



Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone
User Manual

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Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone User Manual

The Pelco Connect Plugin is a tool that provides access to extra Pelco camera functionalities from the Milestone Smart Client. The plugin allows you search footage using Pelco Forensic Search from within the Milestone system reducing the number of tools operators need to use when working on investigations. You can also configure Pelco Camera Analytics using the plugin.

This User Manual provides information and instructions for setting up and using the Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone systems. The User Manual covers the following topics:

- Installing the Plugin – download and install the Plugin on the same computer as the Milestone software. The Plugin opens an extra interface in the Milestone Smart Client to display Forensic Search results.
- Forensic Search – launch the Forensic Search Plugin to search and filter video footage based on object classifications, for example, object type and color.
- Configuring Analytics – configure Pelco Camera analytics, and analytics rules, directly from the Milestone XProtect Management Client.
- HALO Assistant – import HALO devices and add HALO events with the click of a button.
- About Pelco Connect – check the software version and configure logging behavior, if required.

Pelco Connect Plugin Requirements

Review the following requirements before installing the Pelco Connect Plugin.

Pelco Requirements

The features described in this User Manual are apply to the most recent version of the Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone. Download the latest version of the Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone installer at: pelco.com/updates.

Only Pelco analytic cameras that meet the following requirements will work with the Pelco Connect Plugin:

- Compatible with Pelco Advanced Analytics and Pelco Smart Analytics. Camera analytics must be turned on.
See "General Settings" in the [Pelco Camera Operations Manuals](#) for instructions on how to set the Camera Mode to Full Feature.
- For Forensic Search, the cameras must be ONVIF Profile M compliant and able to generate metadata. Metadata must be turned on.
See "Extended Settings" in the [Pelco Camera Operations Manuals](#) for instructions on how to enable Analytics SML Metadata.
- Installed at the correct height and angle to optimize analytic results.
See [Designing a Site with Pelco Smart Analytics User Manual](#) for best practices on camera placement and settings.

Milestone Requirements

Check the Milestone software version before installing the Pelco Connect Plugin. You can find the latest version of Milestone XProtect Management Client at <https://www.milestonesys.com>.

Milestone XProtect Management Client minimum software version:

- Version 2023 R1 or later

Installing the Pelco Connect Plugin

To install Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone, you can download the Pelco Connect Plugin installer. The installer contains all the necessary software for the plugin, that includes the prerequisites and the plugin itself. Running the installer installs all the necessary components. Installation usually takes less than one minute.

1. Download the Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone installer at [Pelco Camera Integrations > Milestone](#).
2. Launch the installer. You will have to select the **I agree to license terms and conditions** checkbox.

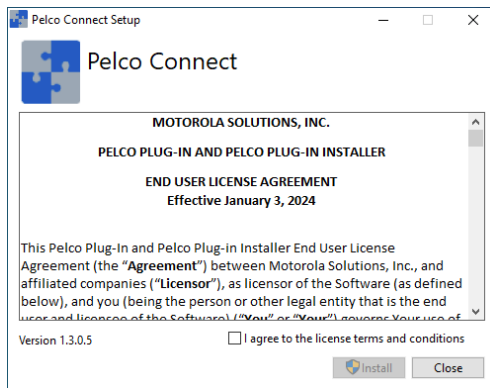


Figure 1: The Pelco Connect Plugin installer shows the End-User License Agreement.

3. Click **Install**.
4. After the installation is complete, click **Close**.
5. Once the installation is complete, the plugin will appear in the XProtect Smart Client and XProtect Management Client.

Analytics Rules

You can use the Pelco Connect Plugin to configure camera analytics from the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

Analytic rules are sets of conditions regarding activity in the camera's field of view. If the conditions are met, the camera will trigger an alarm in the Milestone system. Analytic rules trigger analytic events, then the events become alarms in the system.

You can view, create and manage analytic rules in the *Analytics Rules* area in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

Types of Analytic Rules

You can find analytic rules in the *Analytic Rules* area. Select a rule with a colored icon to load a preview. The preview displays the overlays and arrows to help you understand how the rule is configured.

- Overlays – the overlay indicates the region of interest. The region of interest is the area that the analytic rule applies to. Orange overlays apply to vehicles. Blue overlays apply to people. Red overlays indicate exclusion zones. These areas are excepts to the rule.
- Arrows – the directional arrows indicate the direction of travel. The rule will applies to objects traveling in the same direction as the arrow. Rules can detect objects traveling in either direction, indicated by two directional arrow pointing in opposite directions.

Loading Pre-Existing Camera Rules in Milestone

Before you start creating new analytics rules, you must load the pre-existing analytic rules into the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

Follow these steps to load the pre-existing analytic rules:

1. Navigate to the **Servers > Recording Servers** in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.
2. Select a server to open the list of cameras connected to it.
3. Select a Pelco camera.

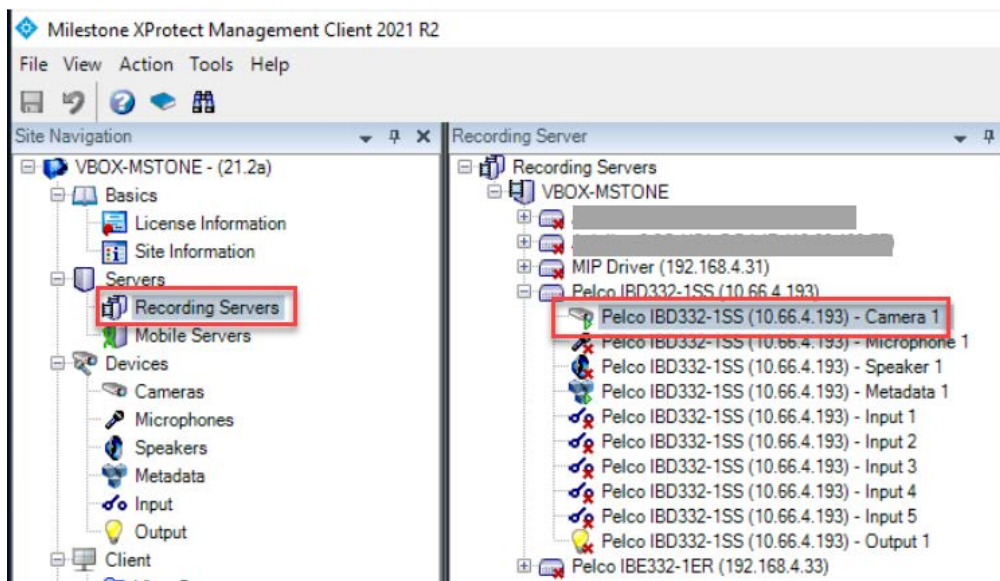


Figure 2: Cameras organized by the recording servers in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

4. Enter the login credentials for the camera.
5. Click **Connect**.
6. In the *Site Navigation* area on the left, select **Servers > Recording Servers** and select a camera that supports advanced analytics.
7. If the camera supports advanced analytics, the *Analytics* tab appears at the bottom of the screen.



Figure 3: The Analytics tab in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

8. Click the **Analytics** tab. This loads all existing rules into the *Analytics* area. Rules that are not enabled are grayed out. The icons also indicate what the rule applies to, for example, the person icon indicates that the rule applies to people, the vehicle icon indicates that the rule applies to vehicles, etc.

Configuring Analytics Rules in Milestone

You configure Analytics Rules in the *Analytic Rules* area in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.



NOTE

For PTZ cameras, ensure that you select either a PTZ Preset option or the PTZ Home position before configuring analytic rules. Select the *Analytics Configuration* tab and select a preset from the *Presets* drop-down list.

Creating an Analytic Rule

Follow these steps to create an analytic rule:

1. Click the + button.
2. Select a rule in the *Select Rule* area. The *Rule Settings* will open.
3. Enter a unique name for the rule in the *Rule Name* area.



NOTE

The **Save** button is grayed out if the rule name already exists in the list of rules.



Figure 4: Entering a name for the rule in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

4. Click the **Rule is Enabled** check box to enable.
5. You can adjust any of the rule settings at this time.



NOTE

Pelco cameras are designed to detect moving objects that are in the field of view for at least 2 seconds. Objects that enter the field of view from behind the camera may take up to 4 seconds to be detected.

6. Click **Add Exclusion Zone** to add an exclusion zone. A red overlay will appear indicating the exclusion zone.

Exclusion zones indicate areas in the camera's field of view where the rule does not apply.

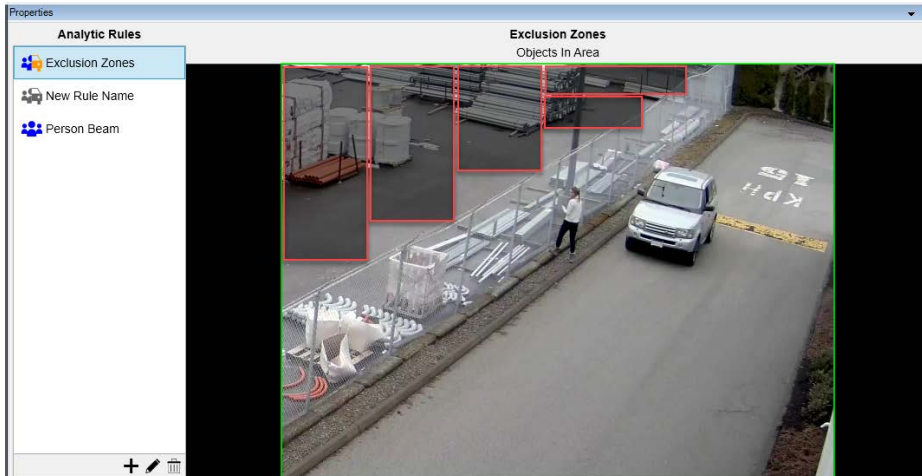


Figure 5: Adding exclusion zones in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

7. Resize the Exclusion Zone as needed.
8. Click and drag the Exclusion Zone to move it.
9. Right-click a zone to delete it.
10. Click **Send to Back** in the case of two overlapping shapes. You can send one shape to back to access the other.
11. Click **Save**. The main page appears with the new rule shown in the *Analytic Rules* area.

Modifying Analytic Rules

Follow these steps to modify an analytic rule:

1. Select a rule from the *Analytic Rules* area.
2. Click the **pencil** icon. Rule Settings will appear to the right of the screen.



Figure 6: The Rule Settings panel in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

3. Modify the rule settings as needed.
4. Click and drag the corners of the overlays to resize them.
5. Select the lines or arrows to move or rotate the directional arrows.
6. Click **Save**.
7. Click the **trash** icon if you want to delete a rule.

Forensic Search

Forensic Search allows you to search forensic events in Milestone Smart Client. Forensic Search requires the Forensic Search plugin which gets installed by the Pelco Connect Plugin installer.

Loading Forensic Search in Milestone

After you install the plugin, you must find it in the Milestone XProtect Smart Client before you can use it.

Follow these steps to launch the Forensic Search plugin:

1. Click the **Search** tab in the Milestone XProtect Smart Client.
2. Click the **Search for...** button.
3. Click the **Pelco Forensic Search** button. The plugin will begin to load.
4. Once the plugin loads, you can use the Forensic Search to search and filter results based on specific cameras and time frames.

Using Pelco Forensic Search

You can use the Pelco Forensic Search in the Milestone XProtect Management Client. Forensic Search uses filters to narrow search results. If you need more information or examples, see [How do Forensic Search Filters Work? on page 16](#)

Follow this order of operation when searching for Forensic Events:

1. Select the **filter** icon on the Pelco Forensic Search tile to open it.

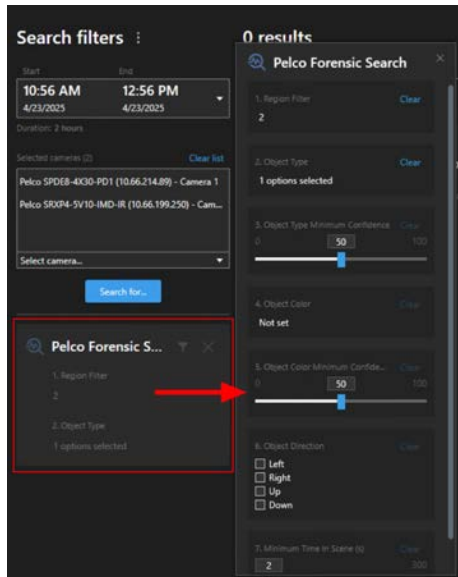


Figure 7: The Pelco Forensic Search panel in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

2. Select the Region Filter and use the search bar to search for cameras. Selecting a camera will prompt the plugin to search through footage from that camera.
3. Select the Object Types to include objects of that type in the search results.
4. Click and drag the slider to adjust the Object Type Minimum Confidence (0 to 100).



NOTE

If you select multiple object types, the search includes results with either object type. When filtering based on Object Type, selecting multiple object directions will display results with either of the object directions. However, when you select an object direction and then adjust the confidence level, the search will exclude results that don't meet both criteria: the object direction and the minimum confidence level.

5. Select the Object Color to include objects of that color in the search results.
6. Click and drag the slider to adjust the Object Color Minimum Confidence (0 to 100).
7. Select the Object Direction to include objects moving in that direction in the search results.
8. Click and drag the slider to adjust the Object Direction Minimum Confidence (0 to 100).



NOTE

If you select multiple object directions, the search includes results with either object direction. When filtering based on Object Direction, selecting multiple object directions will display results with either of the object directions. However, when you select an object direction and then adjust the confidence level, the search will exclude results that don't meet both criteria: the object direction and the minimum confidence level.

9. Click and drag the slider to adjust the Minimum Time in Scene(s) (0 to 300). The default is 2 seconds.
10. Click **Search**.

How do Forensic Search Filters Work?

Forensic Search Filters group objects by attribute, for example, object type, color and direction. The filters return results when any condition within an attribute group is met. Those results are then combined with other attribute groups to further refine the search results.

You can use Forensic Search Filters to narrow the search results based on object classifications, for example, object type and color. There are three basic search filters, outlined below. You can also set a minimum confidence (0 to 100) required for the system to trigger an alarm.

Search filters:

- Object Type – select the object types to include them in the search results.
- Object Color – select the object colors to include them in the search results.
- Object Direction – select the object direction to include objects moving in that direction in the search results.

Understanding Minimum Confidence

Selecting multiple object types or object directions will broaden the search results, including results that have either type or direction. However, minimum confidence works differently when selecting multiple object types or multiple object directions.

- When filtering based on Object Type, selecting multiple object directions will display results with either of the object directions. However, when you select an object direction and then adjust the confidence level, the search will exclude results that don't meet both criteria: the object direction and the minimum confidence level.
- When filtering based on Object Direction, selecting multiple object directions will display results with either of the object directions. However, when you select an object direction and then adjust the confidence level, the search will exclude results that don't meet both criteria: the object direction and the minimum confidence level.

Examples

Review the examples below to help understanding how the filters work.

Example 1: How to Search for a Human Wearing Blue or a Blue Vehicle

If you wanted to find footage that contained either a human wearing blue or a blue vehicle, select the filters as follows:

- Object Type:
 - Human = Checked
 - Vehicle = Checked
- Color:
 - Blue = Checked

Example 2: How to Search for a Human Wearing Blue or Red or a Blue Vehicle or a Red Vehicle

If you wanted to find footage that contained either a human wearing blue or red or a blue or red vehicle, select the filters as follows:

- Object Type:
 - Human = Checked
 - Vehicle = Checked
- Color:
 - Blue = Checked
 - Red = Checked

The screenshot below demonstrates the selected search filters from this example:



Figure 8: Object type is (Human or Vehicle) AND Color is (Blue or Red).

HALO Assistant

HALO Assistant is a tool in the Pelco Connect Plugin that lets you import HALO devices and add HALO events with one click of a button. HALO Assistant is found in the *Site Navigation* tree in the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

Follow these steps to import all HALO device events at once:

1. Navigate to *Pelco Connect* in the Site Navigation tree.
2. Click **Pelco Connect** to expand the menu and select **HALO Assistant**. This opens HALO Assistant.
3. Select which HALO devices you want to work on.
4. Use the search bar to search devices.
5. Select the devices you want to enable events from.
6. Click **+ Enable Events** to turn on events from all of the selected devices.
7. Click **x Disable Events** to turn off events from all of the selected devices.

About Pelco Connect

The About Pelco Connect area provides additional information on the Pelco Connect plugin from within the Milestone XProtect Management Client. Locate **About Pelco Connect** in the *Site Navigation* tree in Milestone XProtect.

Once you have opened About Pelco Connect, you will see the following tabs:

- **Version** – provides Pelco Connect software version. The Version tab will also indicate whether there is a more recent software version available.
- **Config** – provides system debugging and logging level options.

Configuring Logs

The options on the Config tab are useful for debugging and troubleshooting.

1. Click **Enable Debug** if you want to enable logs.
2. You can change the Debug Directory if required.
3. Select the Log Level drop-down menu to change the types of messages included in the logs.

Troubleshooting Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone

When installing or using Pelco Connect, you might need to troubleshoot issues. It can help to check the system logs when debugging.

When using Pelco Connect Plugin for Milestone, you can access configuration options in the Milestone XProtect Management Client. See [About Pelco Connect on the previous page](#) for instructions on enabling debugging, changing directory locations and changing log levels.

Changing the Log Level

If you can not access the About Pelco Connect area in Milestone XProtect Management Client, there is another way to change the logging level.

You can find logs in the following directory: C:\ProgramData\Pelco\Broker.

Follow these steps to change the log level for the Pelco Connect Plugin:

1. Stop the Milestone XProtect Management Client.
2. Edit file C:\ProgramData\Pelco\Milestone\Plugins\{PluginName}\Broker.Common.dll.config.
3. Set the log level to whatever is necessary, default is Warning.
4. Restart the Milestone XProtect Management Client.

More Information & Support

For additional product documentation and software and firmware upgrades, visit support.pelco.com.

Technical Support

Contact Pelco Technical Support at support.pelco.com/s/contactsupport.