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Intel-owned machine vision specialist Movidius announces a means to make security cameras smarter-- the Myriad 2 Video Processing Unit (VPU) powering the next generation of Hikvision surveillance cameras.



According to the company the Myriad 2 is an "ultra-low power" chip using advanced deep neural networks to provide up to 99% accuracy in tasks such as car model classification, intruder detection, suspicious baggage alerts and even seatbelt detection, all running inside the camera without need for cloud-based processing. Or, in a few words, such cameras can "see" and identify suspicious objects better.

“There are huge amounts of gains to be made when it comes to neural networks and intelligent camera systems” Hikvision CEO adds. “With the Myriad 2 VPU we’re able to make our analytics offerings much more accurate, flagging more events that require a response, while reducing false alarms. Embedded, native intelligence is a major step towards smart, safe and efficiently run cities. We will build a long term partnership with Movidius and its VPU roadmap.”

That said, such cameras can still be fooled-- a recent Wired article details how one can outsmart such supposedly smart equipment. There are also privacy matters to be concerned with, especially if facial recognition gets thrown in the mix. But still, the technology can ultimately lead to a better security cameras.

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