AVA

How end-to-end video security solutions can help your organization with social distancing

The business challenge

2020 brought global changes to what we all considered 'normal'. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted everybody.

Although the guidelines and mandates for dealing with social distancing and building occupancy vary from town-to-town, state-to-state, and country-to-country, the common themes are keeping people apart to ensure they remain at a safe distance. The need to keep people a certain distance apart, and to limit the number of people within a given area are now a daily part of our everyday lives.

Additionally, being able to assist with contact tracing is also required in some locations.

This white paper details how using analytics enables you to keep your staff, visitors and customers safe by helping you enforce the social distancing laws in your location.

End-to-end video security solutions

The primary features found in video security solutions that assist with social distancing are the abilities to count people into and out of areas. Additionally, by enabling your operators to visualize the locations of people on site, you can provide proof of compliance with your occupancy guidelines and to take action in response to alerts based on the numbers of people or their locations.

Use cases include:

- **Monitoring large area occupancy** — use Counts and Line-crossing rules to keep a rolling total of the current occupancy of the areas you define, by monitoring the flow of

people into and out of your premises.

- **Monitoring in-view area occupancy** — use Counts to see the areas where people are gathering, so that your operators can respond to any problems as they occur.

- **See where people are with Map view** — use Map view to see a representation of the location of each person in a camera view. Quickly see where people are congregating.

- **Trigger alarms** — make your key staff aware of the number of people on site, so that your staff can better manage the flow of customers and employees.

- **Export counts information for further analysis** — to reduce the risks to your organization, staff, visitors, and customers, use the information provided by occupancy counting to assist with behavior analysis. This will enable you to learn how your staff or visitors respond, and to make suitable changes to your policies and procedures to improve the social distancing on your site.

- **Use API calls to extract key data** — using API calls from the Aware video management system, you can extract key data from Awarethat you can use to display the current occupancy levels so people know when an area is overcrowded.

- **Use the Ava Video search features** for efficient contact tracing (where allowed by local regulations) to identify who has been in close proximity with a specific person.

Unlike other products where you can only run analytics on a small number of cameras, or need specific types of camera to be able to use similar analytic features, with the Ava Video system,

you can use these features on the views of any ONVIF-compatible camera connected to your Aware video management system.

Similarly, using any of the Ava Appliances enable the analytics on all cameras connected to that appliance — without having to purchase additional analytics licenses or appliances.
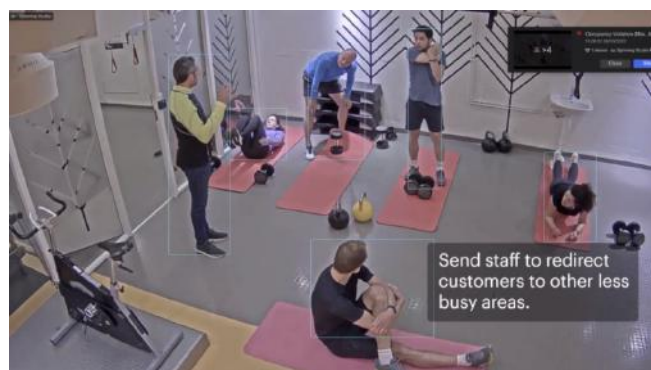
Not all areas are the same, or have the same camera coverage. With the Ava video security solution system, you can optimize for large or small spaces, whether you have 100% camera coverage of those areas, or just coverage of the entrance and exit points.

Monitoring large area occupancy

By configuring directional line-crossing counts on each entrance and exit for a defined area, you can monitor the number of people in any given area. You do not need 100% camera coverage of the entire area to achieve this; providing you have clear camera views of each entrance and exit, the Ava Video line-crossing count rules keep a rolling total of the occupancy of your selected area.

Monitoring in-view area occupancy

For smaller areas that are covered by a single camera, you can quickly define a rule using the safe maximum occupancy for the room. If current occupancy exceeds these limits, Aware generates an alarm to alert your operators of the violation, so that they can quickly educate the personnel in the room and ensure safe distancing is maintained.

Send staff to redirect customers to other less busy areas.

See where people are in your premises

Configure Map view to overlay the camera views to a map of your site. Each person in camera view is shown as a 'person dot', allowing your staff to quickly see if people are clustering in a particular area of your site.

With this data, your staff can take immediate measures to ensure that social distancing guidelines are being enforced and maintained.

Trigger alarms

Using line-crossing counts or counts to monitor the in-view occupancy levels, your operators are alerted, either by pop-up notifications on screen at the monitoring station; as an email message; or even a webhook to your preferred communications tools. The Ava Video system also enables notifications to the mobile phones your operators carry.

For example, rather than having a staff member at each entrance with a "clicker" counting people as they enter the store, staff members carrying a mobile phone can get live updates from Aware about current total occupancy for your site, as well as the occupancy in specific areas. This enables staff to take suitable action to resolve the issue and to control the flow of people into those areas.
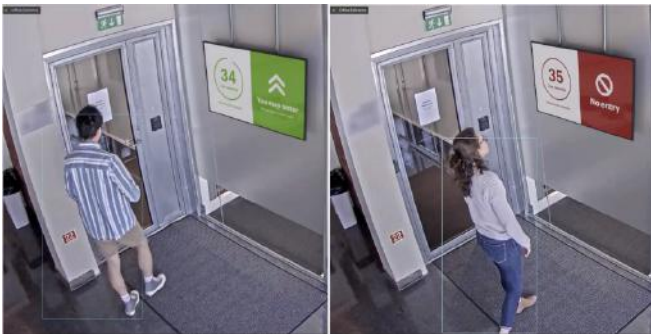
Export counts information for further analysis

By regularly downloading information about the Counts you have configured in Aware, you can get an overview of how people respond to social distancing throughout the day. With this information, you can set appropriate policies to ensure social-distancing compliance.

The counts information is available in comma-separated values (.csv) format, enabling you to carry out detailed analysis and comparisons using your choice of spreadsheet software.

Provide clear status information

By using API calls to your Ava Video Aware video management system, you can create customized information displays to notify people about your occupancy levels. For example, you could create monitors that display the safe maximum occupancy levels for an area, as well as the current totals, so that people know when it is safe to enter an area.

Assisting with Contact Tracing

The Ava video security solution can be used to assist in the contact tracing process. Where allowed by local regulations, you can use the Aware Search tool to quickly find all people that came into close contact with a person of interest, by searching for that person, and seeing who they interacted with during their time on your site.

Perform efficient contact tracing by identifying people of interest and who they came in contact with.

Use cases

The Ava video security solution includes the features needed to assist with maintaining social distancing compliance across a wide range of industries. See examples of how Ava Video products can assist your business in these unprecedented times:

Retail

The retail sector must deploy measures to minimize physical contacts between staff and other customers while visiting the retail establishment. Furthermore, retailers have to ensure that customers understand what they need to do to keep safe. With the Ava Video video security solutions, administrators and security managers can leverage occupancy counting for both entire businesses and for smaller areas, including doorways and aisles.

Using API calls to extract key data, customers can be informed instantly at entrances with online signage if they can go in or not and of the current number of people inside. In Map view, operators can see each person represented on the map in real-time and quickly determine

where groups are congregating. Aware's alerts and notifications in real-time help the staff rapidly intervene and direct customers to other areas to reduce congestion and contact between people.

Commercial

In offices and workplaces, facility and security managers can prevent the entrance of more people than the maximum allowed using access control integrations to the Aware video management system. It's also easy to inform visitors via online signage through API calls from Aware.

Use area counting to alert operators in real-time when the safe number of people allowed in a meeting room has been exceeded.

Education

Resuming instruction for students of all ages is vital. Opening schools, kindergartens, campuses, or universities is important both for society and for maintaining the wellbeing of pupils and students.

While social distancing and occupancy compliance seems like an impossible feat for educational institutions, by deploying Ava Video's occupancy and area counting, you can ensure that students stay in separate groups during class hours, breaks, and lunchtime. Administrators and teachers can be alerted in real-time when the groups mingle and when hotspots of students appear.

Healthcare

With contact tracing via Aware's Smart Search capability, hospital and clinic administrators and security staff can find out who came in contact with people of interest, healthcare

practitioners, patients, and visitors exposed to infectious illnesses. Discover their location and their interactions in a matter of minutes.

Some medical facilities have created temporary locations for waiting, screening, or patient care. Security operators and medical staff can monitor these areas remotely and be alerted when patients need care.

Indoor sports venues and facilities

Minimize the risk of overcrowding and congestion around certain areas of gyms and sports clubs where people exercise and share equipment. As centers are mandated to create an overview of the maximum number of people allowed inside at the same time and in specific areas, operators can use occupancy and area counting to find out and intervene whenever rules are broken.

Recreation and leisure (public venues)

Museums, amusement parks, galleries, and other heritage sites and attractions are required to plan and manage routes and space queuing systems to keep people safe. With Ava Video's occupancy and area counting, and API calls, visitors can be informed in real-time if they can enter hall exhibits or if they should first stop in other areas.

Operators can easily make use of Aware's Map view with people representation to learn if more visitors than allowed are congregating.

Summary

Responding to the Covid-19 pandemic is a challenge to all organizations around the world. By using the intelligent Counting and Occupancy features found in the Ava video security solution, you can take a crucial step

towards keeping your staff and customers safe, whilst allowing your organization to return to business in an orderly fashion in this 'new normal' that we are all experiencing.

AVA
Unified Security

Ava is a global technology company with offices in the UK, Norway, and the USA. We exist because we believe that we can create a better, smarter way to deliver security.

We inject intelligence into our approach to security and all our solutions. We help organizations see, understand, and act on their surroundings to protect their people, business, and reputation in real-time.

We founded Ava Cyber in 2016 and Ava Video in 2018 and the two companies merged in 2020 to become a unified security provider with extensive capital investment from Ubon Partners.

To learn more about our innovative solutions, and how you can enjoy proactive security, visit our website or schedule a demo with a member of our sales team at: **sales@ava.uk**.

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