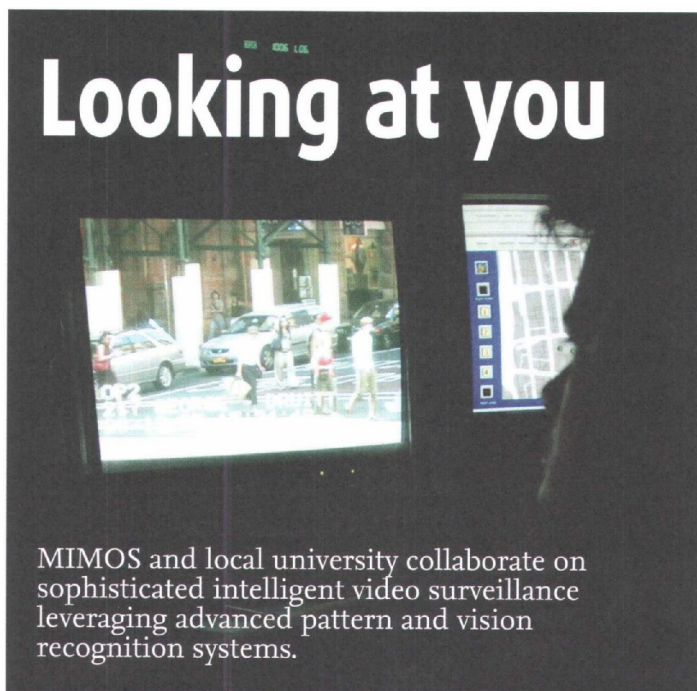


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BY AVANTIKUMAR

Malaysian government research agency MIMOS and local university Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) have set up a new laboratory, to enhance the country's position in the field of pattern and vision recognition systems.

The new laboratory, which is located at the university and operated by researchers from UTAR's Faculty of Information and Communication Technology and MIMOS' Centre for Multimodal Signal Processing (CMS), is

intended to spearhead advanced techniques for intelligent video surveillance.

MIMOS president and chief executive officer Dato' Abdul Wahab Abdullah said: "While video surveillance market is proliferating worldwide, spurred by increased public and private security concerns, there is also an increasing need for new technologies to make video surveillance systems more discerning and intelligent. Video analysis is crucial for the automation of video monitoring in combating operator fatigue

especially where the number of video surveillance cameras is huge."

Abdul explained that MIMOS' CMS research activities involve new techniques and engines related to the processing and representation of information for problems with commercial potential.

"Currently, CMS is focused on researching and developing intelligent video surveillance components which employ novel algorithms to detect unusual behaviour that may pose threats," he said.

Commercial potential

UTAR president professor Engineering, Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik said that the UTAR-MIMOS collaboration would result in the transfer of knowledge and expertise; promotion of research activities in specific fields of pattern recognition and vision systems. The ultimate aim is to produce cost-effective technology platforms, which the indigenous industries can further develop into products and services to meet market demand.

"The collaboration with MIMOS is UTAR's latest industry-based research and development effort in emerging information and communication technology (ICT) in support of market-driven ICT programmes," said Dr Chuah. "It is another milestone and step forward for UTAR in line with our efforts of becoming a premier university in education and research." 