

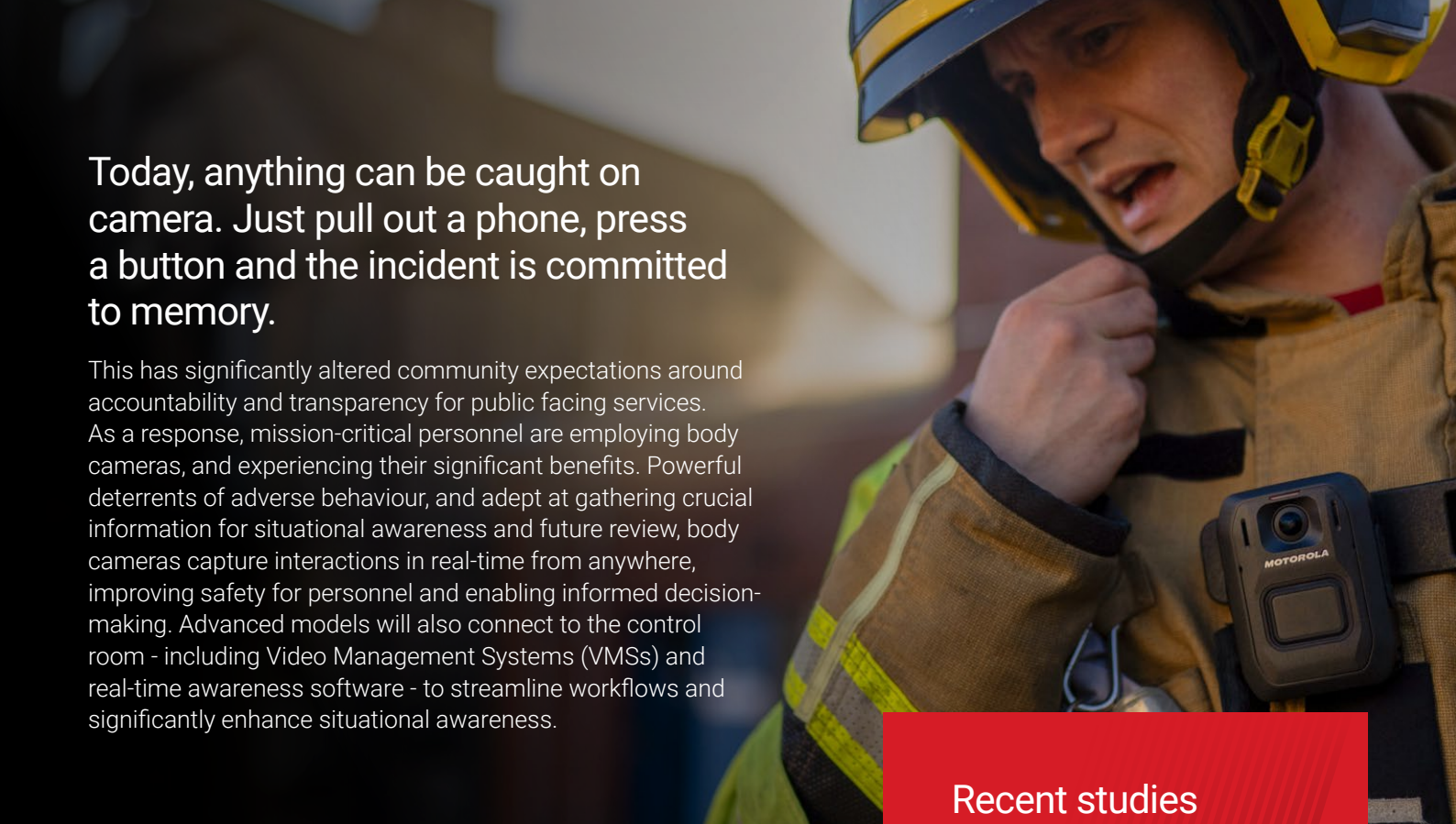
A close-up photograph of a firefighter wearing a yellow helmet and a tan and black protective jacket. The firefighter is holding a black Motorola body camera in their right hand, with their index finger touching the screen. The camera has the 'MOTOROLA' logo on it. In the background, another firefighter is visible but out of focus. The bottom half of the image has a red background with white text.

e-Book

8 factors to consider before purchasing body cameras



MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS



Today, anything can be caught on camera. Just pull out a phone, press a button and the incident is committed to memory.

This has significantly altered community expectations around accountability and transparency for public facing services. As a response, mission-critical personnel are employing body cameras, and experiencing their significant benefits. Powerful deterrents of adverse behaviour, and adept at gathering crucial information for situational awareness and future review, body cameras capture interactions in real-time from anywhere, improving safety for personnel and enabling informed decision-making. Advanced models will also connect to the control room - including Video Management Systems (VMSs) and real-time awareness software - to streamline workflows and significantly enhance situational awareness.

How body cameras support compliance with Incident Command National Operational Guidance (N.O.G)

Situational Awareness:

Body cameras provide real-time visual and audio recordings, offering a first-person perspective of the incident scene.

Decision Making:

Real-time footage from body cameras can provide Incident Commanders with the information they need to make informed decisions quickly.

Accountability and Transparency:

Body camera footage provides an objective record of events, promoting accountability among personnel.

Post-Incident Analysis and Learning:

Body camera footage can be used for post-incident reviews, allowing Incident Commanders and personnel to analyse their actions and identify areas for improvement.

With an extensive range of models available, selecting the right devices can prove overwhelming. As an established manufacturer of mission-critical communications, Motorola Solutions can help. Here are the eight factors to consider when researching body camera purchases, to ensure you make the right decision for your FRS.

Recent studies have highlighted the following factors within the UK's Fire Services, which could be supported by the use of body cameras:

Increase in the number of attacks on fire service crews, the highest in

10 years¹.

There were

96 injuries

suffered from attacks during England-based operational incidents in 2023-2024².

¹ <https://www.wyfs.co.uk/news/attacks-firefighters-increase-highest-more-ten-years>)

² <https://www.fsmatters.com/Data-highlights-violence-against-firefighters>)





8 factors to consider before purchasing body cameras



1 Dependability

A dependable camera is a durable camera. One that won't detach from your uniform, that won't break if it falls in dirt, water or dust. One that can survive everyday drops and unexpected impact with ease. And with dependability comes functionality, you need to be assured that your body camera will never lose a recording, and that the right footage is associated with the correct dates and times. Lost or inadequate evidence signals a lack of dedication to transparency and accountability. Look for a robust body camera that can capture high-definition video and includes pre and post-recording buffers, so nothing goes unseen.

In the heat of the moment, focus on the task, not the tech.

When faced with emergency situations, you need a device that's unobtrusive yet intuitive to your needs. Our latest body camera, the V500, was built using a human-centred design approach, incorporating extensive feedback from officials in the field. It's customisable, with configurable buttons and recording behaviour, so sounds, vibrations and LEDs can be programmed with varying commands. Its top display includes a clear battery percentage reading, and can be viewed from multiple angles. Additionally, its reflexive triggers mean that when another V500 in the vicinity starts recording, your V500 can start recording - without manual intervention.

[Learn more](#)





2 Efficiency

Consider body cameras which can upload evidence via LTE or Wi-Fi from anywhere, so there's no need to return to base to offload footage. Check that the video is automatically tagged with incident numbers, then sorted and packaged in a workflow - without manual input. Walk through the interface - does the system make it easy to log in? Are video searches fast and accurate? Speaking to a trusted supplier before making a purchase will provide reassurance across all these factors. They will work with you to understand your workflows, devising a body camera programme for your FRS which meets your needs.



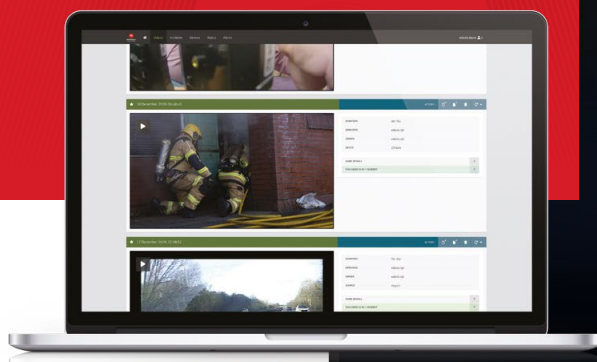
3 Price and payment structure

Public safety and business enterprises are often eager to implement body cameras, but lack the funding required to make it happen. Other organisations may have funding available, but struggle to prioritise their long list of technology needs. That's why pricing and payment options are so important. Whether you're paying for a cloud-hosted service or are managing your own on-premises installation, ensure the pricing is feasible for your organisation.

VideoManager

VideoManager is a fully customisable, video management solution which lets you prepare, process and share high-quality video recordings from your body camera. Every workflow detail has been considered, from its intuitive user interface to the ease with which it supports your organisation's data protection policy.

[Learn more](#)





4 Integration

Mission-critical teams are dependent on multiple technologies and communication platforms, but using disparate systems that don't operate in agreement can impede workflows and negate your investment. That's why it's critical to understand if a body camera system will work with your existing platforms before you purchase it - or if it will lock you into a walled system. Your body cameras should integrate with other cameras and technology across the vicinity, combining footage from multiple viewpoints. The V500 is designed to be compatible with software across the Motorola Solutions ecosystem - including radios, mobility applications and video systems, as well as other body cameras. Using its built-in LTE, personnel can share their camera view on the job, allowing responses or inspections to be supervised from anywhere in the world. This also means body camera video can be shared alongside CCTV footage for a comprehensive picture of an incident.



5 Transparency and engagement

Body cameras are crucial for community engagement. As well as supporting the capturing of evidence, sharing video with other services builds and maintains trust and collaboration. Consider a system that makes it easy to share video with other public services, insurance providers or private organisations using password-protected links.



6 Battery life

Mission-critical technology has to stand up to the demands of unpredictable environments - a day's work which is rarely routine. Body cameras must have a battery that can last a 12-hour shift, with a compact and efficient charging cable or dock. Any system that forces you to work around its schedule to charge it, rather than working around yours, saps efficiency and effectiveness.





7 Ease of recording and maintenance

For personnel to be empowered to focus on the successful resolution of an emergency situation - not their equipment - their body cameras need to sit within an intuitive system. When enabled, the body camera should capture the short period of time before and after a recording was initiated, ensuring no important information is lost due to the camera not being activated quickly enough. This pre-record function should be configurable, so if the record button isn't pressed, the footage is not retained.

Camera systems that include robust management tools are essential for in-demand teams, as they relieve personnel of maintenance and IT tasks. With both on-premises and cloud networking, you can perform essential firmware upgrades for the V500 from anywhere over LTE - whether your firefighters are miles or moments from the station. You can use LTE to locate your cameras, as well as find or disable a missing camera in seconds - for complete control over sensitive data.



8 Simple and secure information sharing

Increasingly, prosecutors are relying on video evidence to build their case, insurance companies are seeking evidence of damage, and firefighters are looking to improve and learn. Choose a body camera system that seamlessly integrates with your records management system. This will ensure all evidence or information is associated with a specific case, making it easy to receive and share consolidated digital evidence or information, and maintain a complete and verified chain of custody. It's important that any system also includes AES 256 encryption, for highly secure data at rest and in transit.



Body cameras from Motorola Solutions: Security, safety and trust

Our suite of mission-critical body cameras is built for the rigours of the job - no matter how the day unfolds. The V500 is your most significant witness. It features everything you'd expect from a Motorola Solutions body camera - 128GB storage capacity, long battery life and built-in LTE, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth and GPS - while also being easy to configure and use. Accelerating evidentiary workflows, it enables personnel to manage footage while still in the field via LTE, or rapidly offload it post-shift with the V500's Smart Dock functionality.

Leading-edge features of the V500 body camera



Oversee incidents remotely in real-time - from anywhere



Perform essential firmware upgrades over LTE, for improved productivity



Ingest, share and delete all incident evidence from one user platform



Automate monotonous administrative tasks for more manageable workloads



Restrict system access and encrypt all evidence with cutting-edge security protocols

Choosing the right body camera: protect your staff, protect your operations

Now is the time to start evaluating which type of body camera system suits your FRS. A camera solution which is durable and dependable, secure and easy to use - plus fully integrated with the devices and platforms you already have in place - will ensure your team benefits considerably from this investment.





To discuss your FRS's body camera needs with our video security experts visit motorolasolutions.com/bodyworncameras

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