

# PRODUCT TEST

## D-Link DCS-2332L Outdoor Cloud Camera

The D-Link DCS-2332L Outdoor Day & Night Camera is aimed at the domestic or small business users and offers a wired or wireless connection to enable viewing. The camera comes equipped with a 1MP CMOS sensor which provides a 720p HD video image and has an inbuilt IR LED for night vision, Micro SD Card slot for local recording of images, 2-way audio with inbuilt microphone and speaker and a passive Infrared Sensor for motion detection. The camera is ONVIF compliant and its housing is rated at IP-65.

Out of the box the D-Link Outdoor Cloud Camera is supplied with a quick installation guide that guides a Windows or Mac user how to start the installation CD to configure the camera. D-Link offers the camera as an easy to install piece of equipment where users could be concerned over the complexity of installing a camera onto their home or work network, with this in mind D-Link has supplied a simple to follow software package that runs direct from the CD. Once running the software scans the local network for any cameras and allows the user to configure them with ease. Once the camera is configured with a password the installation prompts the user to choose the connection type to the local network, we tested both methods and found the wireless very simple to operate however product testing was carried out via a fixed cable due to our chosen night-time testing location.

With the camera configuration complete we were prompted to create a login to the mydlink web page, logging into our new account the

camera was already available. The mydlink site relies on a Java application to display the cameras live feed so security warnings will be displayed but the site lets the operator know how to deal with this as well as download any other add-ons that are required to view the live or recorded video.

The settings of the camera, when accessed via the mydlink page, offer the user the ability to send an email notification of movement from a variety of email services like Gmail or Hotmail. Recording can be set as motion detection or scheduled recording. The motion detection option allows for a detection area and sensitivity to be set. Our initial setup generated a lot of alarms due to wind movement even with a low sensitivity but this was resolved with some movement area masking.

For testing we did not connect the camera to a network video recorder but relied on using the inbuilt storage onto a Micro SD card, the SD Card is not supplied. Once several movement alarms had been generated the recorded clips, with sound, were easily accessed from the SD card via the mydlink web page and viewed.

Entering the advanced settings of the camera opens a section that the more advanced IP user will be familiar with and allows for setting of a fixed IP address, the camera uses DHCP as default so will install itself onto the local network without any configuration, as well as controlling the frame size, compression of the image, privacy mask and a host of many other options.

With every new piece of equipment arriving on the scene at the moment there has to be an app and D-Link delivers with a free 'lite' viewing app for IOS and Android. Once installed the user logs in to the app with their email address they setup for the mydlink web site and the camera is available for viewing. The image is switchable within the app from 240p to 480p and was very clear even when viewed over a 3G network via the Android app.

When viewing the camera in live mode the user has the option to open the microphone connection and begin a conversation. A snapshot is also available that allows the user to capture a single image should they witness an incident they



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wish to keep and save it on their local PC.

The night vision of the camera proved to be more than suitable for our test location when viewed throughout the night via the mydlink web site or the IOS app. In the morning a series of emails had been received all showing the local cat as it passed by, these events were also viewed using the playback of the recorded images of the SD card.

### Summary

In summary the D-Link cloud camera offers users a simple to install external camera with features that allow for basic monitoring and recording of incidents. A two year warranty and a UK based technical support service, charged at 10p per minute offer a good backup to the product. Due to the cameras mounting options consideration must be made when installing as to prevent any unwanted access to the unit and moving it from its intended field of view.

### OUT OF THE BOX

PACKAGING	Suitably packaged
LEADS	UK mains PSU supplied
INSTALLATION MANUAL	Quick installation guide supplied
INSTALLATION CD	Supplied
PERIPHERALS	CAT5e cable for configuring and mounting screws supplied
SIZE	66mm X 93mm X 209mm - camera and mounting bracket
CONSTRUCTION	Plastic
MOUNTING	Mounting bracket supplied
OVERALL APPEARANCE	A good modern feel
COMMENTS	Neat compact unit Mounting needs to be considered carefully as camera could be move if easily accessible The supplied network cable is only 1m long and has the waterproof gland fitted to it, if a longer cable is required then the gland will have to be fitted before making the RG45 connector at the camera end.

**9.0** out of 10