CCTV-pedia: Do CCTV CCD Cameras Perform Better Than CCTV CMOS Cameras?

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You may have some ideas about the differences between CMOS and CCD image sensors from your experience of using digital cameras, video camcorders or cameras which are built into mobile phones. Operating a shop at Sim Lim Square enables us to observe that usually first-time CCTV camera buyers have a lack of understanding on the different performances of CMOS and CCD cameras. Generally CMOS type of cameras tend to be more inexpensive compared to the CCD type of cameras. For the new users, both CMOS and CCD type of CCTV cameras could show acceptable quality videos when the users were at the mall. Many CCTV cameras with CMOS and CCD sensors look alike too.

Do CCTV CCD cameras perform better than CCTV CMOS cameras? The answer is yes in most video surveillance applications. Usually CMOS cameras require more light intensity to work well compared to CCD cameras. Specifications for CCTV cameras usually include a minimum illuminance level stated in lux. A CCTV camera that performs well under low-light conditions will have a lower lux rating. Those very low-cost CCTV cameras with CMOS sensors usually have lux rating of more than 1 Lux. When demonstrated in a well-lighted shopping mall, customers tend to feel satisfied with the performance of the CMOS CCTV cameras. However in most video surveillance applications, many low-cost CMOS cameras do not perform well compared to CCTV cameras with CCD sensors. When CCTV cameras with high lux rating are placed at areas with insufficient light intensity, many "tiny black dots" would appear on the CCTV monitor as a result of noise.

Before selecting the correct type of CCTV cameras, you should think of where you intend to install the cameras. Make a visit to the site with a CCTV specialist who's capable of providing professional advice. Ask for demonstrations to see how different CCTV cameras perform under different lighting conditions to get a feel of the Lux rating of camera that you require. Set aside some time to do the research and to understand what you're buying.

For assistance, feel free to contact us at the sales/ technical support hotlines 63372148 and 67443178 which are available 9am - 9pm, everyday including Public Holidays. Since there are many types of CCTV cameras that performs differently, it will be a good idea to see a demo of the equipment yourself. A professional sales specialist could explain and help you understand the performance and limitations of each type of camera.

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