

ViconNet Security Policy

General Description

The ViconNet systems are based on Microsoft operating systems and being used to transmit video and audio over the network. This document explains how to avoid even the chance of attacks (hackers and viruses) that originate from the network (either Internet or corporate).

Security Measures

To avoid any risks that might be a result of network attacks, the ViconNet system is designed to use several means of protection this document covers the following topics:

1. Using the Windows XP or Windows 7 personal firewall on DVRs and PC based devices
2. The optional use of anti-virus and its implications
3. 3rd party software statement
4. The use of Microsoft security updates
5. Customization of Windows XP and Windows 7 Embedded Operating systems

Using the Windows XP personal firewall on Kollektor DVRs

The ViconNet systems are using Microsoft Windows XP or Windows 7 **Embedded** as their operating system. This is a specially compiled version of Windows XP / 7 that contains only the necessary parts to run and utilize the ViconNet application.

In order to secure the ViconNet device from attacks (hackers and viruses) either from the Internet or the corporate LAN / Intranet, ViconNet is taking advantage of "Windows personal firewall" which is a part of windows in its different versions.

ViconNet configures the personal firewall on each device to allow only the ViconNet data to pass into the system; all other attempts to approach the system from the network will be blocked.

In this way the operating system becomes "ViconNet only" and attacks blocked.

**** If personal firewall additional configuration is needed, refer to ViconNet technical note ****

Technical Note

The optional use of anti-virus and its implications

The correct use of the personal firewall as described above provides a very high level of protection from attacks (hackers and viruses). If from any reason there is a demand to use anti-virus software on any device, those can be used under the following limitations:

ViconNet officially supports the following anti-virus software:

- Norton anti-virus corporate addition version 9.1 and above
- McAfee corporate version 7.1 and version 8.0 and above
- Trend Micro version 7 and above

Anti-virus software must be configured for optimal resource usage according to ViconNet technical notes and in general to avoid scanning every packet prior to writing it to the hard drive as this creates a bottle neck that will slow down the recording.

Other anti-virus software packages have been reported to be used successfully but have not been tested by Vicon. The installation and support of anti-virus software will be done by customer and at his own risk.

Unapproved 3rd party software

Vicon does not recommend the installation of unapproved 3rd party software on any of its PC based network devices. The installation of unapproved 3rd party software on this device will impede its real-time performance and may cause the system to become unstable. Vicon Industries Inc. cannot assume any liability for the loss of service, operation, or performance resulting from such installation. Vicon does recommend that the CCTV systems network be isolated from unauthorized access via the use of routers, firewalls, and other network security devices. Please consult your network administrator and IT professional for network security recommendations. You may also contact Vicon Industries, Technical Support at 1-800-34-VICON (1-800-348-4266) for more information.

The use of Microsoft security updates

Microsoft releases security updates for the Windows XP and for Windows 7 operating systems, those are automatically offered to PCs connected to the Internet. The same security updates can be downloaded from Microsoft if needed and manually installed on devices allowing such operation:

- Devices running full version of Microsoft Windows XP or Windows 7
- Devices running ViconNet embedded version of Windows 7
- Devices running Windows XP **embedded** from version **0.1** that was released in August 2008 and contained Microsoft service pack 2
- Older embedded based DVRs do **not** support installing the raw security updates. The ViconNet IT security team will review the updates and if any will be found to correct breaches that the personal firewall use does not block, ViconNet will customize the update for installation and provide a copy.

Technical Note

Customization of Windows XP and Windows 7 Embedded

The ViconNet products utilize versions of Windows XP and Windows 7 embedded that is optimally configured for use with the ViconNet application. Alteration of this configuration and/or file structure is strongly not recommended without the consent of a Vicon Technical Support representative.

Support for Windows XP Embedded

As of April 2014 Microsoft has declared Windows XP end –of-life. Vicon has tested every major version up to ViconNet 7.0 and is still running on any system that has Windows XP operating system without any problems. As of now, Vicon has not seen any issues that mandates changes to the operating system, however it is strongly suggested to update to the latest build of the current ViconNet version (for example if your are running version 6.x the latest build is 6.7SP1) to ensure full compatibility.

It is up to the customer to decide if to pursue an update to the operating system at this time or to keep running on the current Windows XP build they have, if they are content with its performance.

Solutions for updating your hardware and operating system can be discussed with Vicon sales representatives.