



ACTi Edge Recorder Client (For Windows)

User's Manual

For V1.0.01 Version

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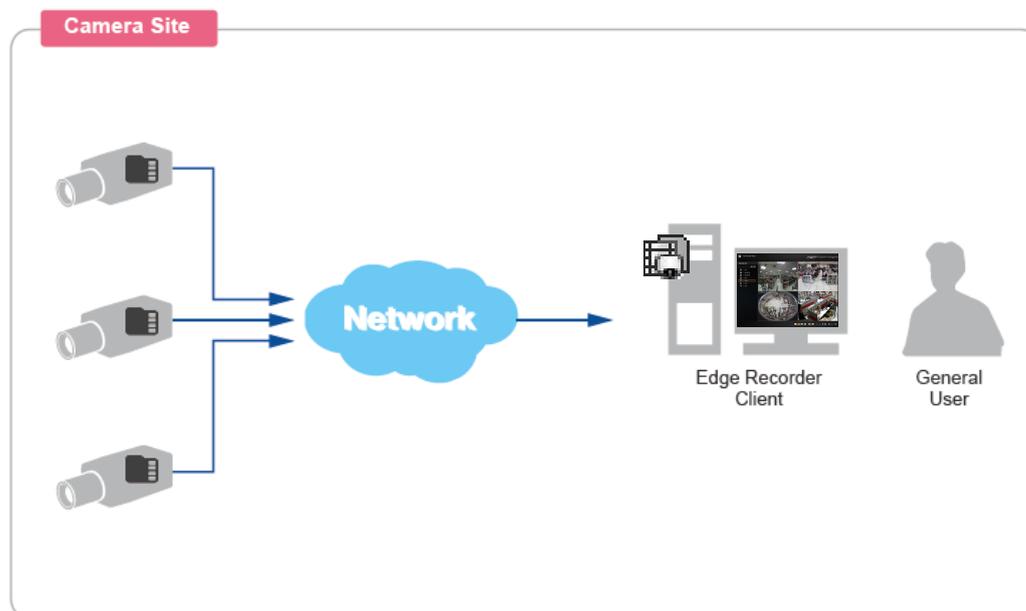
Introduction

Product Overview

ACTi Edge Recorder Client (hereafter referred to as **ERC**) is a light video surveillance solution which supports live monitoring of up to sixteen (16) channels. It makes building up an surveillance system as cost-effective and simple as possible with these features:

- (1) no channel license required
- (2) no central recording server needed - local storage on camera's internal storage
- (3) high quality images H.264 video streaming
- (4) one-click installation

After ERC is installed on a computer, User can access ERC interface to perform live monitoring, playback search and system maintenance.



System Requirement

The performance of live display quality is largely determined by the computer hardware capability and number of live channels. The table below provides basic guidelines for selecting proper hardware for the computer that installs **ERC(*1)**.

PC Spec	Minimum	Recommended
CPU	Intel Core 2 Quad 2.4 GHz	Intel Core i5 2.4 GHz
RAM	4GB (*2)	
Operation System	Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows Server 2008, Windows Server 2012 (*3)	
Screen Resolution	800x600	
Network	Ethernet 1000 Base-T	

*1 These specifications are based on following camera settings:

1280x1024, 3Mbps, 18fps, MPEG-4

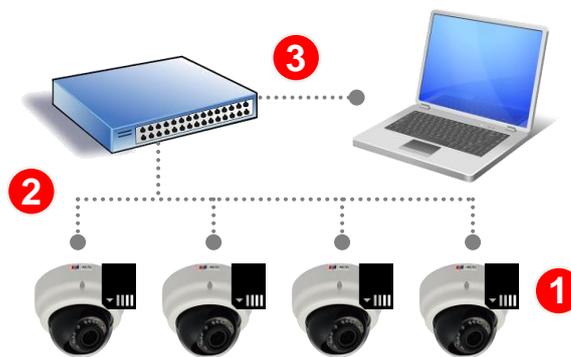
*2 Please use 64-bit Windows operation system if your client computer has more than 4GB RAM.

*3 Please make sure your operation system is fully patched with the latest service packs.

Setup

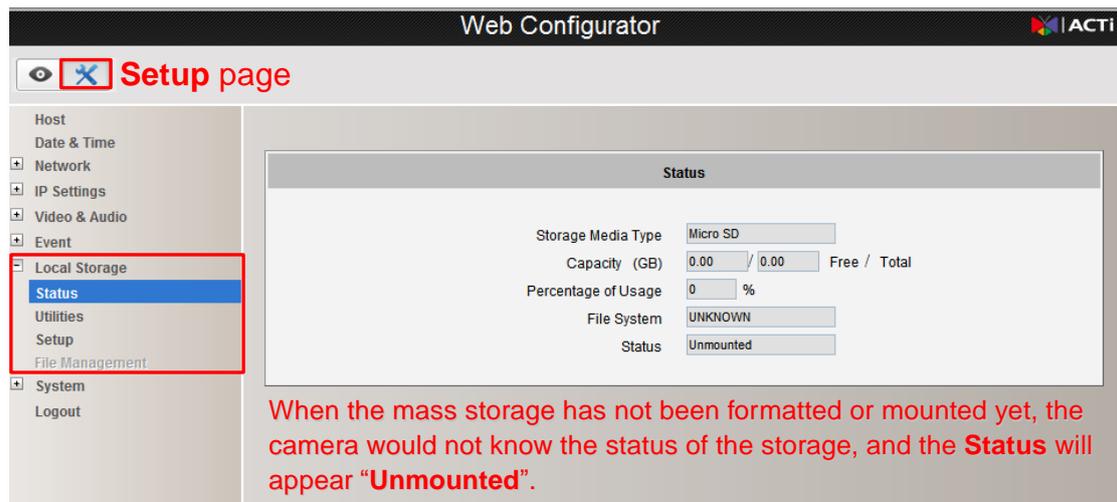
Connections

As the camera's local storage takes over the recording service, ERC system does not require a typical "Server" to manage the services. A computer that installs ERC can immediately start managing the channels, live monitoring and searching the recordings.



Please follow the procedures below to connect the devices:

1. Install the SD card in the camera and make sure it is properly connected. Access the device firmware webpage via Internet Explorer browser, once this SD card is connected, the "Local Storage" section will appear on Setup page. You can check the SD card status by entering **Setup page** → **Local Storage** → **Status**.



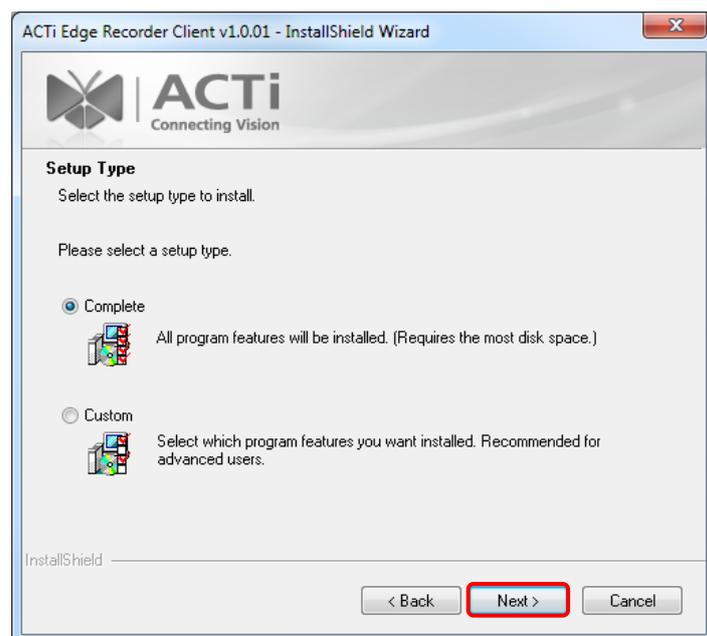
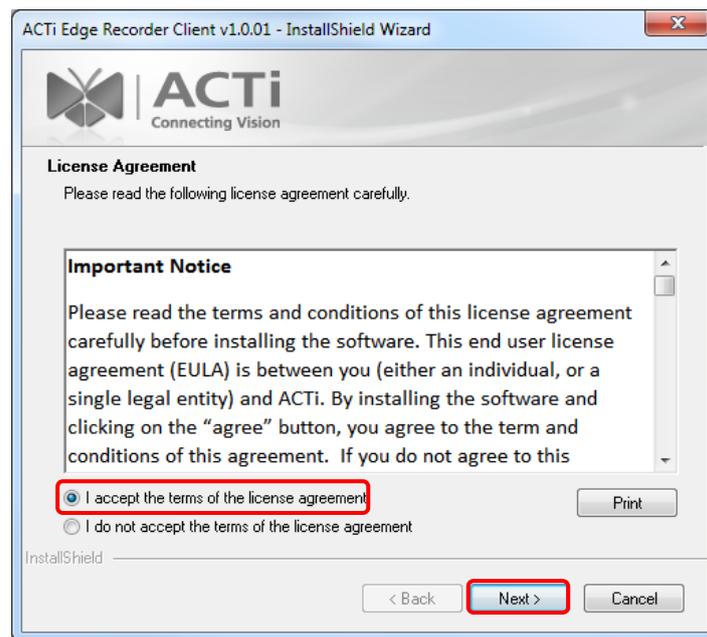
Camera firmware interface

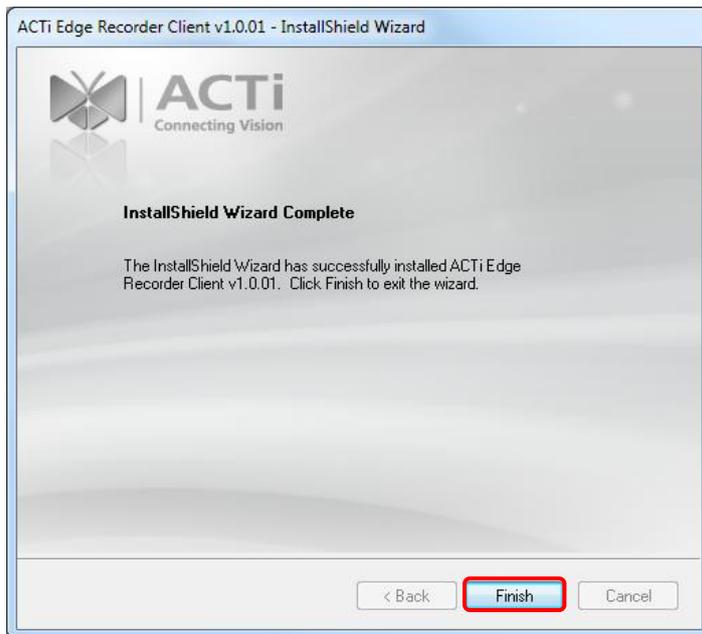
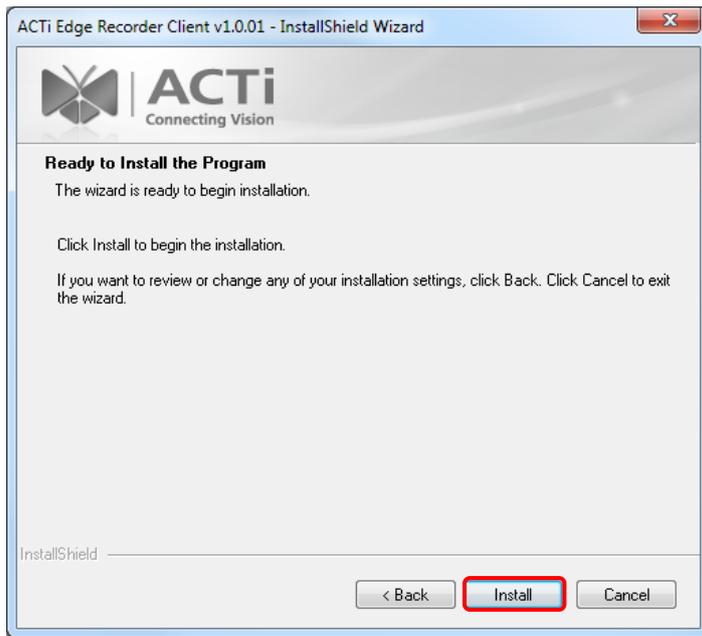
2. Mount the camera.
3. Connect the cameras with the POE switch to power them on.

ERC Client Program Installation

Install ERC program in your client computer. If your client computer falls in a different network segment, make sure the cameras' network allows remote access.

1. Extract the installation files and run 
ACTi_Edge_Recorder_Client_Install_v1.0.01.exe.
2. Accept the **Software License Agreement** and complete the installation.





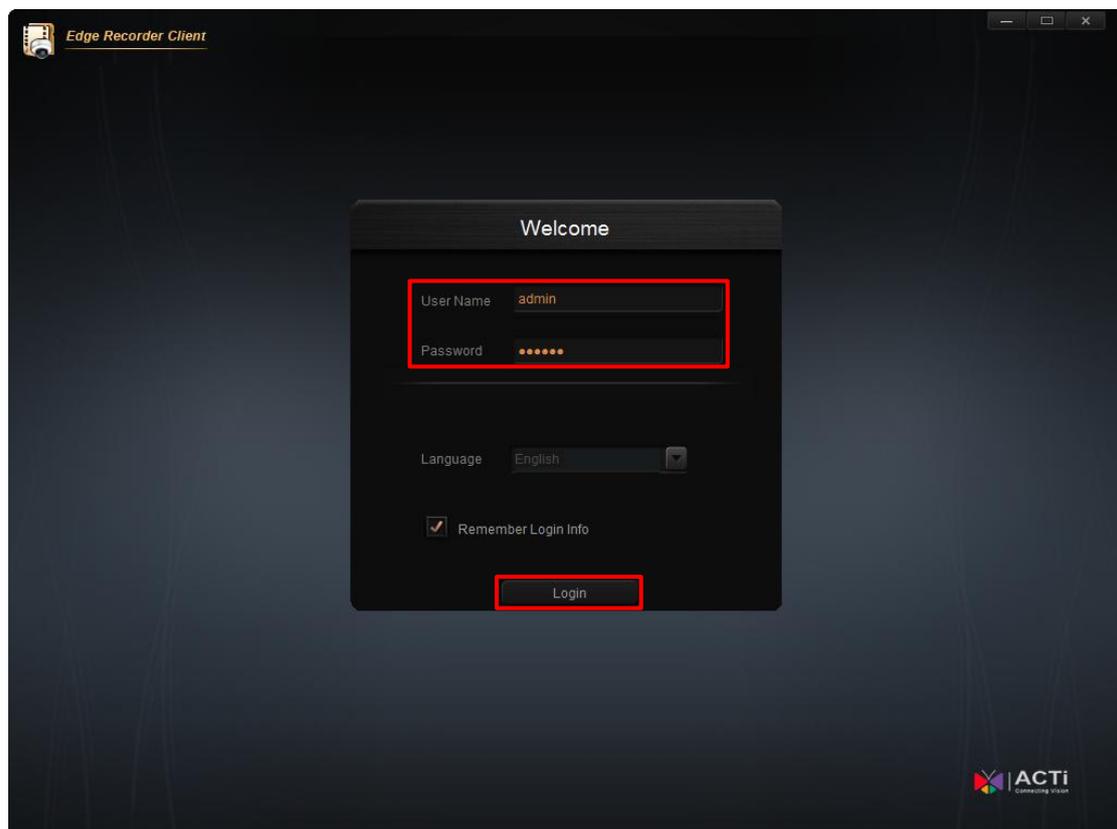
After the installation is complete, a shortcut “**Edge Recorder Client**” will appear on your Windows Desktop.



Log in to ERC

Double-click on the “**Edge Recorder Client**” icon to initiate the client application. On **Login** window, input your account and password. If it is the very first login after ERC program's installation, please input “**admin**” as **User Name** and “**123456**” as **Password**, and click “**Login**”.

After you log in to the system, please follow the instructions in [Manage User Accounts](#) on page 41 to change the account's credentials.

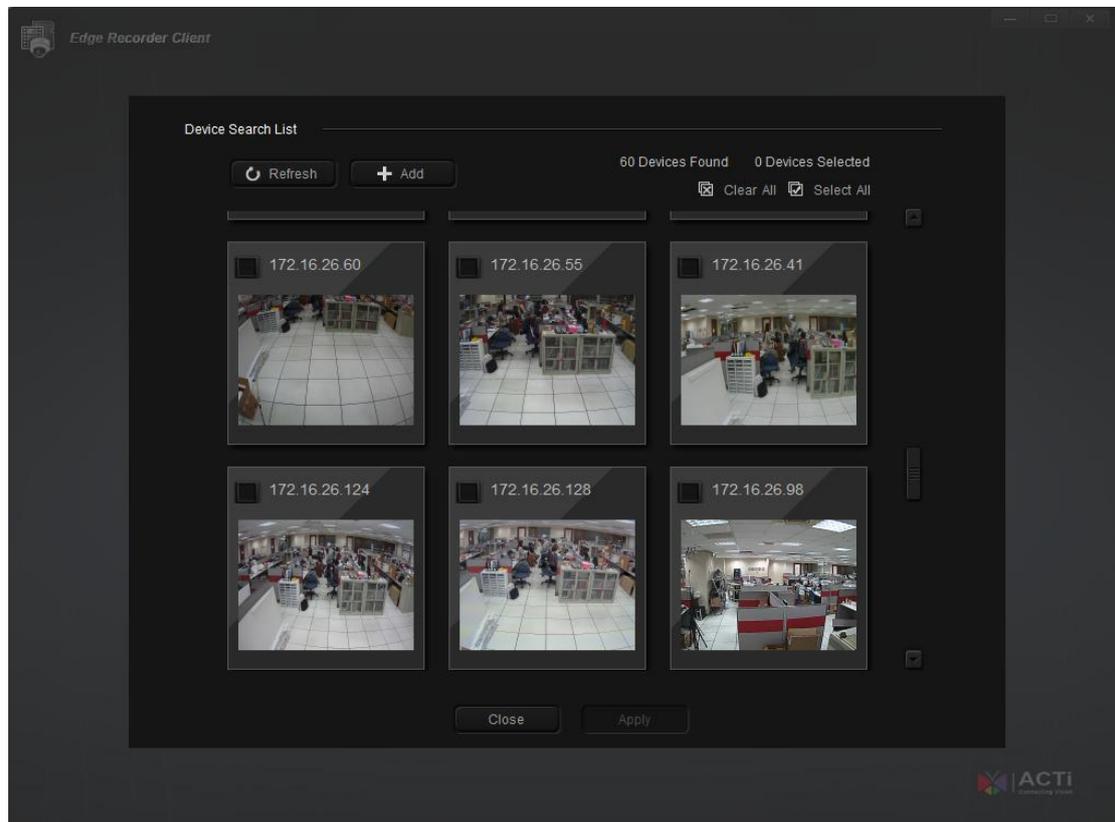


Note

If you enable “**Remember Login Info**”, ERC Login window will remember the **User Name** and **Password** you last input.

Add Devices

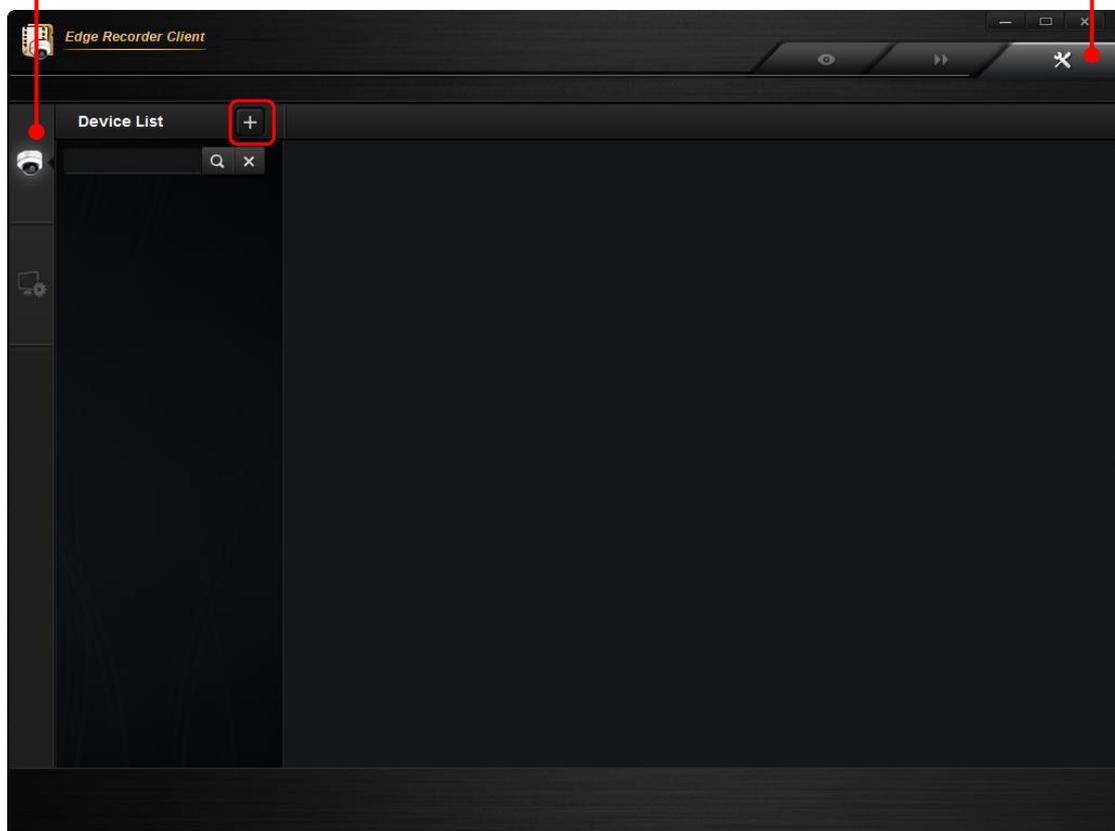
Upon your first logging in to ERC, this application will auto-search for available devices in the same subnet with your client computer.



You may also perform an auto-search by doing this:
Go to **Setup** screen→**Device Setup** page, and click “+”.

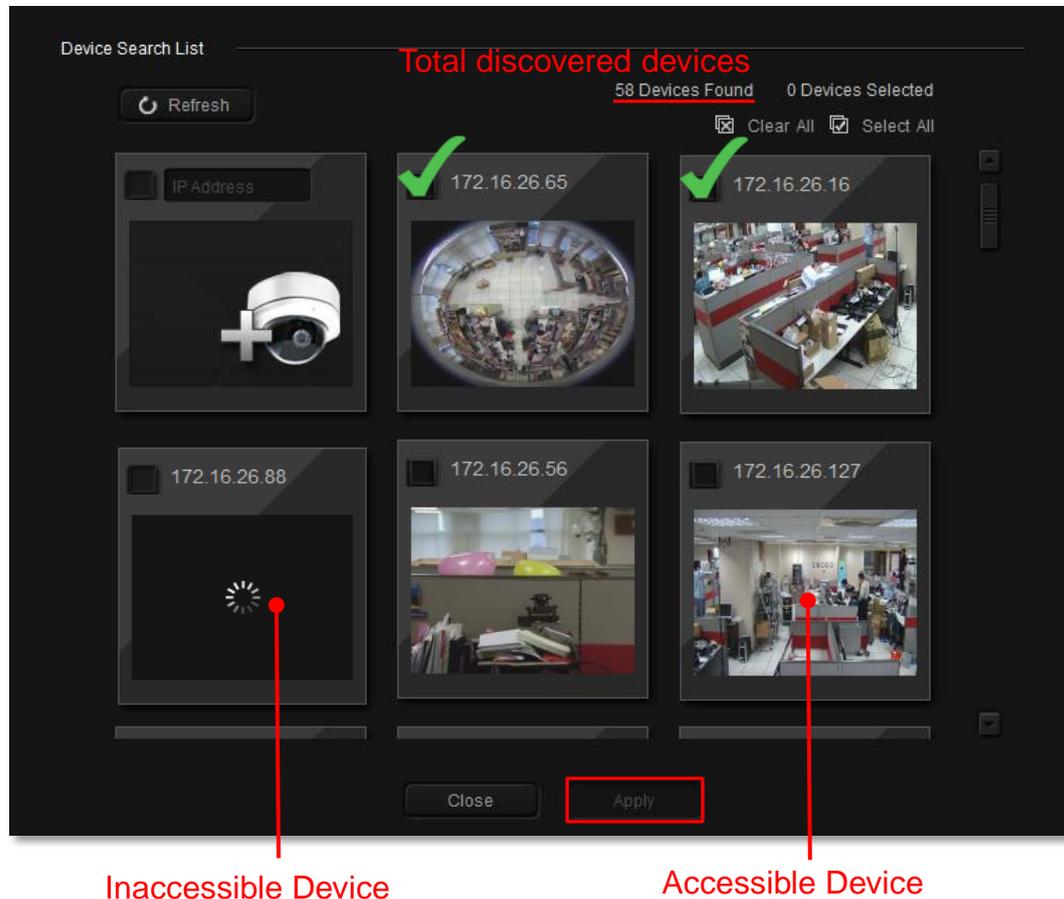
Device Setup page

Setup screen



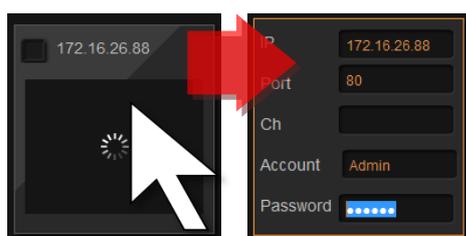
Auto Device Search

On top of the **Device Search List** will show the total number of discovered devices. You may scroll down to scan through the thumbnails of the found devices. Check your desired devices and then click "**Apply**" to add them.



Inaccessible Device

Accessible Device



If the thumbnail view of this device does not appear, this device might be inaccessible due to the incorrect connection properties. Please update these fields to have ERC reconnect the device again.

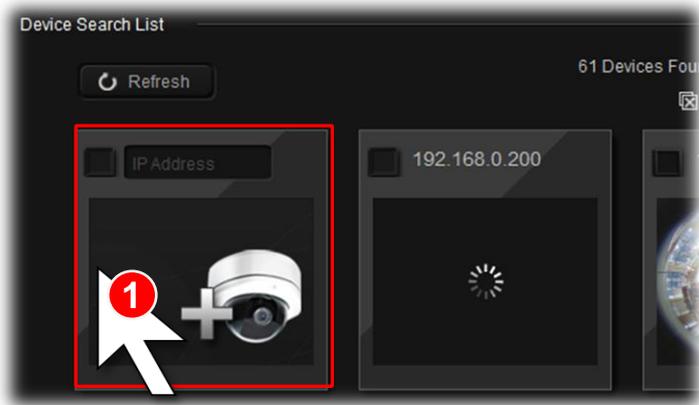
1. Move your mouse cursor over the inaccessible device, the device connection properties will show.
2. Click and modify any of the field, ERC will reconnect the device using your latest input.

Note

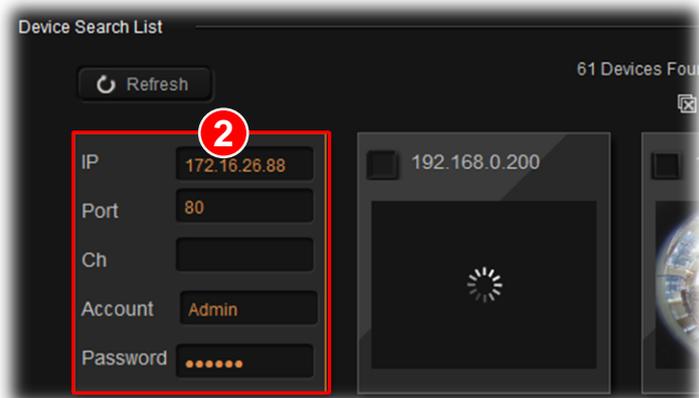
When performing auto search, ERC will connect all devices using ACTi default **Username/Password – admin / 123456**

Add Device Manually

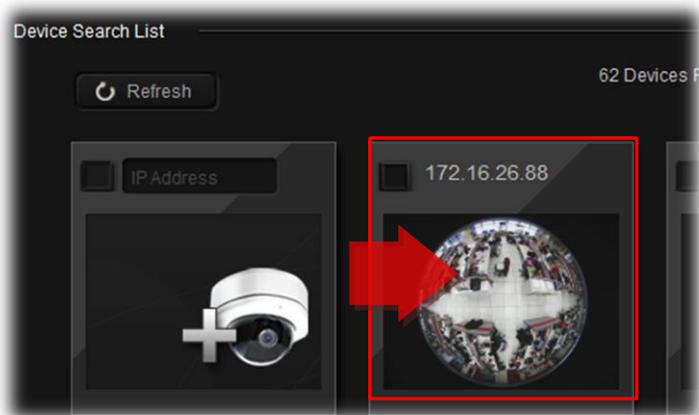
If your devices are located outside the local subnet or over WAN, you will have to add the device **manually**.



1. Move the mouse over the camera icon on top left of **Device Search List**.



2. Enter the connection properties and wait for ERC to contact this device.



3. After a few seconds, the thumbnail of the added device will appear on the right.

Field Name	Description
IP	Enter the camera's IP address or host name.
Port	Enter the HTTP port for cameras / video servers. Most cameras use the default port 80.
Ch	The channel ID you set for a stream of a multi-streaming device. By default, ERC will connect with Stream 1 . You may switch to another live stream later on Device Setup page.
Account	Enter the user name to access the camera.
Password	Enter the password to access the camera.

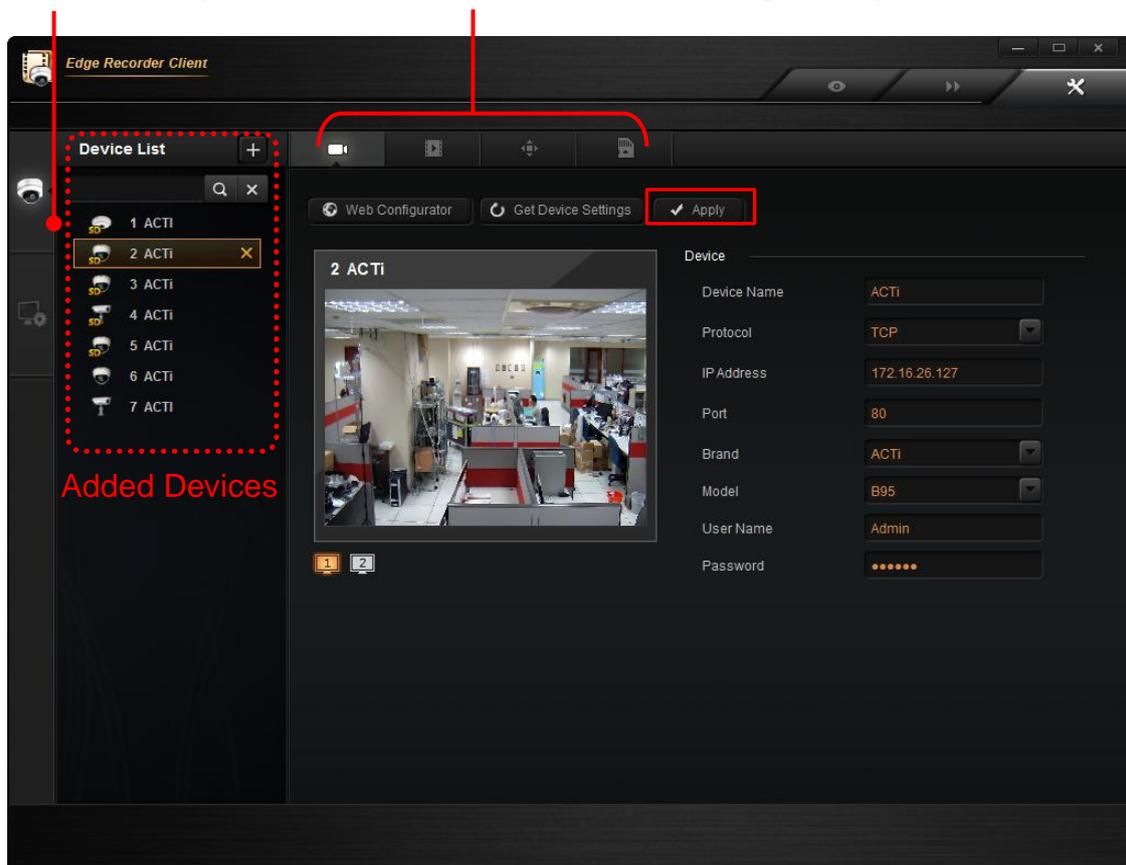
Manage the Devices

After you have added certain devices, you will be brought to **Setup** screen → **Device Setup** tab. All the added devices are shown on the **Device List**, where you may delete any of them or configure their settings.

By selecting a device on **Device List**, you may enter its four setup categories to modify the settings: **Basic Setup**, **Video Setup**, **PTZ Setup** and **Storage Setup**.

Device Setup tab

Basic / Video / PTZ / Storage Setup



By clicking on "**Apply**", you will save the changes done on this **Device Setup** page, and the settings on device's firmware will immediately be overwritten.

Delete a Device

To delete an existing device from **Device List**, select it and click "X"



Configure Camera Basic Settings



On the **Basic Setup** page of a device you may watch the live view and change its connection basic settings.

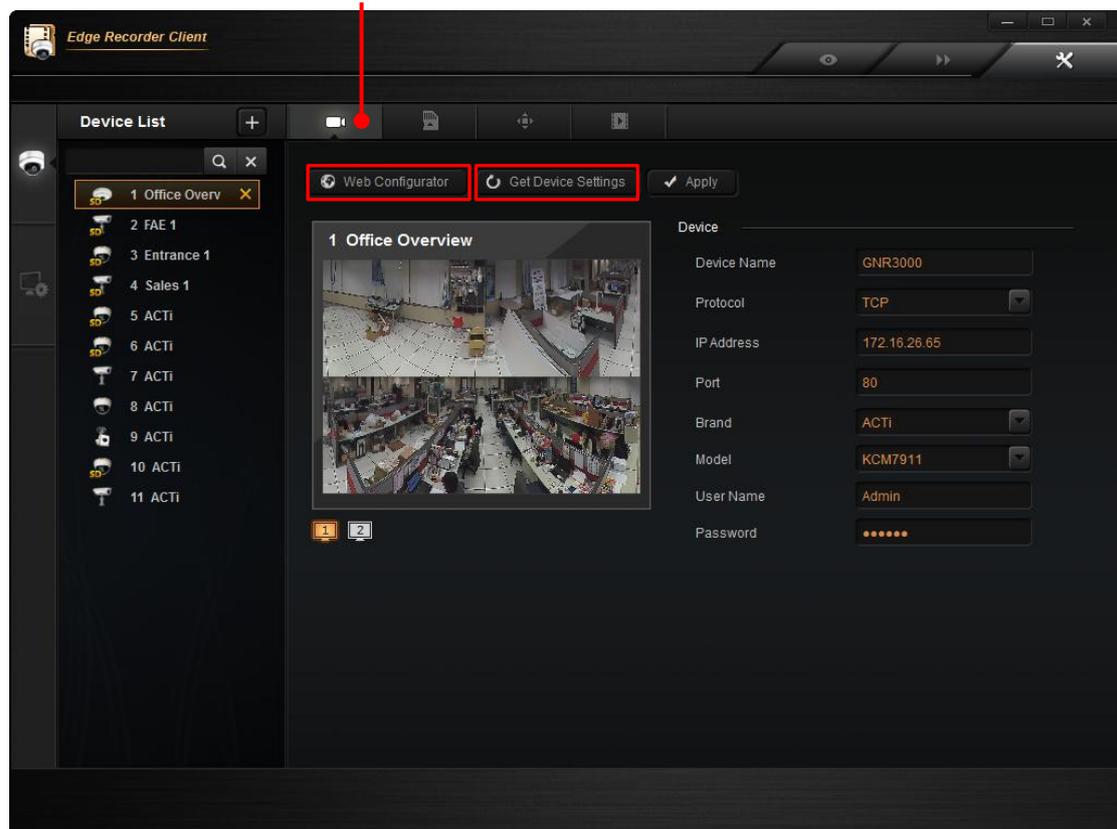


To configure advanced camera settings, you may click “**Web Configurator**” to enter the device’s firmware interface.



It is also recommended that you click “**Get Device Settings**” on ERC after you have changed any setting on camera’s firmware.

Basic Setup



Field Name	Description
Device Name	Enter the name of the camera, which will be shown in the Device List . This name should be descriptive so that you know where the camera is located. The name you input here will not change the setting on the device’s firmware.
Protocol	Select a streaming protocol to communicate with the camera.
IP Address	Enter the camera’s IP address or host name.
HTTP Port	Enter the HTTP port for IP cameras / video servers. Most cameras use the default port number 80 .

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Brand	Select the manufacturer of device.
Model	Select the device model of the IP cameras / video servers. In most cases, this is automatically filled in after you click " Get Device Setting " for ACTi cameras.
User Name	Enter the user name to access the camera.
Password	Enter the password to access the camera.

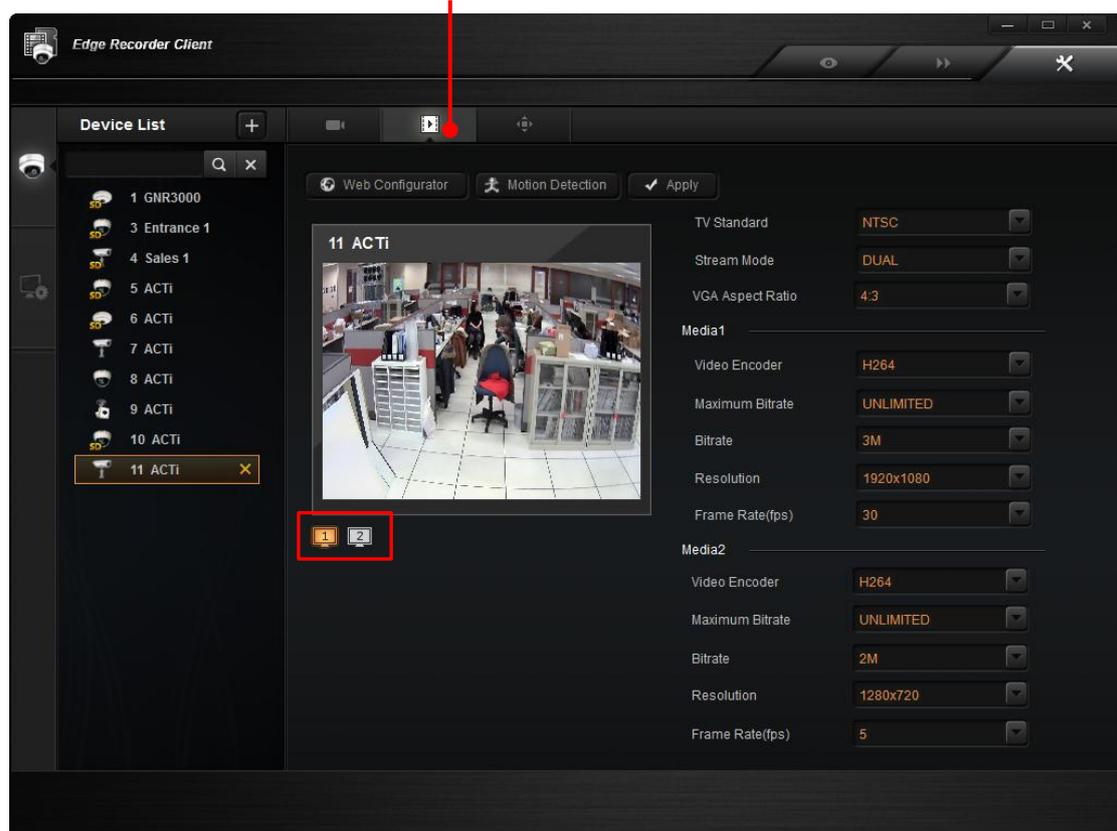
Configure Device Video Settings



On **Video Setup** page, you may configure the video format of the stream output from this device.

If this device supports dual-streaming mode, the stream switch  will appear below the view window, you may select a desired stream for live monitoring.

Video Setup



Field Name	Description
TV Standard	Default is NTSC
Stream Mode*₁	Select one of the streaming modes this device supports.
VGA Aspect Ratio	It is used to define the aspect ratio of VGA stream – it can be either 4:3 ratio (640x480) or 16:9 ratio (640x360). When “ Auto Detected ” is chosen, the VGA stream will follow the ratio of the higher resolution stream, to ensure the identical view of stream 1 and stream 2.
Mounting Type*₂	Choose the Mounting Type according to how the camera is mounted to display the appropriate view. There are two options: Ceiling or Wall .

Video Encoder	Select one of the codecs this device supports.
Maximum Bitrate	This puts a hard cap on the maximum bit rate allowed in any given second of streaming. Assigning a limited bit rate may cause a few dropped frames when the stream data overflows the allowed bit rate.
Bitrate^{*3}	When Maximum Bitrate is chosen as " Unlimited ", the user can define the AVERAGE bit rate. For example, if the Bitrate is chosen 2M, then occasionally, the actual bit rate may go below or beyond 2M, but in the long run, the average bit rate will be very close to 2M. This mode allows the most accurate storage estimations, however, while planning the bandwidth, please consider the occasional peaks of bit rate.
Video Quality^{*4}	Select your desired video quality of the image. The user can define the quality with the numeric scale from 1 to 100. The default MJPEG quality is 60. The higher is the quality level, the more bit rate the camera will use to achieve the target quality.
Resolution	Select one of the resolutions this device supports
Frame Rate(fps)	Select the amount of frames per second this device supports.

*1 Available when this is a multi-streaming device.

*2 Available when this is a hemispheric device.

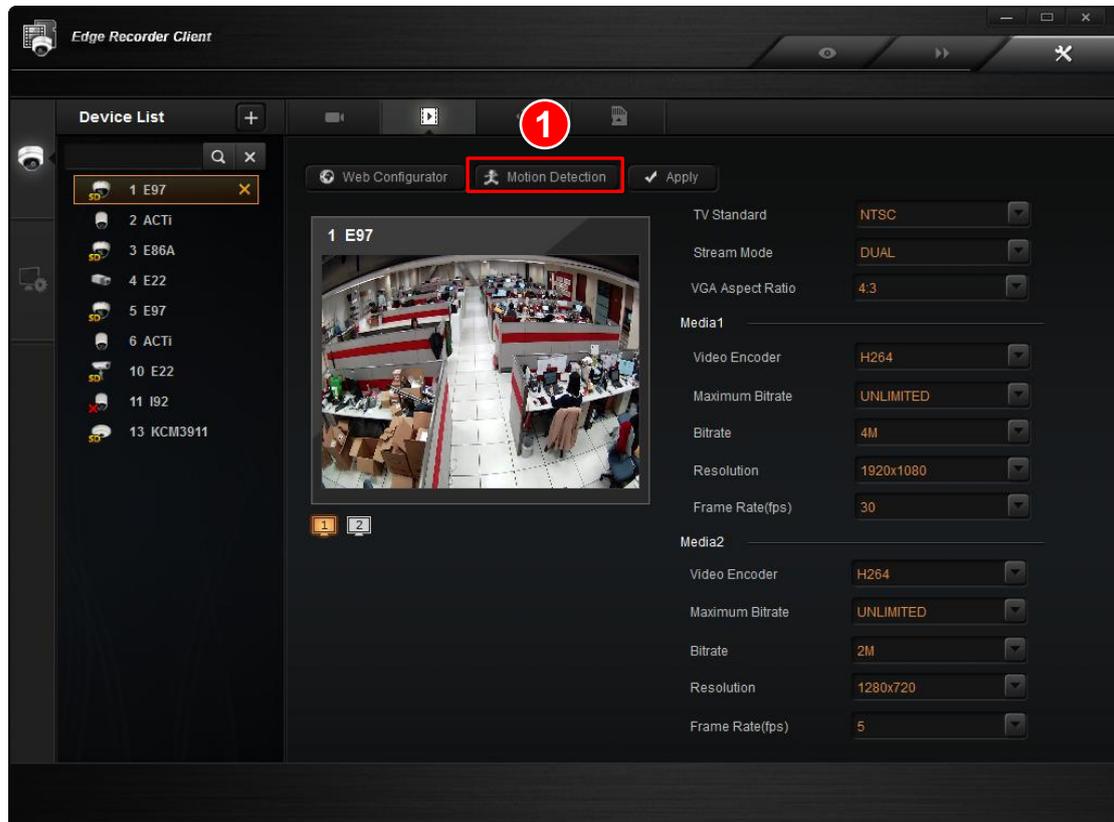
*3 Available when "Maximum Bitrate" is selected as "Unlimited".

*4 Available when "Video Encoder" is selected as "MJPEG".

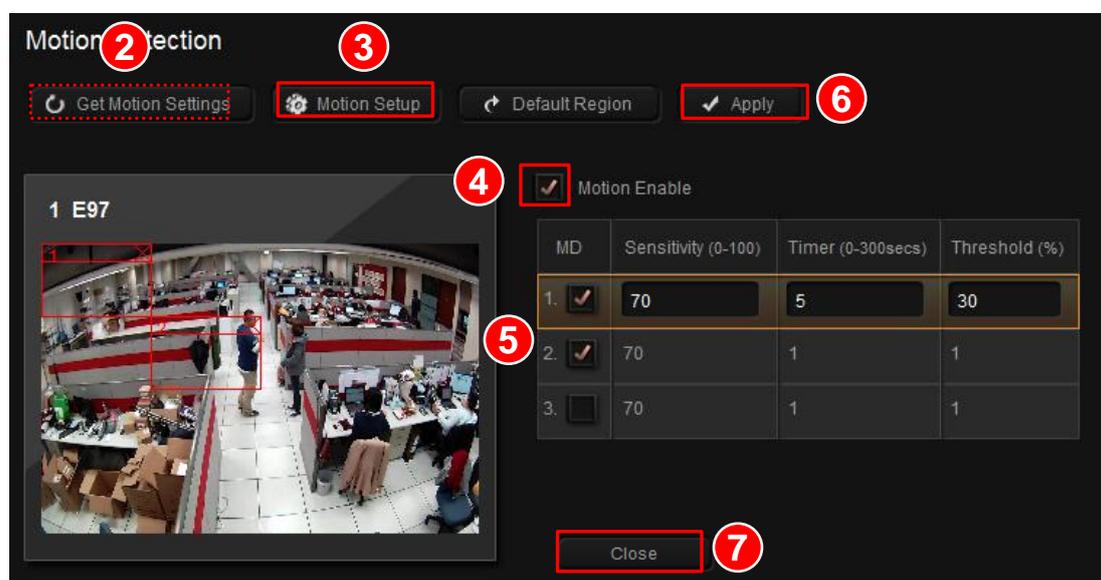
Configure Motion Settings

To make use of the motion detection functions supported by your devices, you need to configure the detection regions and settings. Once a motion is detected, ERC can display motion alert on the live channel, bring up instant pop-up windows and show the detected area on live view.

1. On **Video Setup** page, click **"Motion Detection"**.



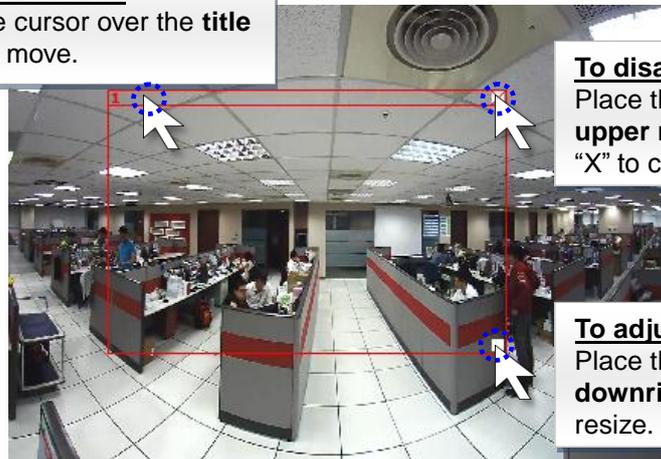
2. The **Motion Detection** window will appear. If you have already set the motion regions via device's web configurator, click **"Get Motion Setting"** first.



3. To start configuring motions regions here, click "**Motion Setup**".
4. check "**Motion Enable**" and check an MD, its detection region frame will appear on the mini live view. When the setting is finished, click "**Apply**" to save, and then "**Close**" to exit this page.

To move the entire frame

Place the mouse cursor over the **title bar**, and drag to move.



To disable this detection region

Place the mouse cursor over the **upper right corner**, and click the "X" to close this frame.

To adjust the region dimension

Place the mouse cursor over the **downright corner**, and drag to resize.

Field Name	Description
Sensitivity(1-100)	Determines how sensitive the camera reacts to the movement. The higher the sensitivity level is, the smaller the motion will trigger the alarm, but may give false alarms. Default is 70.
Timer(0-300 secs)	The interval before the next motion detection can be triggered again. Default is 1 second.
Threshold (%)	The threshold level of this motion detection region. The lower the threshold level is, the smaller the portion of the region would be considered as motions, which is more easily to be triggered, but may give more false alarms.

Note

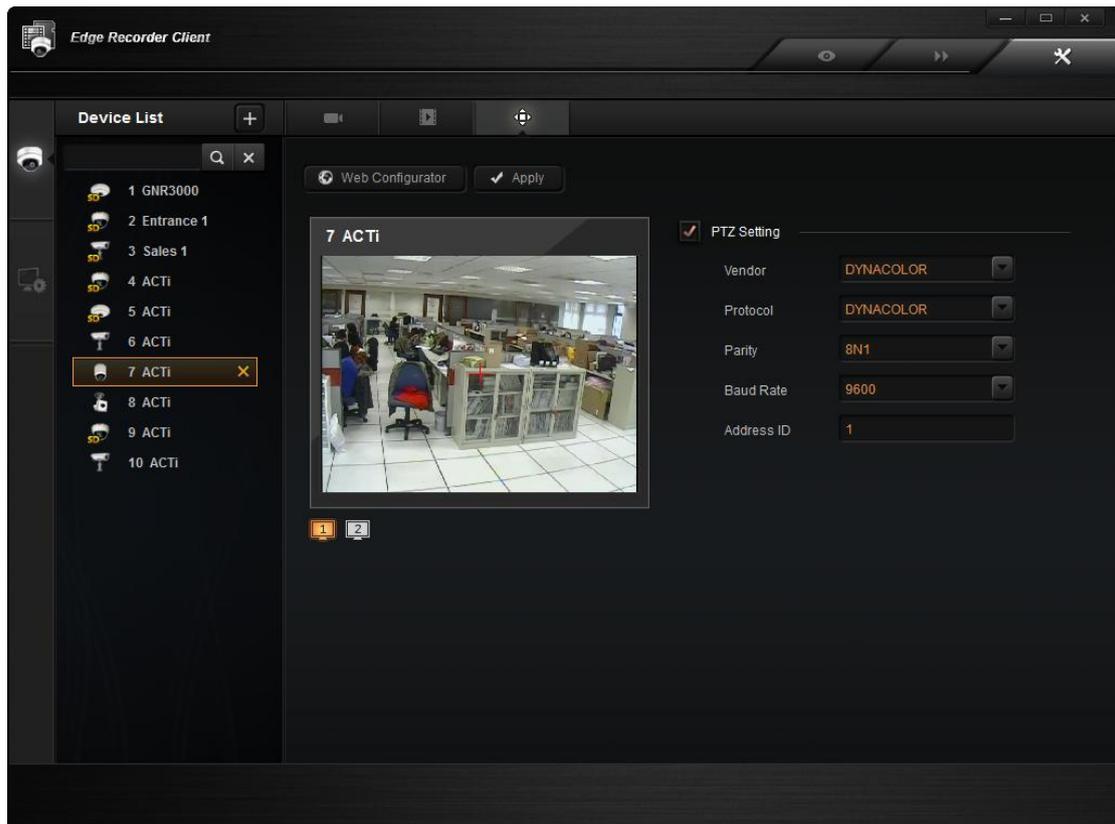
If you have changed the motion detection settings via the web configurator, please remember to come back to ERC and click "**Get Device Settings**", and then "**Apply**" to save. This is to ensure that the settings in ERC are always in sync with the device.

Configure PTZ Settings



On **PTZ Setup** page, you may configure the PTZ parameters of a Pan/Tilt/Zoom device. These properties here have to match those on (1) physical device and (2) device firmware.

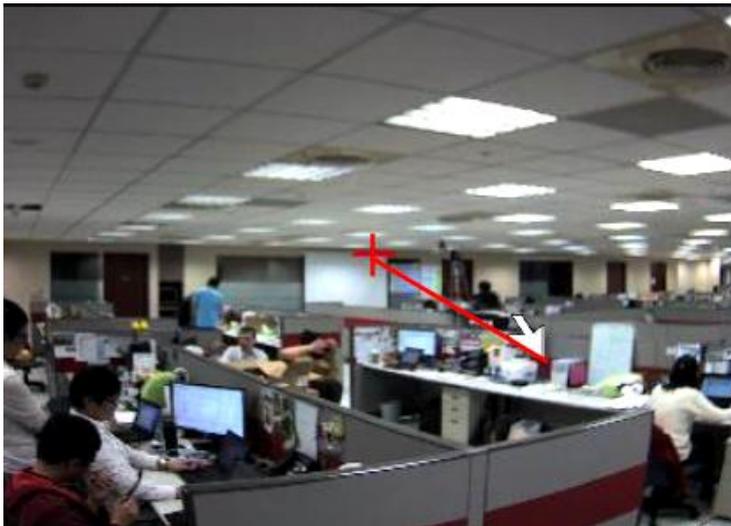
PTZ devices can do panning, tilting and zooming automatically or through manipulation. Once an ACTi PTZ device is added to ERC, the default settings of this device model will be applied to enable PTZ functions, so that you may immediately start PTZ operations.



You may perform optical PTZ manipulation in the preview window here.

To do so:

1. Make sure the **“Enable PTZ”** is checked, a red crosshair will appear on the **Live Preview** window.
2. Use the mouse to do the following PTZ operations:
 - To execute optical **Panning** and **Tilting**, click anywhere on the live window to allow the camera to move in that direction. The length of the direction indicator is proportional to the Pan and Tilt speed. The farther you place the cursor from the center, the faster the Pan/Tilt movement.
 - To execute optical **Zoom in** or **Zoom out**, scroll the mouse wheel forward to zoom in; scroll the mouse wheel backward to zoom out.



Pan/Tilt



Zoom in



Zoom out

Field Name	Description
Vendor	Vendor is the provider of Protocol. The selectable vendors would vary depending on different device models. Available vendor types are: ACTI , DYNACOLOR , PELCO and SONY
Protocol	Protocol is a set of rules to define the communication format between the device and controller. Different protocols are provided for selection according to the Vendor you choose. Available protocols following their vendors are: ACTI: [ACTI] DYNACOLOR: [DYNACOLOR] PELCO: [PELCOD] [PELCOP] SONY: [VISCA]
Parity	Parity is the data validation mechanism for analog devices that use serial port interface to send or receive data. When choosing parity mode other than "none", the data packets will be validated for possible data losses so that failed command could be re-sent if necessary. Please refer to the parity setting of the analog device and choose exactly the same parity setting also in NVR. When setting up ACTi Zoom, PTZ or Speed Dome cameras using "ACTi" protocol, you may ignore the parity setting. Available parity modes are:

	Parity mode name in NVR	Serial data, represented by given amount of bits	Parity mode (none, odd, even)	Number of stop bits
	8N1	8	N	1
	8O1	8	O	1
	8E1	8	E	1
	8N2	8	N	2
	8O2	8	O	2
	8E2	8	E	2
	7N2	7	N	2
	7O2	7	O	2
	7E2	7	E	2

Baud Rate	<p>Baud rate defines the data speed through serial port interface – the rate value represents the number of symbols that can be transmitted within 1 second. Please refer to the baud rate setting of the analog device and choose exactly the same baud rate setting also in NVR. When setting up ACTi Zoom, PTZ or Speed Dome cameras using “ACTi” protocol, you may ignore the baud rate setting.</p> <p>Available baud rates: 2400, 4800, 9600, 19200, 38400, 57600, 115200</p>
Address ID	<p>Address ID represents the identity of the device, only analog devices or speed dome cameras require this configuration. Please refer to the Address ID of the device and choose exactly the same baud rate setting also in NVR 3.0. Available value is from 1~99. By default, ACTi devices will use “1” as Address ID, it is suggested not to change it.</p>

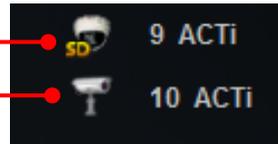
Configure Local Storage Settings

As ERC system relies on the devices themselves to do the recording, each device should have the local storage feature; otherwise, you can only watch the live view.

After you have added a device with local recording capability, the device icon shown on **Device List** will show “SD”

With local recording capability

Without local recording capability

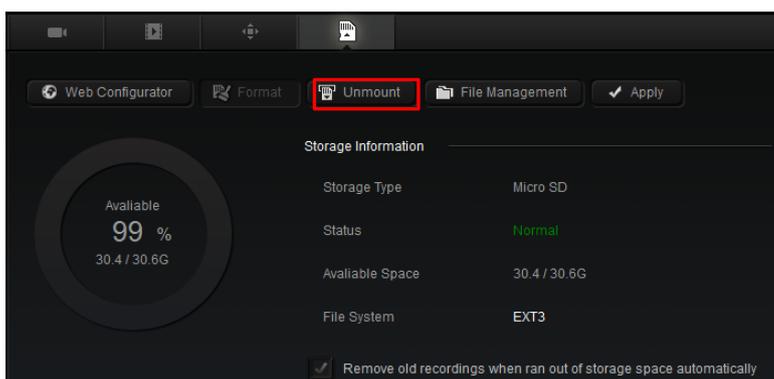


If a device is required to perform local recording, the following procedures are prerequisite:

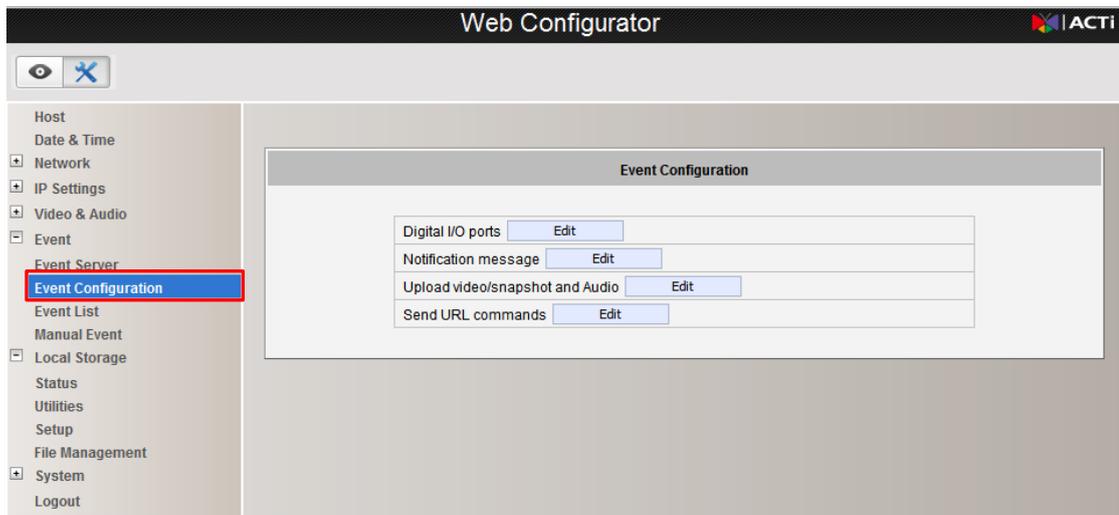
1. The SD card is properly installed in the device.
2. On ERC interface, go to **Setup** screen → **Device Setup** page, and click “**Storage Setup**”, and select the device. Before you format this SD card either via camera’s firmware or via ERC interface, the status appeared as “**Unmounted**”.
3. Click “**Format**” to format this SD card, this will erase all the stored data on it.
4. ERC can only mount a “formatted” SD card, now you may mount it by clicking “**Mount**”.



After the SD Card is mounted, the “**Mount**” button will turn to “**Unmount**”. The SD card status now appears as “**Normal**”.



- Follow camera's firmware manual to make sure the recording function is well-configured. You have to configure both "Event Configuration" and "Event List". (Please refer to the firmware manual provided on product page - <http://www.acti.com/product/>)

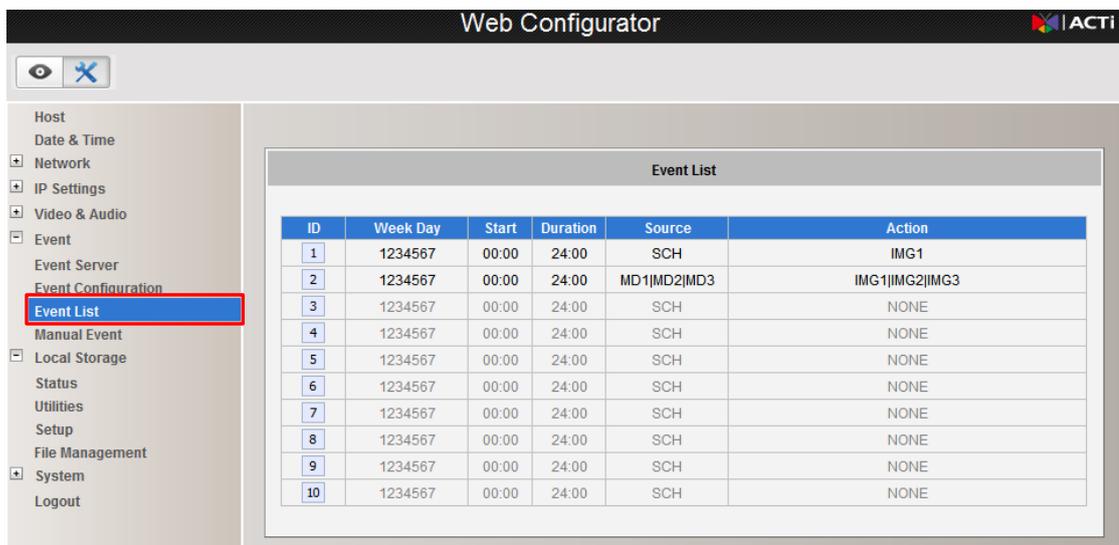


Web Configurator ACTi

Host
Date & Time
Network
IP Settings
Video & Audio
Event
Event Server
Event Configuration
Event List
Manual Event
Local Storage
Status
Utilities
Setup
File Management
System
Logout

Event Configuration

Digital I/O ports	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
Notification message	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
Upload video/snapshot and Audio	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
Send URL commands	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>



Web Configurator ACTi

Host
Date & Time
Network
IP Settings
Video & Audio
Event
Event Server
Event Configuration
Event List
Manual Event
Local Storage
Status
Utilities
Setup
File Management
System
Logout

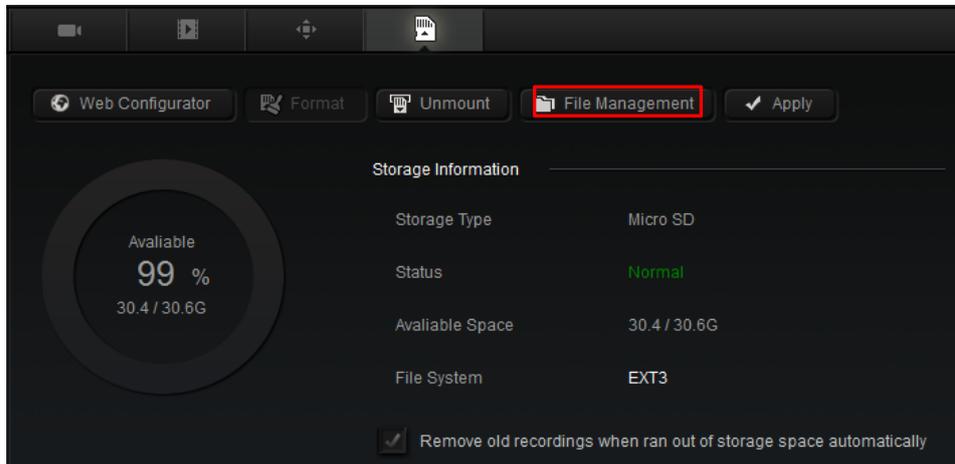
Event List

ID	Week Day	Start	Duration	Source	Action
1	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	IMG1
2	1234567	00:00	24:00	MD1 MD2 MD3	IMG1 IMG2 IMG3
3	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
4	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
5	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
6	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
7	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
8	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
9	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE
10	1234567	00:00	24:00	SCH	NONE

Browse the Saved Recordings

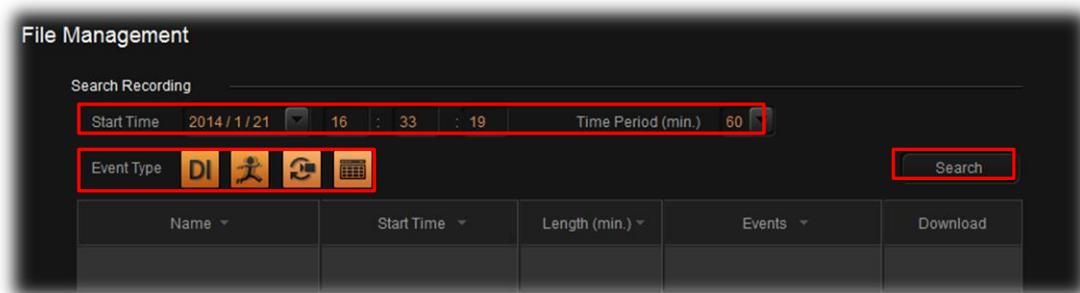
You may search the recordings already saved on the device's SD card.

1. After the SD card is mounted, click "**File Management**".



On **File Management** window

2. Define the time range by inputting the start time and the period (maximum is 60 miniatures). For example, if you set the start time as **2014/01/21 00:00:00** with the time range as **60 minutes**, ERC will search all the video clips recorded from **2014/01/21 00:00:00** to **2014/01/21 00:60:00**.
3. Select the event **Type**.
4. Select the **Devices**.
5. Click "**Search**" to start searching.



The search result will show all the discovered saved recordings. You may click  to download this video.

File Management

Search Recording

Start Time 2014 / 1 / 21 00 : 00 : 00 Time Period (min.) 60

Event Type DI 👤 🔄 📅 Search

Name ▾	Start Time ▲	Length (min.) ▾	Events ▾	Download
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-29-05	2014/01/21 00:29:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-29-05	2014/01/21 00:29:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-30-05	2014/01/21 00:30:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-30-05	2014/01/21 00:30:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-31-05	2014/01/21 00:31:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-31-05	2014/01/21 00:31:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-32-05	2014/01/21 00:32:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-32-05	2014/01/21 00:32:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-33-05	2014/01/21 00:33:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓
Rec0Mid_2014-01-20-16-33-05	2014/01/21 00:33:05	1 Minutes	SCH	↓

Close

Previous Page



Next Page



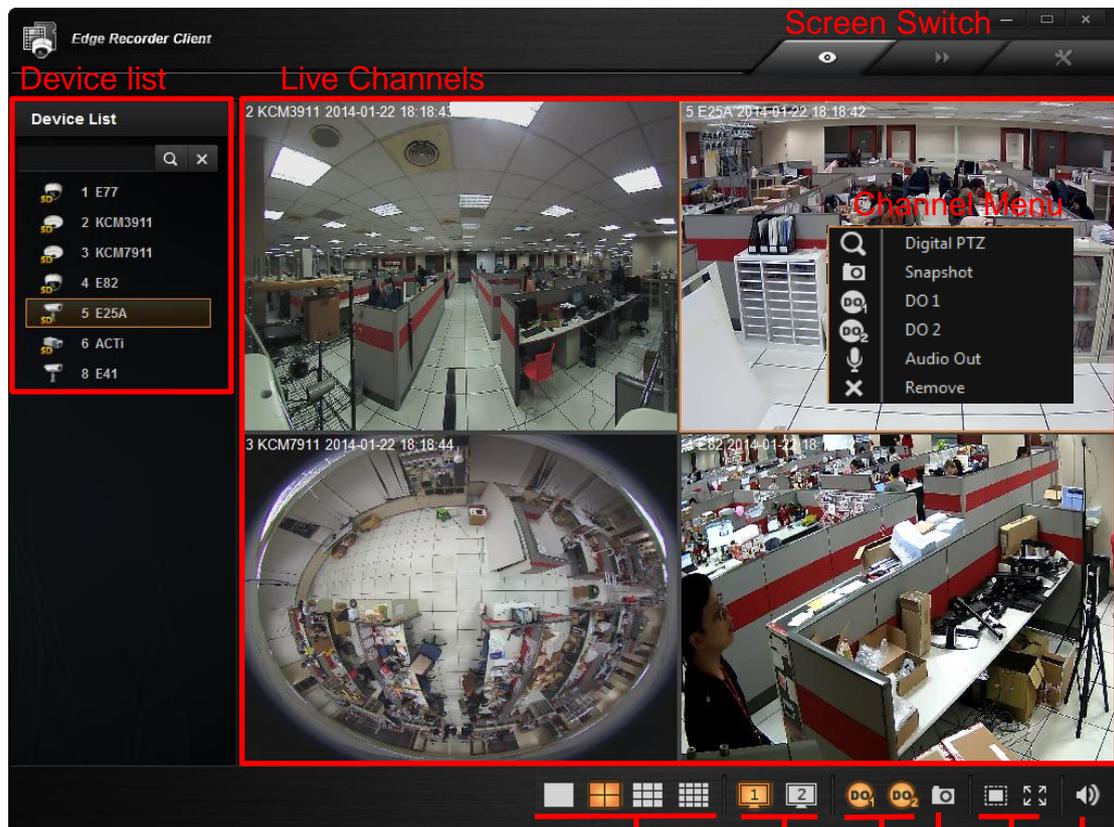
Live View



Upon logging in to ERC you will enter the live view screen. ERC will always remember the last layout arrangement of each account.

Live Screen Interface

ERC Live screen consists of three main components: **Device List** on the left, **Live Channels** on the right, and tool buttons on the bottom. By selecting a single channel and right-clicking on it, you may open a channel menu for more actions for it.



Layout Switch

Stream Switch

DO Trigger

Take Snapshots of All Channels

Un-stretch / Stretch Video

Audio-in Volume Control

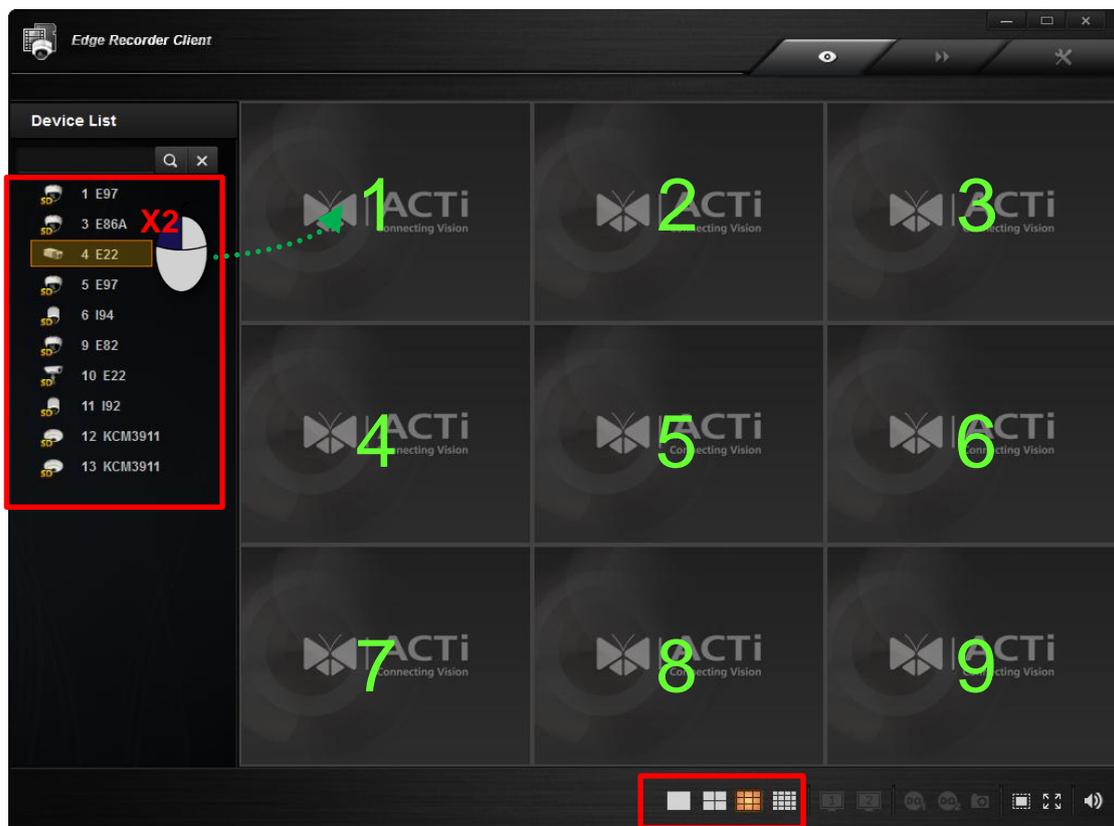
Add Device View to Channels

To watch a device's live stream, double-click the device on **Device List**, its live stream will immediately appear on a vacant channel. If there are more than one vacant channels, ERC will assign the device view to the channels from left to right, with successive rows going from top to bottom.

In the example below, if you double-click the device **4 E22**, its live view will be shown on channel **1**. The other devices you double-click on will afterwards be shown in the vacant channels in the order of **2-9**.

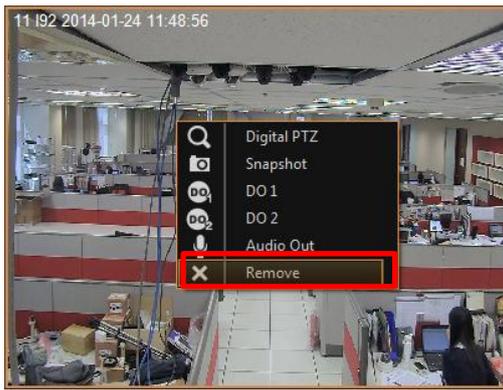
To arrange a proper layout for the convenience of monitoring, please:

1. On **Layout Switch** bar, choose a layout which contains the number of channels not less than that of device view to be shown. For example, if you plan to watch live streaming of **8** devices, then choose the **3x3** layout.
2. Double-click on the devices on **Device List** one by one in the sequence of channels where you want to put them.



If you double-click a device when there is no vacant channel in current layout, ERC will automatically switch current layout to another with more channels.

ACTi Edge Recorder User's Manual

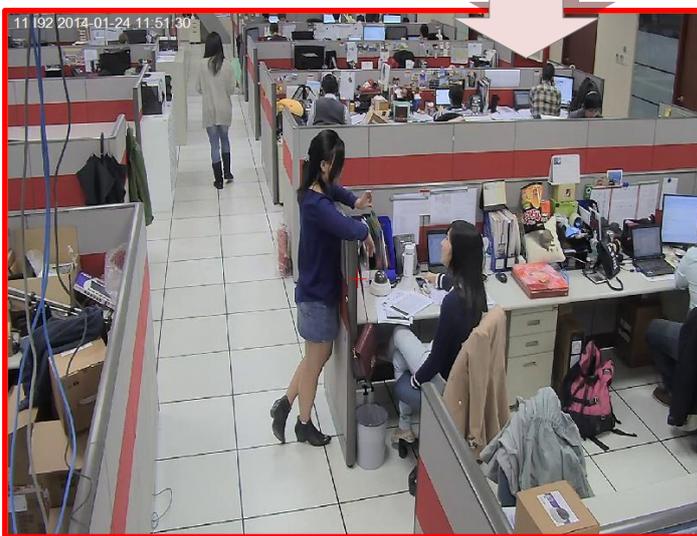


To remove a device view from a channel, right-click on the channel and select **"Remove"**.



To watch a specific channel in a **1x1** layout, double-click on it.

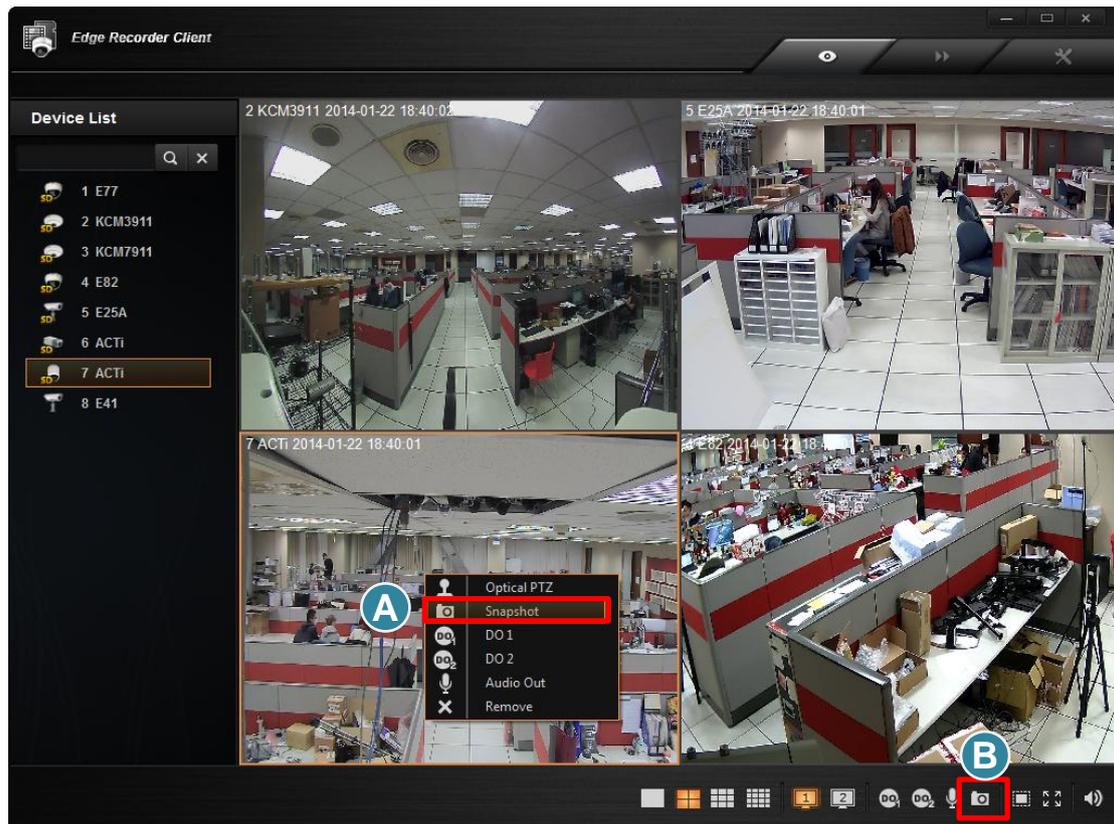
To return to the original layout, double-click on it again.



Take a Snapshot

The snapshots you take on Live screen will be saved to the location you set (default is your Windows Desktop) You may

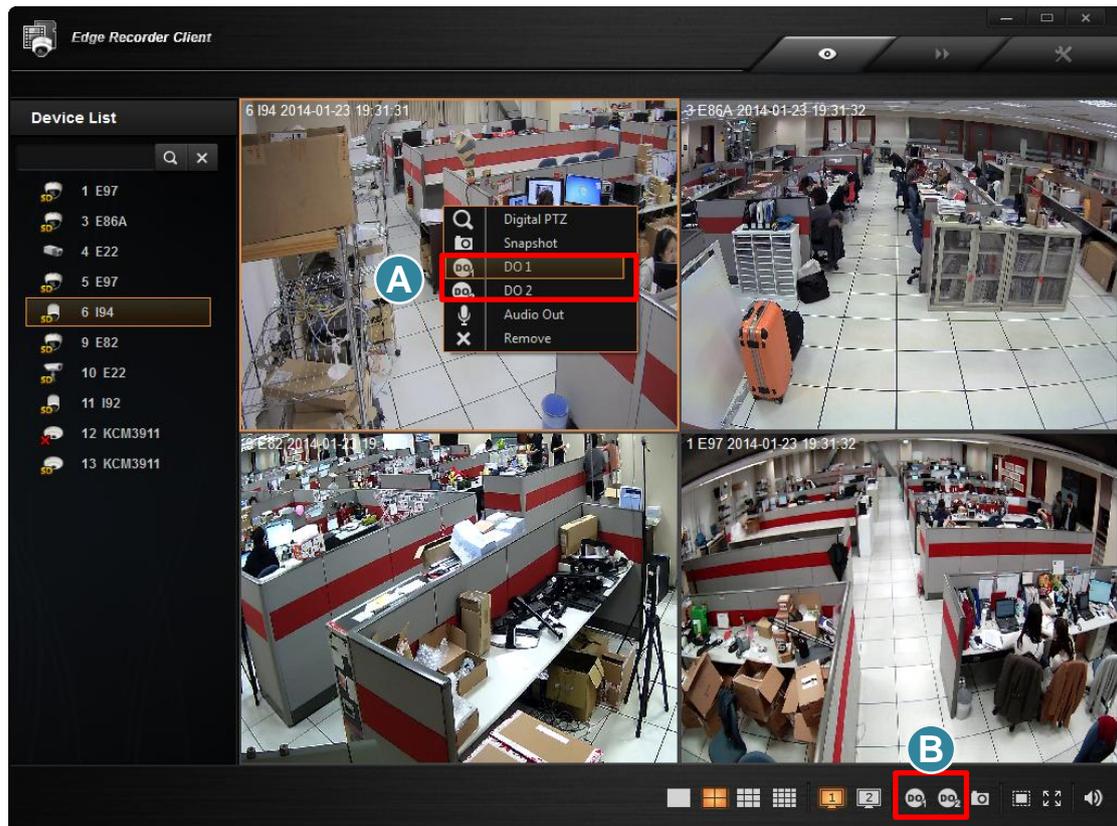
- A. Take a snapshot of a single channel by right-clicking on it and select **“Snapshot”**.
- B. Take snapshots of all channels by clicking  on toolbar.



Trigger DO Devices

The number of supported Dos varies by device models. ERC will enable the DO buttons if the selected device supports. Before manually triggering a DO device from ERC interface, please make sure you have correctly connected it with the device and tested via the device's web configurator.

- A. Right-click on a single channel and select the DO.
- B. Select a channel and then click a DO button  on toolbar.



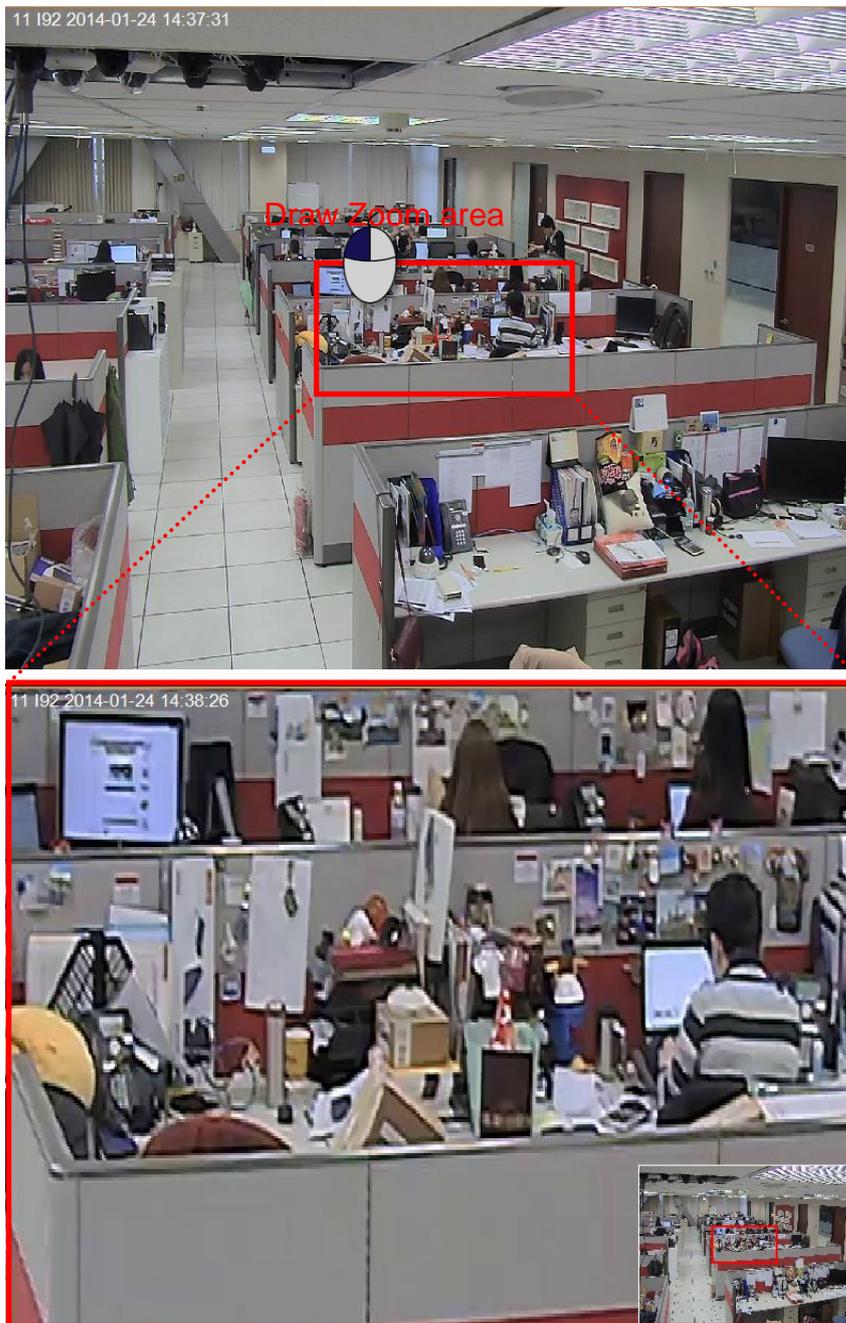
Send Audio Signal

To talk through speaker connected to one device, right-click on a channel and select “**Audio Out**”. When this icon appears in orange, your audio-out function is activated, every sound you make through the microphone on your client computer will be sent out to this device only.



Digital PTZ Navigation

Regardless of device models, you may perform digital PTZ navigation on any channel. Click and drag a highlight rectangle over any channel, and the area highlighted will be displayed in the full live video window. In this mode, a picture-in-picture view will show in the lower right of live view window. A red rectangle will mark the currently enlarged view area within the full size video. You may drag the red rectangle over the image to zoom another area. To go back to the original full video view, just right-click on the minimized picture-in-picture view.



Cancel Zoom area



Zoom in



Zoom out



Pan/Tilt

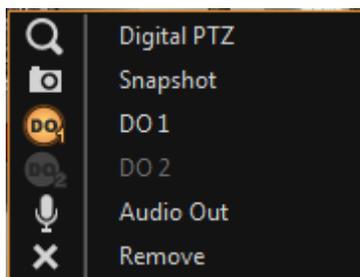


Optical PTZ Navigation

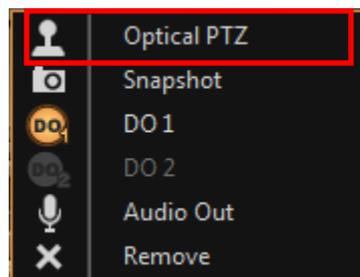
If the device supports optical pan / tilt / zoom function, you may use the mouse to perform PTZ navigation on its channel view.

1. Please make sure the optical PTZ operation of this channel is currently activated. Right-click this channel. if the current enabled PTZ mode is Digital PTZ, you may click “**Optical PTZ**” to switch to optical PTZ mode.

(Optical PTZ enabled)

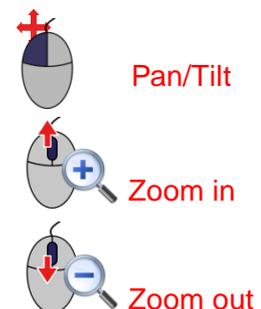
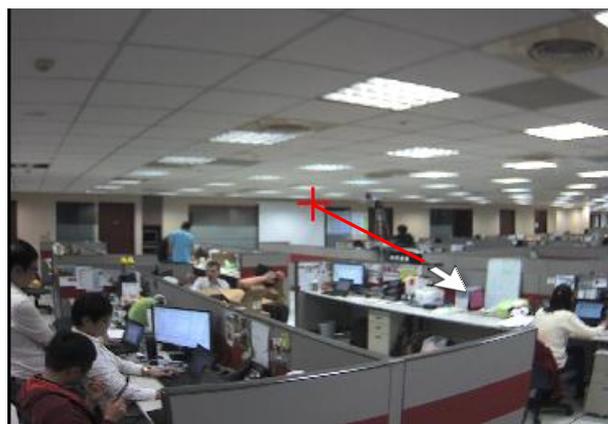


(Optical PTZ disabled)



2. Place the mouse over the channel to do the following PTZ operations:

- To execute optical **Panning** and **Tilting**, click anywhere on the live window to allow the camera to move in that direction. The length of the direction indicator is proportional to the Pan and Tilt speed. The farther you place the cursor from the center, the faster the Pan/Tilt movement.
- To execute optical **Zoom in** or **Zoom out**, scroll the mouse wheel forward to zoom in; scroll the mouse wheel backward to zoom out.



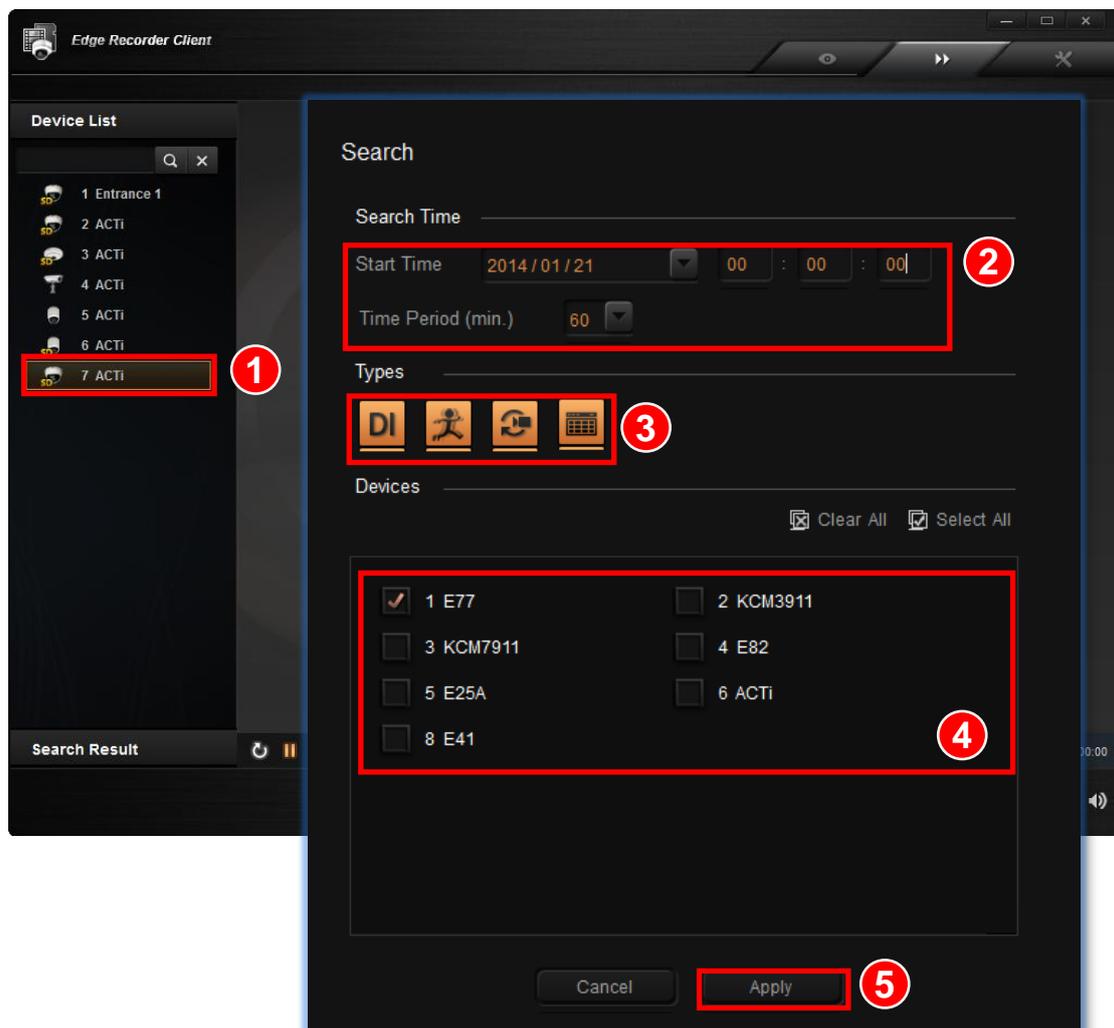
Playback



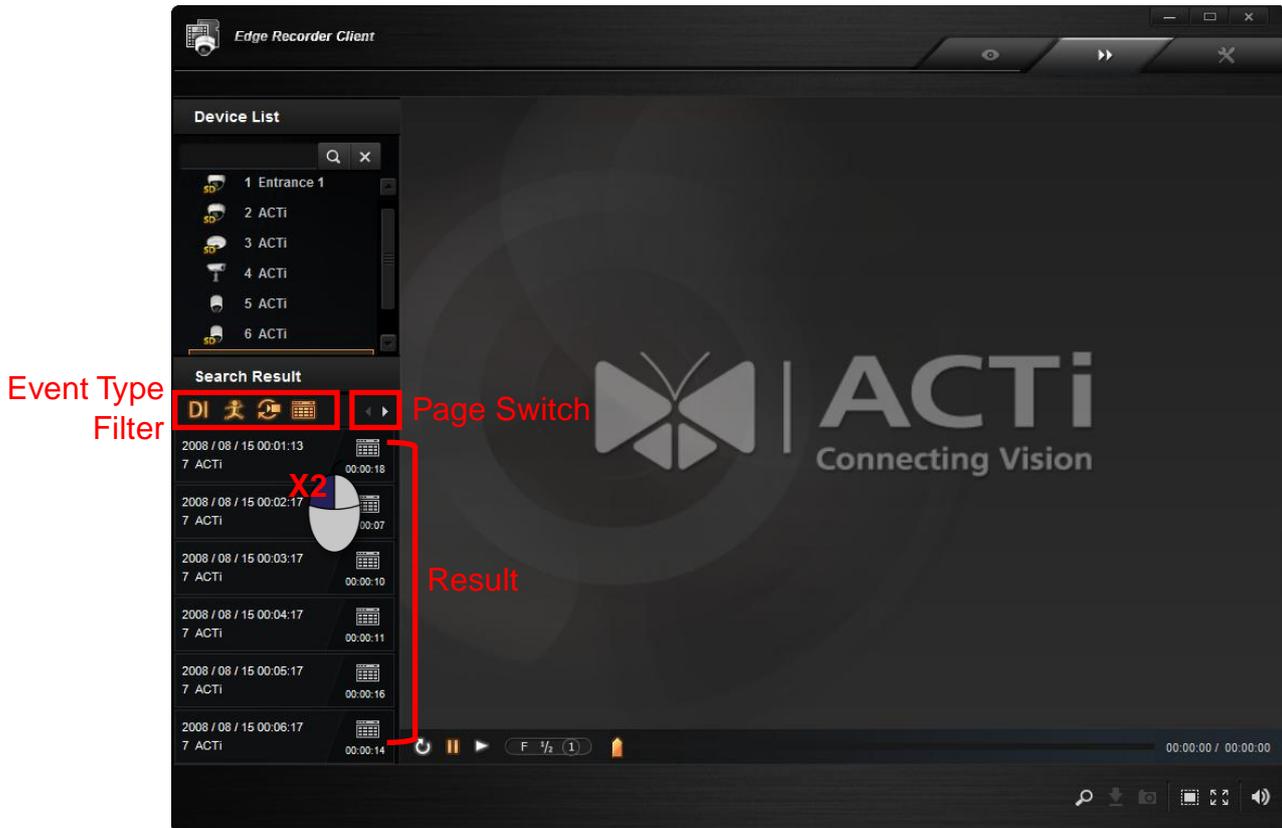
On **Playback** screen, you may select a device to search a video clip and watch its playback.

Search Recordings

1. On **Playback** screen, double-click on a device on **Device List** to open **Search** window.
2. Define the time range by inputting the start time and the period (maximum is 60 minutes). For example, if you the the start time as **2014/01/21 00:00:00** with the time range as **60 minutes**, ERC will search all the video clips recorded from **2014/01/21 00:00:00** to **2014/01/21 00:60:00**.
3. Select the event **Type**.
4. Select the **Devices**.
5. Click "**Apply**" to start searching.



The search result will be listed on bottom left. **Double-click** on a recording entry to enter playback mode.



Playback View

After selecting a video clip, ERC will immediately start playing it. You may make use of the playback controls to help playing this video.

- To jump to a certain time point, drag the **Position Cursor** to it.
- To take a snapshot of the current view, click  on the bottom.
- To download this video clip, click  on the bottom, this video will be saved to the location you define in **System Setup** page.



Replay
Pause
Play
Play Speed

Download
Take a Snapshot

System Settings

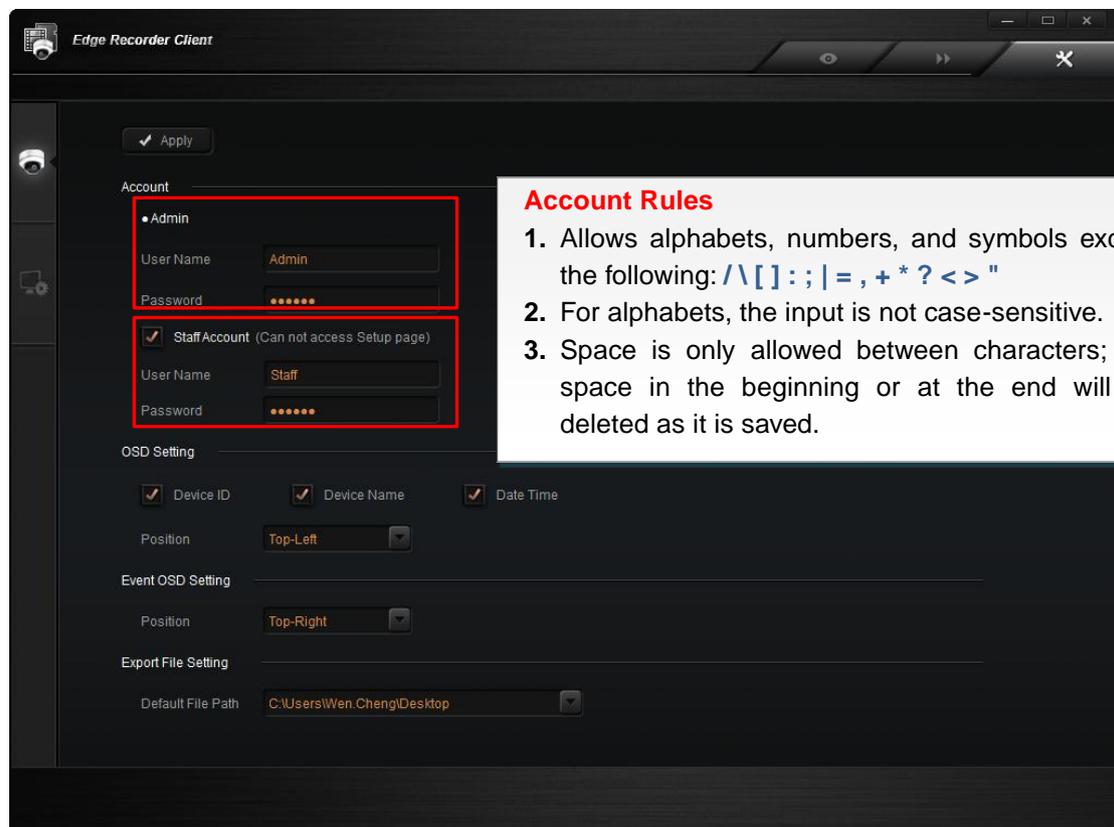
You may configure certain basic system settings on **Setup** screen → **System Setup** page. Remember to click "**Apply**" after you make any change.

Manage User Accounts

You can allow one viewer's account other than the administrator's account to access ERC program. This account will only have the permission to Live View screen and Playback screen.

	Permissions	Default Username	Default Password
Administrator	Live View / Playback / Setup	<i>Admin</i> (Maximum:63 digits)	<i>123456</i>
Viewer	Live View / Playback	<i>Staff</i> (Maximum:127digits)	<i>123456</i>

You may change the **User Name** and **Password** of either account by inputting the new information and click "**Apply**" to change.

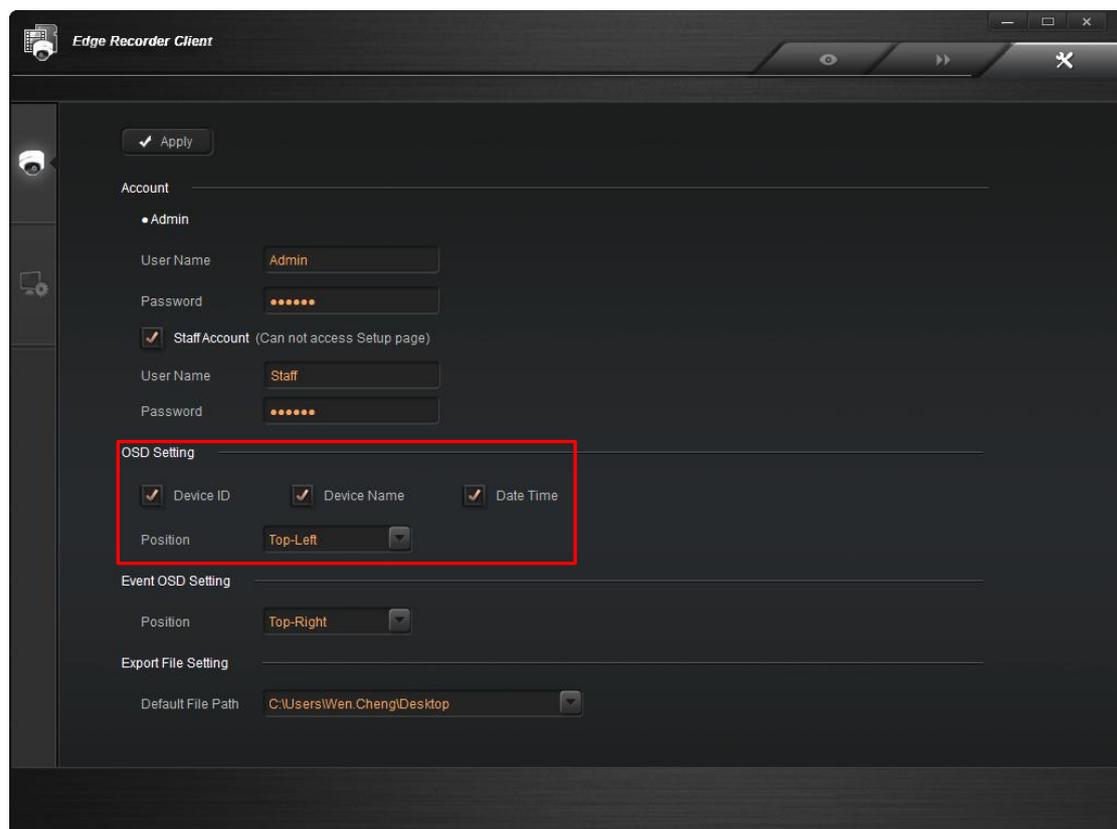


OSD Settings

There are certain information such as the camera name or event alerts needed to be shown over the live video for User to quickly recognize.

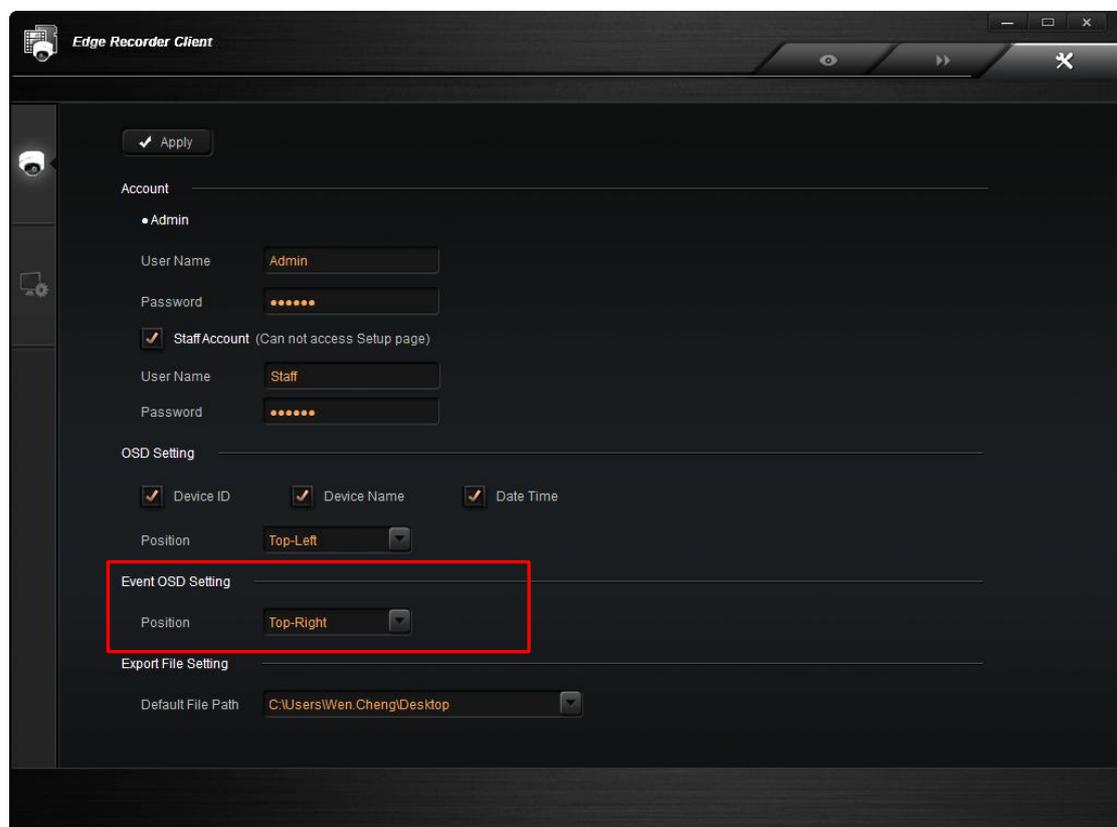
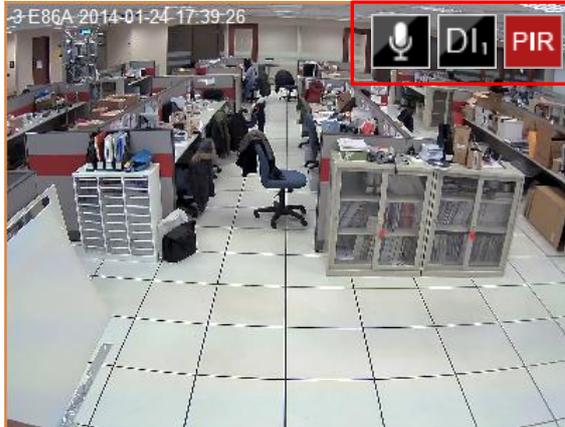
OSD Setting

These configurations define where the device information / current date & time is placed on live view.



Event OSD Setting

These configurations define where the event alerts are shown on live view. For example, if this device is connected with DI devices or PIR devices, an alert icon will show on this channel when the event is triggered.



Exported File Location

Every snapshot you take on Live Screen or Playback and every video clip you download from a device's local storage is saved to the default path – your **Windows Desktop**.

You may change this location to another path under **Export File Setting**.

