# A Commonsense Guide- Protecting Grow Facilities, Marijuana Dispensaries, and Cannabis Farms with Perimeter Security

As legalization brings greater access to medical and recreational cannabis into more areas, there is an increasing need for robust video security systems that provide reliable intruder detection for cannabis grow operations (Grow-Ops), dispensaries, and cultivation sites against theft.

The stakes are high: Cannabis is a lucrative commodity, and many dispensaries operate as cash businesses, making the entire cannabis supply chain an enticing target for criminals. Not only do cannabis firms and hemp producers need advanced security systems to prevent loss; many governing bodies require growers, storage facilities, processors and dispensaries to implement video surveillance and video-based intrusion detection to maintain their operating license.

## INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

Properly securing any outdoor site against theft starts at the perimeter, and cannabis perimeter security is no different. Whether you're protecting a marijuana retail store or a large grow operation, you need to know – in real time – the second a break-in occurs anywhere along the perimeter so you can stop the thief in the act.

People responsible for protecting cannabis sites are often concerned about:

- Ensuring that people are not breaching large cannabis perimeters undetected
- Controlling access to the grow areas
- Enclosing the area in a buffer of surveillance
- Maintaining a retrievable record of events
- Detecting activity in low-lit areas at all times
- Deploying good security best practices to assist with insurance and license approvals

Even with these challenges, systems are available that offer an adaptable, flexible and effective solution to meet the complexities around cannabis sites and eliminate the risks.

## THE ROLE OF THERMAL VIDEO FOR INTRUDER DETECTION

Safeguarding any outdoor asset against unauthorized intruders often comes down to the same thing: Accurate detection and real-time visual information about the break-in.

While there are several solutions for detecting outdoor intrusions, thermal cameras have become a top choice. These systems, which combine thermal sensors with video analytics, are known as "smart" thermal cameras because they never tire, can cover large areas, and detect what the human eye would miss under all conditions, from total darkness to bright sun in rain, snow or humidity, while people – when provided with accurate alerts that thermal cameras generate - can make appropriate response decisions.

They also extend the capabilities of people to detect much further – hundreds of meters – and eliminate the expense, power and difficulty of lighting large outdoor perimeters, representing an excellent solution for protecting the outdoor areas of cannabis facilities.

## LOW FALSE ALARMS AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS

One of the foundational requirements for effective outdoor security is low nuisance alarms, which can be difficult to achieve outdoors. Small animals, blowing debris and bad weather can reduce detection reliability, while triggering an abundance of unwanted alarms. Research shows that 94-99% of all police physical responses to alarms are false. Nuisance alarms come with a high price – they reduce trust in the security systems and can add to costs when security operators must manage unnecessary signals.

Further, some cannabis regulations require documenting alarms, which can quickly drive-up management costs across the entire supply-chain. While the amount and types of record-keeping can vary by jurisdiction, reducing the quantity of data to keep it organized and retrievable is key to managing costs.

This is where smart solutions can play a role. Products smart thermal cameras employ electronic stabilization and geo-aware technology to increase detextion and reduce nuisances from wind and small animals. They include innovative Dual Sensor Video Analytics that compare detection results from both thermal and visible in real time, improving detection performance under difficult outdoor situations and greatly reducing nuisances. And they combine thermal detection with color verification in a single device, delivering key details to understanding the nature of the threat as it unfolds.

## MAKING CANNABIS PERIMETER SECURITY RELIABLE AND EASY

At SightLogix we understand that outdoor security applications are challenging. That's why our systems are built for high performance and ease of use, with an intuitive interface that lets you set up sophisticated video analytics in minutes,  auto-calibration, and one-click video analytic rules.

We also offer the web-based perimeter design tool SightSurvey that lets you design a smart camera layout right in your browser, on any site. SightSurvey helps you pick the right lens, showcase detection fields of view, ensure that blind spots are covered, and provide all the materials needed for a comprehensive design.

## Customer Focus: Canadian Licensed Producer


As an example of a typical SightLogix cannabis application, an indoor grow operation located in Canada expanded to an outdoor site to take advantage of cost efficiencies.

According to Health Canada, the governing Canadian body for Cannabis, you must be able to detect and verify human intrusion in all weather conditions, with 100% coverage. As Health Canada requires all alarms to be documented and investigated, maintaining low false alarms was key.

SightLogix offered several advantages that became critical components in their decision making, including:

The power of the system to blanket the entire perimeter with automated awareness – inside and outside the fence line

- The great reduction in devices and infrastructure required by less capable solutions
- The ease of integration with most commonly used VMS systems
- The system's ease of programming using web-based tools
- The ability to filter out animals and other false alarm causes
- Its ability to detect humans in rain, snow, fog.
- An ability to detect intruders at all areas of the perimeter – inside and outside the fence line
- Reliable intruder detection 24/7 in the presence of wind, snow, fog and complete darkness
- With SightLogix's Dual Sensor Analytics, they were able to filter out the movement of small animals, blowing debris and other false alarm causes
- Ease of integration between SightSensors and Aurora's VMS system

- Long-range detection that reduced devices, infrastructure and bandwidth otherwise required by less capable solutions.

## SECURE YOUR SITE WITH SIGHTLOGIX

Cannabis companies deal with the most difficult security challenge – protecting assets outdoors. These organization trust SightLogix for superior performance in the most demanding conditions. This means:

- Unmatched analytic detection that won't miss intruders or trigger excess nuisance alarms
- Early warning of intruders over large areas and perimeters
- Dual-video thermal and visible systems that provide a layered solution you can trust 24/7/365
- Built-in stabilization for reliable detection in the presence of wind or vibrations
- Operation in complete darkness without expensive lighting and infrastructures

## About SightLogix

Packed with power and engineered for performance, SightLogix manufactures a smart thermal detection system specifically designed for high performance in the outdoors.

Since our inception in 2004, SightLogix has become a leader in the perimeter security market, and our system has been deployed at critical sites throughout the world, primarily due to its unmatched detection reliability, reduced nuisance alerts, and low costs.

It's our passion and our mission to deliver highly reliable and easy-to-deploy security systems with edge-based video analytics, long and wide area coverage, and geo-spatial target tracking, purpose-built to help customers succeed. For more information, visit https://www.sightlogix.com.