Metadata

Metadata is information that gets stored in the recorder database. It is often a stream of information form the camera directly or from video analytics performed on a camera stream but can be any kind of information flowing in.

Analytics Events

Analytics Events are events, events triggered by video analytics or any kind of event in the surrounding of a surveillance site. Analytics Events are stored by the Event Server in the SQL Server used by the XProtect VMS.

Comparison

Metadata can be stored at a very high frequency, utilizing the recorder database which also holds video and audio it is no problem to update metadata at video framerate frequency or even faster. Analytics events are stored in SQL Server and the frequency should be kept low.

When metadata is stored in the highly specialized recorder database the constraint is that the data must be stored chronologically; when you have stored one metadata record you cannot later store another metadata record before (timestamp) the first one.

Once a metadata record or analytics event has been stored it cannot be changed.

Analytics Events can be retrieved in a fashion where it is possible filter on fields in the event, metadata can be retrieved by the timestamp.

The Smart Client can show metadata bounding boxes directly on the camera view in live and in playback mode. Both metadata and analytics event bounding boxes can be shown in the alarm preview in the Alarm Manager workspace in the Smart Client. It is possible to develop a Smart Client plugin that can show more data from either metadata or analytics events.

	Analytics Event	Metadata
Frequency	One per second or less	All
Store	Always	Chronological
Search	Yes	Only timestamp
Smart Client camera view	No	Bounding boxes
Smart Client alarm preview	Yes	Yes
Smart Client plugin	Yes	Yes