

# ASSURANCE SECURED

By Carey D. Schock, Managing Editor

**With the relentless migration from analog to network-based video security solutions, increasing attention is paid to the critical role of Information Assurance (IA). Ever more aware and cognizant of potential susceptibilities to their network infrastructures, government organizations and private companies alike are demanding that systems residing on their networks meet set security compliance standards.**

These standards have been developed across a number of industries (see sidebar) to help mitigate the potential risk of hackers, who seek to cause damage or gain access to sensitive information through technologies that connect to a network.

As a leading manufacturer of network-based video management and camera systems, Pelco very early on recognized and understood the importance of incorporating advanced security measures into its product lines. With complete corporate understanding and buy-in, Pelco has allocated significant resources to establish a comprehensive program that directs the inclusion of standards-meeting technologies into existing product lines and advises such compliance as an essential part of the product development process.

“Our efforts span the umbrella of our IP-based systems,” explains Danny Graves, IA Team Leader, responsible for establishing and overseeing Pelco’s IA efforts. “From Sarix and Endura to DX Series HVRs, Spectra IV and Spectra Mini IP domes systems and more, Pelco very early on understood the importance of delivering products that meet and exceed specified compliance standards. And as a result, in very short time we have established an industry-leading IA department and lab dedicated to information assurance compliance.”

## DIACAP COMPLIANCE

As noted, a number of compliance standards exist to serve the distinct needs of various industries and market sectors. DIACAP, or Department of Defense Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process, is a government set of security standards used by various federal and state agencies as a test to indicate authority for the compliant device to operate on one of their networks.

“DIACAP compliance is a critical part of Pelco’s commitment to the large number of military customers we are privileged to serve,” says Graves. “Having worked closely on government-sector installations across the United States, Pelco knew the importance of ensuring our product line with DIACAP-level compliance.”

According to Kevin Carpenter, Pelco Government Industry Solution Manager, “Any device on, for example, a DOD (Department of Defense) network must meet mandatory requirements. DIACAP-level compliance is one of those standards and the DX8100 version 2.0 HVR is the first DIACAP-compliant product from Pelco – and it is being introduced at no extra charge. And since DIACAP compliance is a process, rather than a permanent state, Pelco’s IA effort includes mandatory, sustained testing to ensure continued compliance.”

In October 2009, Pelco provided a DX8100 version 2.0 HVR to a DOD-sponsored test facility for DIACAP Compliance testing. As a result of that test effort, an Authority to Operate (ATO), good for three years, was provided for the ultimate system, which included deployment of the DX8100.

And this is just the beginning. Graves continues, “In addition to DIACAP compliance for DX8100 version 2.0, we are also working with various government agencies for compliance of our Endura and VMS products.”

Information Assurance plays a critical role in the successful convergence of video security and IT. Pelco clearly understands the sensitivities to network vulnerabilities and is leading the way as we develop the processes, technologies and solutions to ensure that our wide array of network-based systems continue to deliver both the performance and security that is demanded by today’s installations. Moreover, Pelco continues to actively work with regulatory bodies, standards agencies and the like to be on the front lines of ever-evolving compliance frameworks and standards.

**Depending on the particular sector involved, a number of Compliance Standards exist, including:**

- Financial Sector: PCI-DSS Compliance; Sarbanes-Oxley; Gramm-Leach-Bliley
- Healthcare: HIPPA Compliance
- International Standards: ISO Compliance
- U.S. Government: DIACAP; SCI; FISMA

### INFORMATION ASSURANCE COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORKS

DIACAP: Defense Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Program.



DCID 6/3: Director of Central Intelligence Directive 6/3.



FISMA/NIST: Federal Information Systems Management ACT (2002) and National Institute for Standards and Technology.

Most Other US Government Agencies.

**Learn more about DIACAP Compliance by visiting our Video Library at [pelco.com](http://pelco.com)**