

Looping videos into Observer

Introduction

There are many instances where it is useful to loop pre-recorded videos into NETAVIS Observer: accuracy evaluations, demos, events, presales, trainings, tests, etc.

This can be achieved with a combination of NETAVIS Observer and [webcamXP](#). (Please note that webcamXP is only free for private use!)

Prepare videos

- It is important to convert the videos to the MJPEG format, whereby NETAVIS recommends using [ffmpeg](#) to do that with the following command:

```
.\ffmpeg -i <input_file> -vcodec mjpeg -qscale 1 -an output.avi
```

- If the resolution of the input stream is very high then it makes sense to downscale the video to a lower resolution such as 720p during the conversion to MJPEG. This can be achieved with the following command:

```
.\ffmpeg -i <input_file> -vcodec mjpeg -qscale 1 -vf scale=1280:-1 -an output.avi
```

- Alternative you can download two samples videos from [our FTP server](#).

webcamXP configuration

- Download and install the software [webcamXP](#).
- Start webcamXP and right-click in the black image of the main-window, select "Other sources - Local file (AVI/MPEG)" from the menu and choose the desired MJPEG .avi file.
- To test the video-streaming, click on the "HTTP Online @ http://127.0.0.1:8080 [0]" link displays in the lower right corner of the webcamXP window. That will open your default browser and you should be able to see the playback of the video.

NETAVIS Observer configuration

- In NETAVIS Observer 4.6 add a new camera whereby you have to choose the camera type "Generic - HTTP MJPEG demo". As the IP address for the camera you have to add the IP address of the Windows client where webcamXP is running, followed by port 8080 (e.g *10.10.10.29:8080*). When you add the camera to a view you should then also see the video there.
- By adding the comment *cam_X.cgi* (whereby X can be a number between 1 and 6) in the Camera Admin you can choose the corresponding Xth stream provided by webcamXP.
- Next add the desired iCAT definition.
- To verify the correct operation monitor the event list and enable "iCAT info display – All information – Show always" in the right-click menu of the view port showing the video loop.

Additional resources

- NETAVIS Observer 4.6 User Manual