SURVEILLANCE VIDEO ARCHIVES INVESTIGATION ASSISTANT
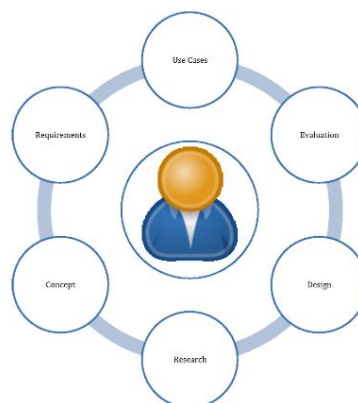
SURVANT a user-centred system designed with privacy in mind

The SURVANT system approach

The SURVANT system, aiming to offer a unified framework for the analysis of video footage, has been designed and implemented around users, with the direct involvement of the Madrid police in all the design and implementation phases, as well as the experience gained in several years of research projects involving police forces of all around Europe. Real use cases have been selected to test and validate the system effectiveness and efficiency.

The SURVANT system is also fully compliant with the Privacy by Design and Privacy by Default approaches as defined by the new European General Data Protection Regulation, embedding privacy-related provisions for ethical personal data transfer and usage, covering all system aspects: repository connections, user access rights, inter-module data transfer and result visualization.
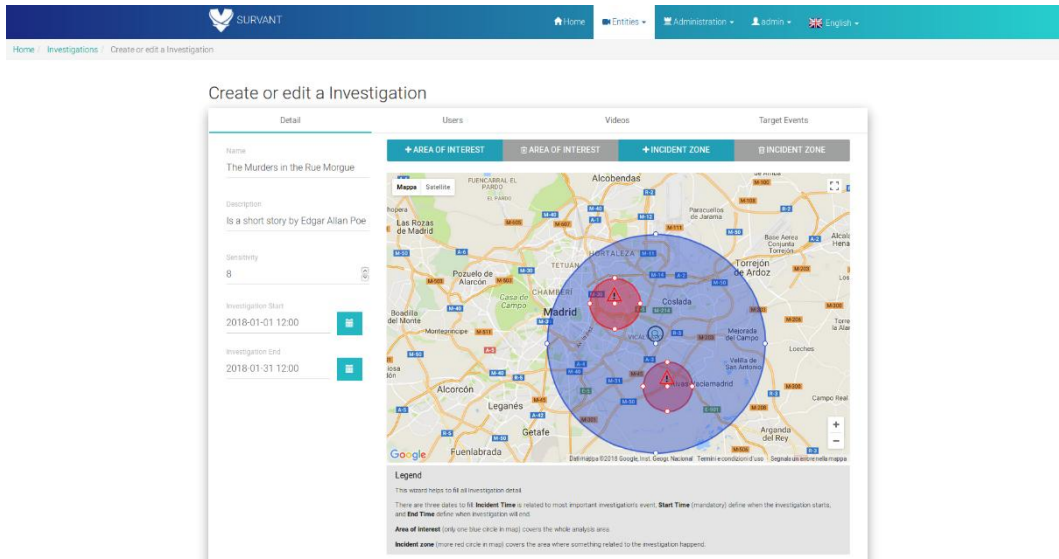

SURVANT real use cases

SURVANT provides effective support to criminal and terrorist threats recognition, representing one of the few products of this typology being available on the market. Thanks to its versatility, itis targeted to LEAs as well as different investigators in multiple business areas.

In order to create a really helpful and acceptable system, before its launch in the market, SURVANT will be tested by the Madrid police on several realistic investigation hypothesesdepicting the following criminal events:

- Beat & Run Away
- Pick Pocketing
- Searchfor missing persons
- Building monitoring
- Recurring criminal behaviour
- Suspect surveillanceafter criminal incident
- Suspiciousbehaviour of individuals
- Vandalism, graffiti making against public property or vehicles

Thanks to SURVANT, investigators are able to ask the system for image retrieval in order to locate those events, find suspicious behaviours, follow trajectories than involve persons with suspicious behaviours, locate incidence of suspicious behaviours and much more.

The analysis of video archives footage enabled by the SURVANT system therefore enables prompt and effective detection of malicious events and suspect persons. Thus, traditional investigation practices are dramatically improved in terms of their effectiveness, and time and cost consumption.

A schema of an advanced search, based on images and objects/features, available in the new SURVANT system, is presented below.

Protecting privacy by design and by default

Current solutions do not embed privacy and ethical principles related to privacy. The SURVANT consortium is concerned that the EC's proposed data protection reforms is putting human rights at the centre of the systems design. That's why SURVANT actively seeks to adopt safeguards to protect privacy and personal data by design and by default from unethical usage. Safeguards are thus embedded in the system, becoming an essential component of the system core, without diminishing functionality. Main safeguards consist of:

- Secure information and content exchanges, while ensuring data integrity and ethical and privacy compliance by embracing Privacy Impact Assessment
- Privacy risks mitigation implemented by means of transparency principles, hence promoting stakeholders' trustworthiness in legal, privacy and data protection related concerns.

Compliance with the new EU Data Protection Regulation is therefore ensured by using SURVANT.

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