

A WATCHFUL EYE

As a manufacturer, having a good video surveillance system to monitor your premises is an essential tool for thwarting would-be thieves, as well as curbing internal theft. However, many companies are still in the Dark Ages when it comes to integrating a surveillance system into their operations, some experts say.

"The jewelry industry is very behind in terms of security/loss prevention," says Raphael Adouth, president of Rosenthal Jewelers Supply in Miami. "Most manufacturers have a limited access control reader that requires electronic keys to enter the room," explains Adouth. "These are good at keeping people outside from coming in, but not the other way around.

trade. Take for example Eyeson, a new digital surveillance system the company began distributing nationally in early 2005. Designed specifically for jewelry manufacturers and retailers, Eyeson enables you to check all of your security cameras from a remote location (via computer); link cash register entries with recorded images of each retail transaction; focus, pan tilt, and zoom; use smart search functions to hone in on specific areas; block out irrelevant motion; and more.

Adouth notes that by tying into a company's existing inventory management and/or transaction software, Eyeson can provide a detailed video record of everything that goes on in the facility. It also enables you to track areas that are

together all the access control data, cameras, and the internal software of the company," says Adouth.

Because surveillance systems are usually custom-ordered to suit a specific store or shop's needs, prices can vary widely. Adouth says Eyeson typically costs about \$1,000 per camera (including installation), with up to 16 cameras available per location.

"Manufacturers can use our system to sharply curb their incidents of internal theft," Adouth attests. For example, Eyeson helped a Montana goldsmith/designer uncover a case of internal theft involving a pair of \$1,100 sapphire earrings that turned up missing during a Super Bowl promotional event. The item had been deleted from the inventory management software. But because Eyeson created a visual record of the event, the owner was able to look back at the surveillance



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Internal theft is the biggest problem for manufacturers, and the smaller you are, the more prevalent it is. A good surveillance system is one of the main lines of defense in preventing this problem."

Although there are many surveillance systems on the market, Rosenthal seems to have raised the bar by recently introducing a number of high-tech additions to the surveillance systems it offers the

especially vulnerable, such as the diamond polishing area or shipping/receiving area. The system allows you to digitally store all images from that area over a long time period, easily access the records via computer, and pull up specific images. The system can also tie into key access codes to compile a video record of everyone who enters a limited-access entry point over a specific period of time. "We can tie

records and catch the employee who tampered with the software files.