

7 Strategies for Modernizing Security Infrastructure

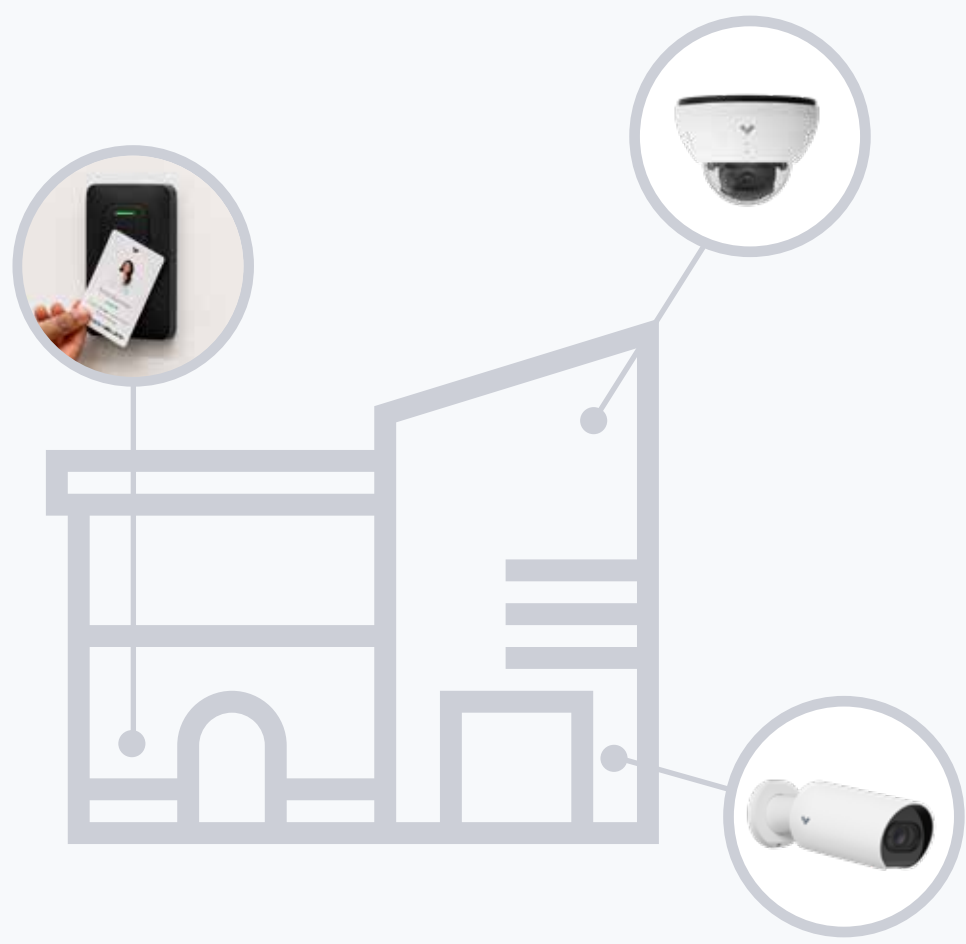
Organizations are increasingly moving away from traditional security hardware and stand-alone systems toward modern, cloud-based solutions that seamlessly integrate physical security needs with IT infrastructure. Here are seven proven strategies that security and IT leaders can implement to modernize their physical security systems while ensuring operational continuity and maximizing return on investment.

Understanding your options

01

New Deployments

Starting fresh with cloud-based solutions offers the perfect opportunity to build from the ground up. Ideal for new locations or as a pilot program, this approach lets you optimize your security system without legacy constraints. Many organizations use this as a proving ground before expanding to existing sites.



02

Rip and Replace

The 'clean slate' approach involves replacing all system components simultaneously. While requiring significant upfront investment, it delivers the fastest path to modernization and helps ensure system-wide consistency. This strategy works best for organizations needing rapid compliance or standardization across all sites.

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Phased Transition

A balanced approach that spreads changes over time, allowing for budget flexibility and minimal operational disruption. While this method requires managing both old and new systems temporarily, it offers a more manageable transition path for most organizations.

Choosing Your Phased Approach



Time-Based Implementation

Schedule systematic upgrades by department or location within predetermined timeframes. This methodical approach allows for careful resource allocation and helps minimize system disparity by converting entire sections at once. Perfect for organizations with clear departmental boundaries or multiple sites.



Failure-Based Replacement

Replace components only as they reach end-of-life or fail. This approach maximizes existing investments and spreads costs over time, though it requires maintaining parallel systems for longer periods. Ideal for organizations with recent hardware investments or budget constraints.



Product-Based Modernization

Upgrade entire categories of equipment (like all cameras or all access controls) before moving to the next. This focused approach simplifies training and implementation but requires careful planning for system integration. Works well when certain security components need immediate upgrading.



Combination

The reality for many organizations is that their existing system architecture is complex and no single template will work. For this reason, a combination of the above strategies are commonly employed to create a deployment strategy that makes sense for the organization and their most pressing needs.

04

Unified VMS Integration

Keep your existing video management system while gradually transitioning to cloud infrastructure. This preserves familiar workflows and reduces training needs, though it may temporarily limit access to advanced cloud features.



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Event-Based Consolidation

Centralize all security data in a single management system, regardless of source. This provides comprehensive security visibility and streamlined operations, though it requires careful API management and technical expertise.

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Bridged Implementation

Deploy cloud connectors to integrate legacy devices with modern systems. This cost-effective approach extends the life of existing equipment while providing some cloud benefits, though it may not access all advanced features.



07

Parallel Operations

Maintain both legacy and cloud systems simultaneously, allowing for seamless continuation of security operations during transition. While this requires managing dual systems, it provides the safest path to modernization with minimal operational risk.

Swivel Screen Approach

Dedicate specific locations to either legacy or cloud systems, reducing the complexity of managing mixed systems at any single site. This creates clear operational boundaries but requires coordination between differently-equipped locations.

