, and other video capture devices. This manual provides detailed instructions to help you set up, operate, and troubleshoot your Blue Iris system effectively.
The software is ideal for home security, business surveillance, and monitoring various environments. It supports a wide range of camera models and offers advanced features such as motion detection, alerts, and remote access.

2. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Before installing Blue Iris, ensure your system meets the following minimum requirements for optimal performance:

- **Operating System:** Windows 7, 8, 10, or 11 (64-bit recommended)
- **Processor:** Intel Core i5 or equivalent (i7 or higher recommended for multiple HD cameras)
- **RAM:** 8 GB (16 GB or more recommended)
- **Storage:** Minimum 20 GB free space for installation, additional space for video recordings (SSD recommended for system drive)
- **Network:** Stable internet connection for remote access and updates, Gigabit Ethernet recommended for local camera streams
- **Graphics:** DirectX 9 or later compatible graphics card

Note: Performance may vary based on the number and resolution of cameras connected.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

3.1 Software Installation

1. **Download:** Obtain the latest Blue Iris installer from the official website.
2. **Run Installer:** Double-click the downloaded executable file to start the installation wizard.

3. **Follow Prompts:** Accept the license agreement, choose the installation directory, and follow the on-screen instructions.

4. **Complete Installation:** Click "Finish" once the installation is complete. Blue Iris will launch automatically.

3.2 Initial Configuration

Upon first launch, Blue Iris will guide you through basic setup. It is recommended to configure your network settings and storage paths at this stage.

3.3 Adding Cameras

To add a new camera:

1. **Right-click:** Right-click on an empty camera slot in the Blue Iris interface or select "New camera" from the menu.

2. **Camera Type:** Select the type of camera (IP camera, USB webcam, etc.).

3. **Find/Enter Details:** Blue Iris can often auto-discover cameras on your local network. If not, manually enter the camera's IP address, port, username, and password.

4. **Configure Settings:** Adjust video resolution, frame rate, and other camera-specific settings.

5. **Test Connection:** Verify the camera feed is visible.

Figure 3.3.1: The 'New camera' dialog in Blue Iris, showing options for adding various camera types. This interface allows users to either auto-discover cameras on their network or manually input connection details such as IP address, port, and authentication credentials.

4. OPERATING BLUE IRIS

4.1 Live View

The main interface displays live feeds from all configured cameras. You can switch between single camera view and multi-camera grid view.

4.2 Recording and Alerts

Blue Iris offers various recording modes:

- **Continuous Recording:** Records 24/7.

- **Motion Detection:** Records only when motion is detected in the camera's field of view. Sensitivity and zones can be customized.

- **Scheduled Recording:** Records during specific times of the day or week.

Alerts can be configured to notify you via email, push notification (via the mobile app), or sound alarms when events occur.

4.3 Remote Access (Mobile App)

The Blue Iris mobile app (available for Android and iOS) allows you to view live feeds, review recordings, and receive alerts from anywhere with an internet connection. Ensure your Blue Iris server is accessible from outside your local network (e.g., via port forwarding or Blue Iris's UI3 web server).

Figure 4.3.1: A typical view of the Blue Iris mobile application, displaying multiple camera feeds in a grid layout. The app provides remote access to live video streams, recorded footage, and system alerts, enabling users to monitor their surveillance system on the go.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Disk Management

Blue Iris automatically manages disk space for recordings. You can configure retention policies (e.g., delete old recordings after a certain number of days or when disk space falls below a threshold) in the settings.

5.2 Software Updates

Regularly check for and install software updates to ensure you have the latest features, bug fixes, and security enhancements. Updates can typically be found within the Blue Iris application's help menu or on the official website.

5.3 System Health

Monitor your system's CPU and disk usage within Blue Iris to ensure stable operation. High CPU usage might indicate too many cameras or insufficient hardware resources.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Camera not connecting	Incorrect IP address/port, firewall blocking, camera offline, wrong credentials.	Verify camera IP and port, check network connectivity, disable Windows Firewall temporarily, re-enter camera username/password.
No video feed	Incorrect video stream URL, codec issues, camera not sending data.	Try different stream types (RTSP, HTTP), update camera firmware, ensure camera is actively streaming.
High CPU usage	Too many high-resolution cameras, inefficient settings, background processes.	Reduce camera resolution/frame rate, enable hardware acceleration (if available), close unnecessary applications.
Remote access not working	Port forwarding not configured, dynamic IP address, firewall on router.	Configure port forwarding on your router, use a DDNS service, check router firewall settings.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Blue Iris is a software-based solution, and its performance specifications are largely dependent on the host hardware. Key capabilities include:

- **Supported Cameras:** IP cameras (ONVIF, RTSP, HTTP, MJPEG), USB webcams, capture cards.
- **Video Formats:** H.264, H.265, MJPEG, MPEG-4.
- **Recording Modes:** Continuous, motion-triggered, scheduled, audio-triggered.
- **Alerts:** Email, push notifications, sound, external programs.
- **Remote Access:** Web interface (UI3), dedicated mobile apps (Android, iOS).
- **Integration:** Supports various home automation systems via HTTP commands.

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Blue Iris software is typically sold with a perpetual license for the version purchased, often including a period of free updates and technical support. Specific warranty terms and conditions, including details on software defects and update policies, are provided at the time of purchase and are available on the official Blue Iris website. Please refer to your purchase agreement or the website for the most current and detailed warranty information.

9. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For technical assistance, please utilize the following resources:
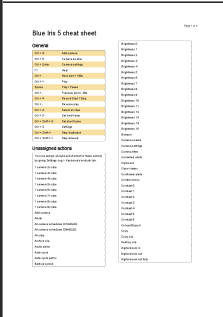
- **Official Website:** Visit the Blue Iris Software website for FAQs, documentation, and forums.
- **User Forums:** Engage with the Blue Iris community for peer-to-peer support and shared solutions.
- **Contact Support:** If your issue is not resolved through self-help resources, contact Blue Iris technical support directly via the methods provided on their official website.

Note: Ensure you have your license key and system information ready when contacting support.

Related Documents - Blue Iris

[Blue Iris 5 Keyboard Shortcuts Cheat Sheet](#)
A comprehensive cheat sheet listing all keyboard shortcuts and actions for Blue Iris 5 software, designed to enhance user efficiency and control.

[Blue Iris 5 Keyboard Shortcuts Cheat Sheet](#)
A comprehensive cheat sheet listing all keyboard shortcuts and actions for Blue Iris 5 software, designed for quick reference and improved workflow.

[How to Monitor with Blue Iris: Adding RTSP Cameras](#)

A guide on how to add RTSP cameras to Blue Iris for monitoring, including configuration steps and network settings.

[How to Add a Camera to Blue Iris](#)

A guide on adding an IP camera to Blue Iris software, covering network configuration and successful integration.

[Blue Iris 5 Keyboard Shortcuts Cheat Sheet](#)

A comprehensive cheat sheet listing all keyboard shortcuts and hotkeys for Blue Iris 5 software, covering general controls, camera settings, playback, and more. This guide helps users quickly access various functions for efficient surveillance management.

[Iris IM-DVR-04/08 H.264 Mobile DVR User's Manual](#)

This user manual provides comprehensive information on the Iris IM-DVR-04/08 H.264 Mobile DVR, a professional digital video recorder designed for vehicle surveillance. It covers installation, operation, setup, and advanced features for robust monitoring solutions.