



Applies To: i600/610/210 camera series

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Camera Settings for Low Light Conditions

While default settings are considered the best for general surveillance, sometimes improvements can be achieved for specific lighting or scene situations. The following describes some specific cases:

In gaming (casino) surveillance the following adjustments will likely be the most helpful:

- 1) Maximum Exposure is set to $\frac{1}{4}$ s at default to achieve the best low light performance, but at the expense of frame rate. If it is desired to maintain the ips rate at the expense of darker exposures in low light situations, then set the Maximum Exposure to the inverse of the ips rate. For example if 30 ips are desired set the Maximum Exposure to $\frac{1}{30}$ s>
- 2) Exposure Compensation may be beneficial for a gaming table where playing cards are placed on a dark (green or Red) table. Setting the Exposure Compensation to a negative value such as -1.5 may allow the playing cards to be better exposed since the dark table top as compared to the small white cards is skewing the average exposure calculation. Alternatively, the selection of Targeted Exposure Control method can be used to set the exposure area to include primarily the playing cards, so that the exposure will be calculated mostly on them.
- 3) If image noise is experienced, then limiting the Maximum Gain to a lower value will reduce the noise at the expense of a darker image in low light.

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illustra 610/600/210 Mini-dome Most Effective Image Adjustments

Configuration Adjustment	Reason for Default	Adjustment Benefit	Adjustment Technique	Example	Tradeoff of Changing Default
Maximum Exposure	Default of $\approx \frac{1}{4}$ s achieves best low light performance	If it is desired to maintain the ips rate.	Set to the inverse of the ips rate.	If 30 ips are desired set the Maximum Exposure to 1/30 s>	At the expense darker exposures in low light situations.
Exposure Compensation	Use auto exposure algorithm calculated exposure.	If image is too dark or to light.	Set to positive value to lighten or negative value to darken	For playing cards placed on a dark green gaming table a negative value may allow cards to be better exposed since the dark table as compared to small white cards is skewing the average exposure calculation.	May be not optimal if scene changes.
Maximum Gain	32 X allows significant gain for low light performance with limited noise.	Reduce noise	Lower value to reduce noise.	Noise limiting the ability to read sign, license, or playing card.	At the expense of a darker image in low light.
Digital WDR	Defaulted off since generally not needed.	Improve contrast & exposure in both the very light and dark areas	Auto to let camera set, or 1 thru 9. 1 =least contrast 9= most contrast	Store front or loading dock locations which have both very well lit areas as well as dark areas	At the expense of contrast in the overall picture.