

Axxon Player
The Axxon Player User Guide

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1 General information about the Axxon Player utility

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1.1 Purpose of the Axxon Player utility

The main purpose of the *Axxon Player* utility is viewing and converting the video archive recorded with *Axxon PSIM* (see [Opening video files](#), [Viewing video using the Axxon Player utility](#)). The utility also allows viewing files in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv and .avi formats with or without audio. There is a specific menu item used to open files in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv and .avi formats located in the folder — **Folder with video files** (see [Opening video files by specifying the path in the utility](#)). The **File** menu item is used to open a separate file in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv or .avi format.

Additionally, you can use the utility to:

- export a video, see [Exporting the Axxon PSIM video archive using the Axxon Player utility](#);

Attention!

Export is not supported for .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv and .avi files.

- decompress the video archive files packed in .exe, see [Unpacking video files packed in Axxon Player Portable](#).

1.2 Hardware requirements for the Axxon Player utility

For the proper operation of the *Axxon Player* utility, the graphics card installed on the computer where the utility is running should support the Direct3D or OpenGL 1.2 functionality.

1.3 Portable version of the Axxon Player utility

You can download both 32-bit and 64-bit portable versions of the *Axxon Player* utility at <http://www.axxonsoft.com/resources/downloads.php>. The portable version of the *Axxon Player* utility can work without *Axxon PSIM* installed. Working with the portable version of the *Axxon Player* utility is similar to working with the *Axxon Player* utility included in the *Axxon PSIM* distribution package.

1.4 Watch history in the Axxon Player utility

The utility generates a log file containing the watch history, see [Watch history in the Axxon Player utility](#).

2 Starting the Axxon Player utility

On the page:

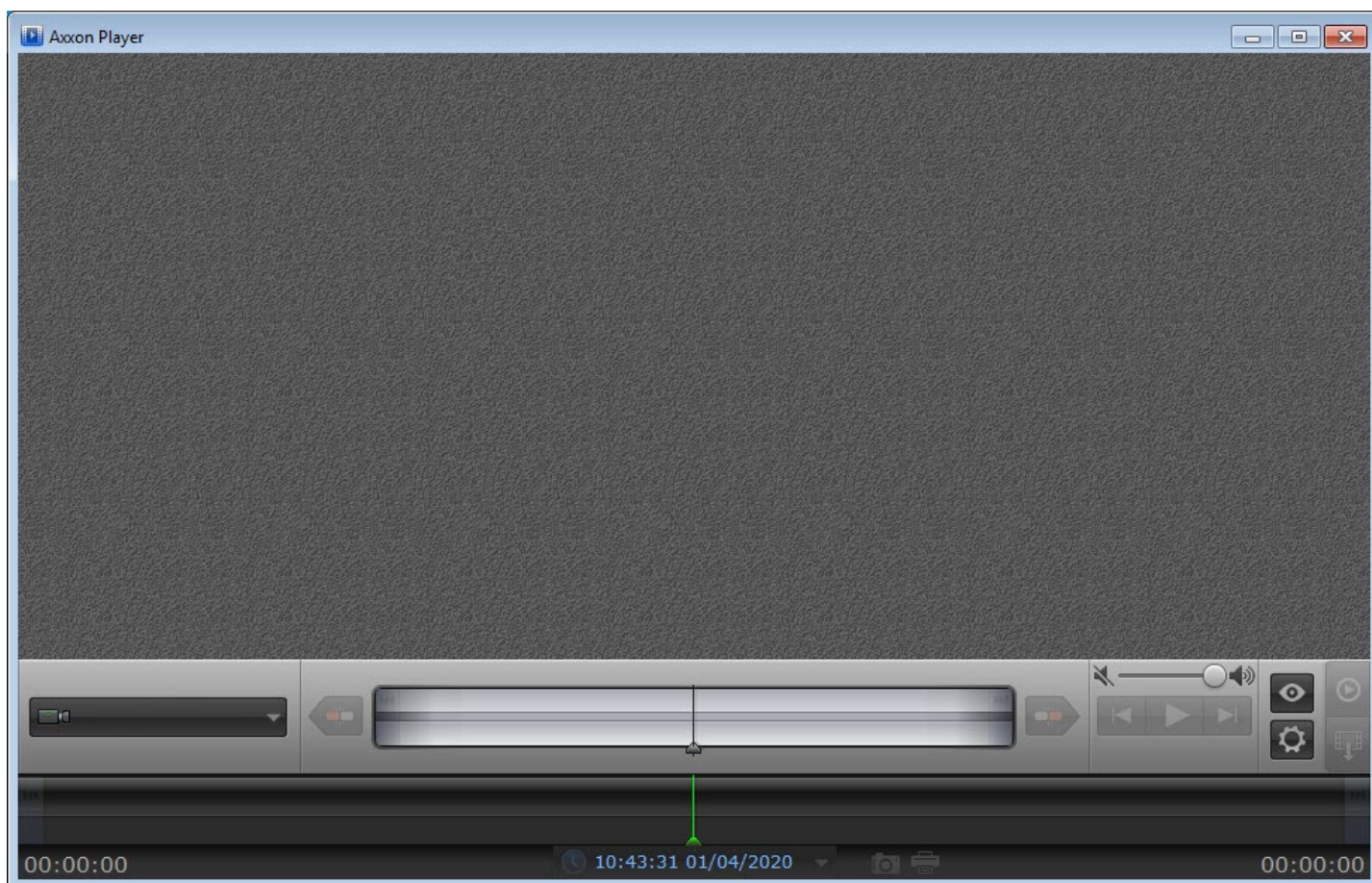
- [Starting Axxon Player after Axxon PSIM installation](#)
- [Starting Axxon Player Portable](#)

2.1 Starting Axxon Player after Axxon PSIM installation

To start the *Axxon Player* utility, do one of the following:

1. Run the *AxxonPlayer.exe* executable file in the **Tools** (for 32-bit version) or **Tools64** (for 64-bit version) folder from the *Axxon PSIM* software installation directory.
2. Select in the menu **Start** → **Axxon PSIM** → **Tools** → **AxxonPlayer** or **AxxonPlayer (x64)** (for 32-bit or 64-bit version correspondingly).

The **Axxon Player** window opens after starting the *Axxon Player* utility.



The *Axxon Player* utility is now started.

2.2 Starting Axxon Player Portable

To perform initial start-up of the *Axxon Player Portable* utility, do the following:

1. Unpack the archive downloaded from AxxonSoft website to any suitable folder. Open the folder.
2. Run the *AxxonPlayer.exe* executive file. Wait for starting up complete.
3. Utility files are copied to the *C:\Program Files\AxxonPlayer* directory. In the **Documents** folder the **AxxonSoft\AxxonPlayer** directory is created. This directory contains “Export” and “ScreenShots” folders in which video export and frames export is performed on default.

 **Note.**

On initial start-up of *Axxon Player Portable* utility the *Axxon Driver Pack* is installed. It can't be removed by standard Windows tools. *Axxon Driver Pack* is removed automatically when the *Axxon Player Portable* utility environment removing.

4. After completing of creating environment the *Axxon Player Portable* utility will be run.

Next run of the *Axxon Player Portable* utility is also performed using the *AxxonPlayer.exe* executive file located in the distribution package.

3 Opening video files

There are three ways to open video files with the AxxonPlayer.exe utility:

1. Double left-click on the archive file (file of *.* type) in the VIDEO folder.

Note

To open files by double clicking they should be associated with the player utility. To perform it, run the AxxonPlayer from the admin login at least once.

2. Specifying the path using which the access to archive files is to be performed in the utility.
3. Using the command prompt.

Note.

If video files that are to be opened were not recorded, but copied, then start the Convert.exe utility to open the archive (see [The Convert.exe utility for correcting modification dates of video archives](#) section):

- If the archive is created in the same time zone as it is viewed, then start the utility with the fullmode parameter:
convert.exe fullmode
- If the archive is created in different time zone than it is viewed, then move the archive to the current time zone by starting the utility with the following parameters in the command prompt:
convert.exe fullmode TZ +hh:mm
where +hh:mm is the time shift between the current time zone and the time zone of the archive.

Otherwise the folders with video files fail to open.

Note.


Select the folder that is the source for files to be played back in the .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv and .avi formats.

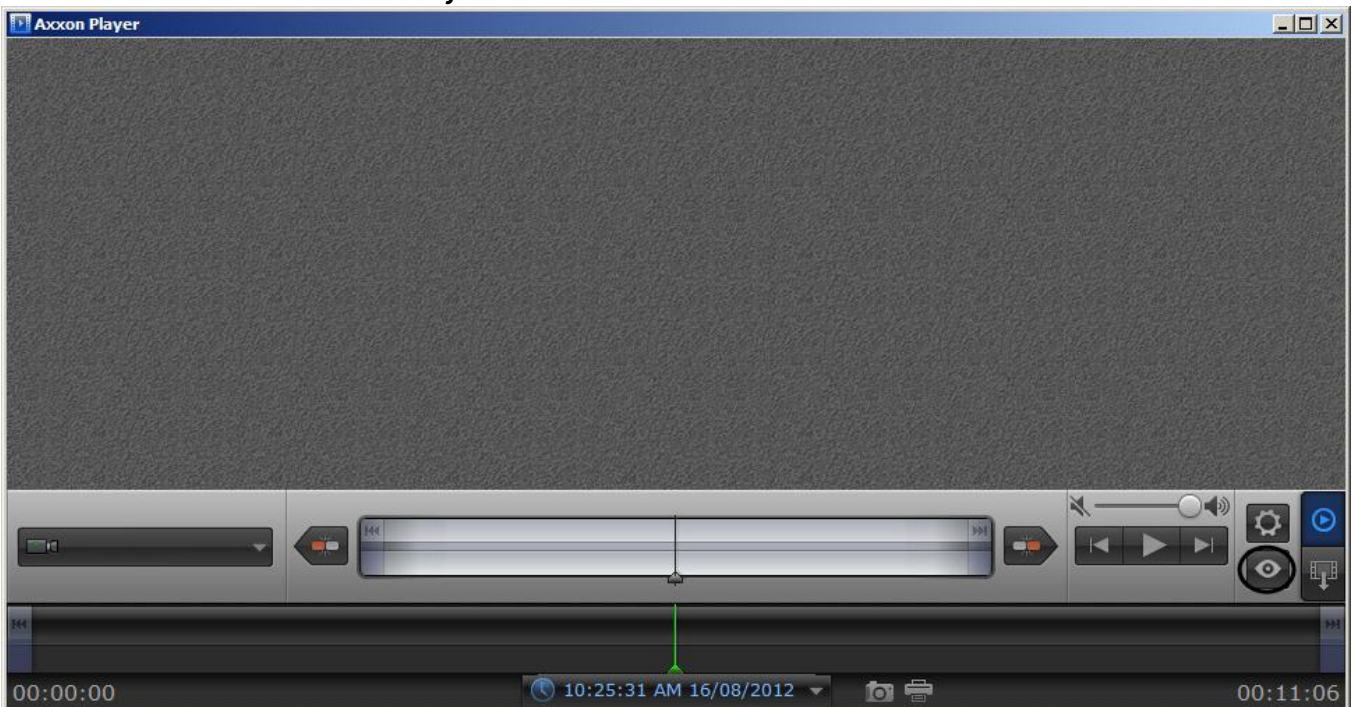
3.1 Opening video files by specifying the path in the utility

The following ways are to be used to specify the path to archive files:

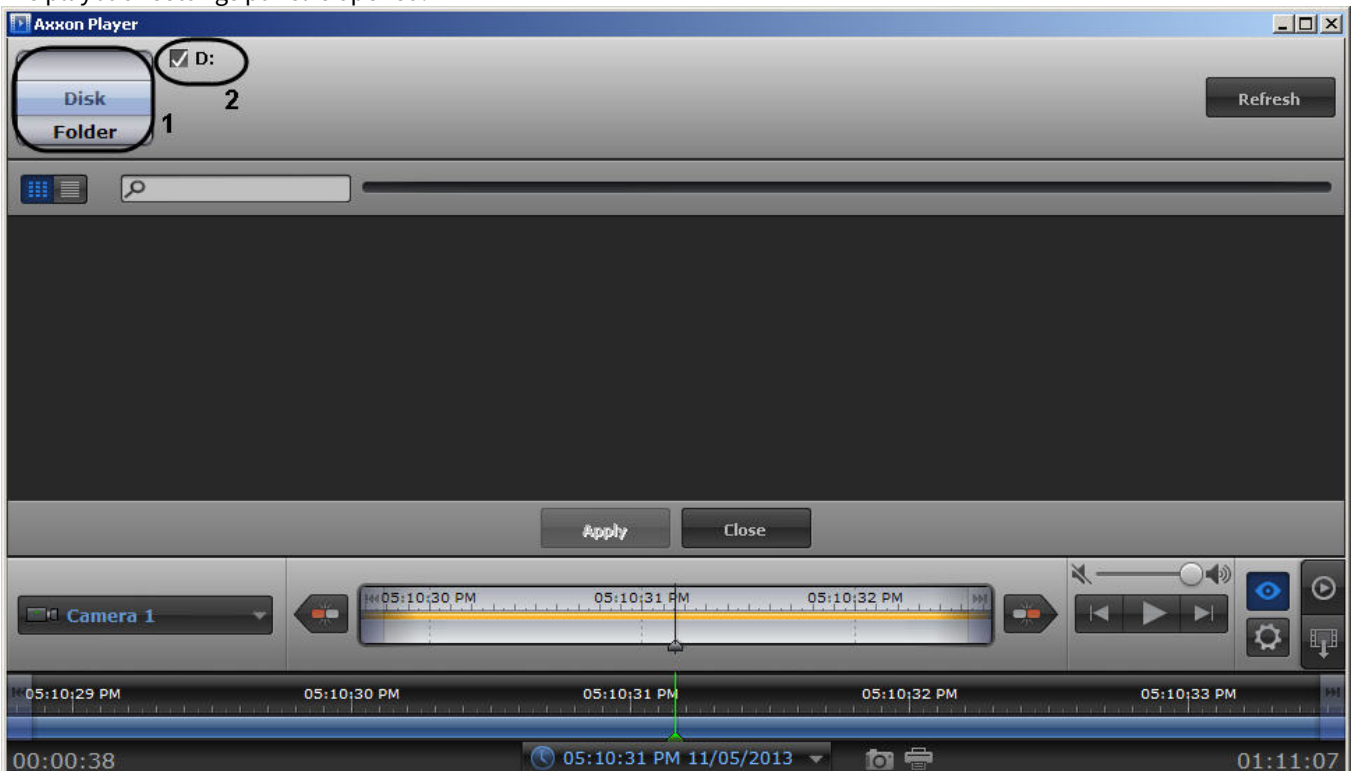
1. **Disk** – access is performed to all files stored on the specified disk. The archive must be stored on the disk with all the supplementary files created during the recording including the INDEX folder etc.
2. **Folder** – access is performed to all files stored in the specified folder. The archive must be stored in the folder with all the supplementary files created during the recording including the INDEX folder etc.
3. **File** – a separate archive file or a file in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv or .avi format will be played back.
4. **Folder with video files** – files in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv or .avi format stored in the specified folder will be played back.

To open archive files which are to be viewed with the **Axxon Player** utility, do the following:

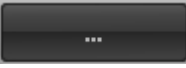
1. Click the  button in the **Axxon Player** window.



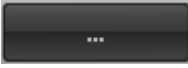
The playback settings panel is opened.




2. Select the way of opening the file: **Disk**, **Folder**, **File** or **Folder with video files** (1).
3. Specify the path to video files:
 - a. If the **Disk** way is selected then set checkboxes next to thy letters of those disks on which the *Axxon PSIM* software archive is stored.

- b. If the **Folder** way is selected then click the  button and specify the folder from which the archive is to be viewed using the standard Windows dialog.



- c. If the **File** way selected then click the  button and specify the archive file using the standard dialog of file opening.



- d. If the **Folder with video files** way is selected then click the  button and specify file in .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv and .avi format using the standard Windows dialog.



Note


The path to the files can be specified manually by entering it in the corresponding field.

4. Click the **Refresh** button (2). The of list video cameras on which the archive is available by specified path is displayed in the playback settings window.



- In the list (3) select the video cameras or files the archive from which is to be viewed. To select several cameras or files at a time, left-click them holding the Ctrl key.

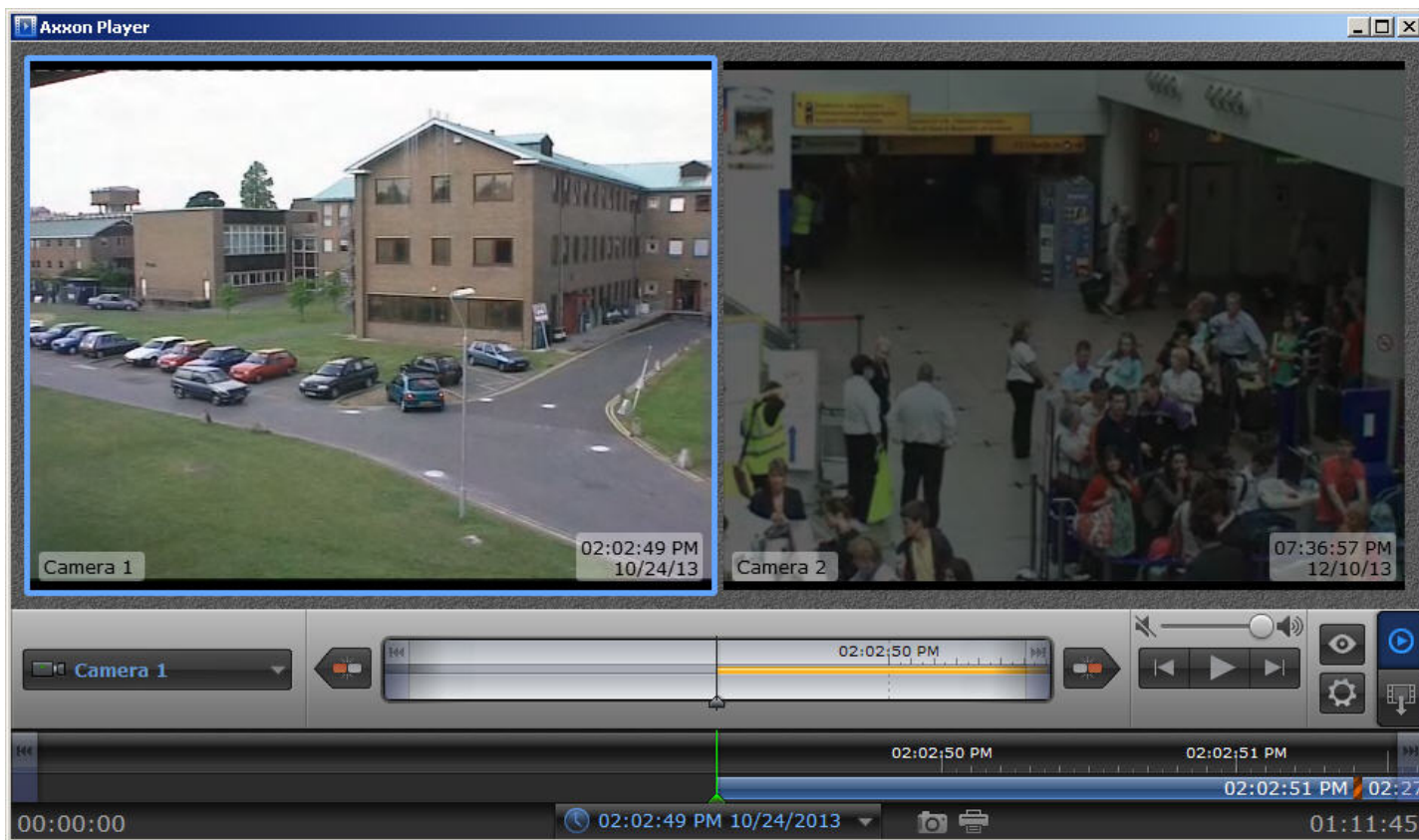
Note.
All found cameras are selected by default. The names of the selected video cameras are highlighted with blue.

Note.
Click the  button to switch over the mode of list viewing by rows (one camera in a row).

Note.
Enter the part of camera name in the **Search** field to search required camera (2).

- Click the **Apply** button (3).

Playback setting panel is closed. Video images from selected cameras stored in the archive on specified path are displayed in the utility window.



If several cameras are selected for archive playback, it is possible to make the image from one camera full-sized in the utility window. Double click the video image to switch over the full-screen mode. Double click the video image again to return the mosaic mode.

Opening the archive files specifying the path is completed.

3.2 Opening video files using the command prompt

It is possible to open video files using the “AxxonPlayer.exe” utility from the command prompt.

To open video files input the following in the command prompt:

Axxon_player.exe --source "File/Folder path". For example, Axxon_player.exe --source "H:\VIDEO\05-05-12 18\15._01".

To select all available disks with the archive use the "all" value of the "source" parameter: Axxon_player.exe --source "all".

To display the window of the Axxon_Player.exe utility over other windows use the "topmost" parameter with "1" value when opening video files using the command prompt. For opening in a normal mode use "0" value of this parameter. For instance, the Axxon_player.exe --source "H:\VIDEO\05-05-12 18\15._01" --topmost "1" command starts the utility in the displaying over other windows mode. By default the "topmost" parameter has "0" value.

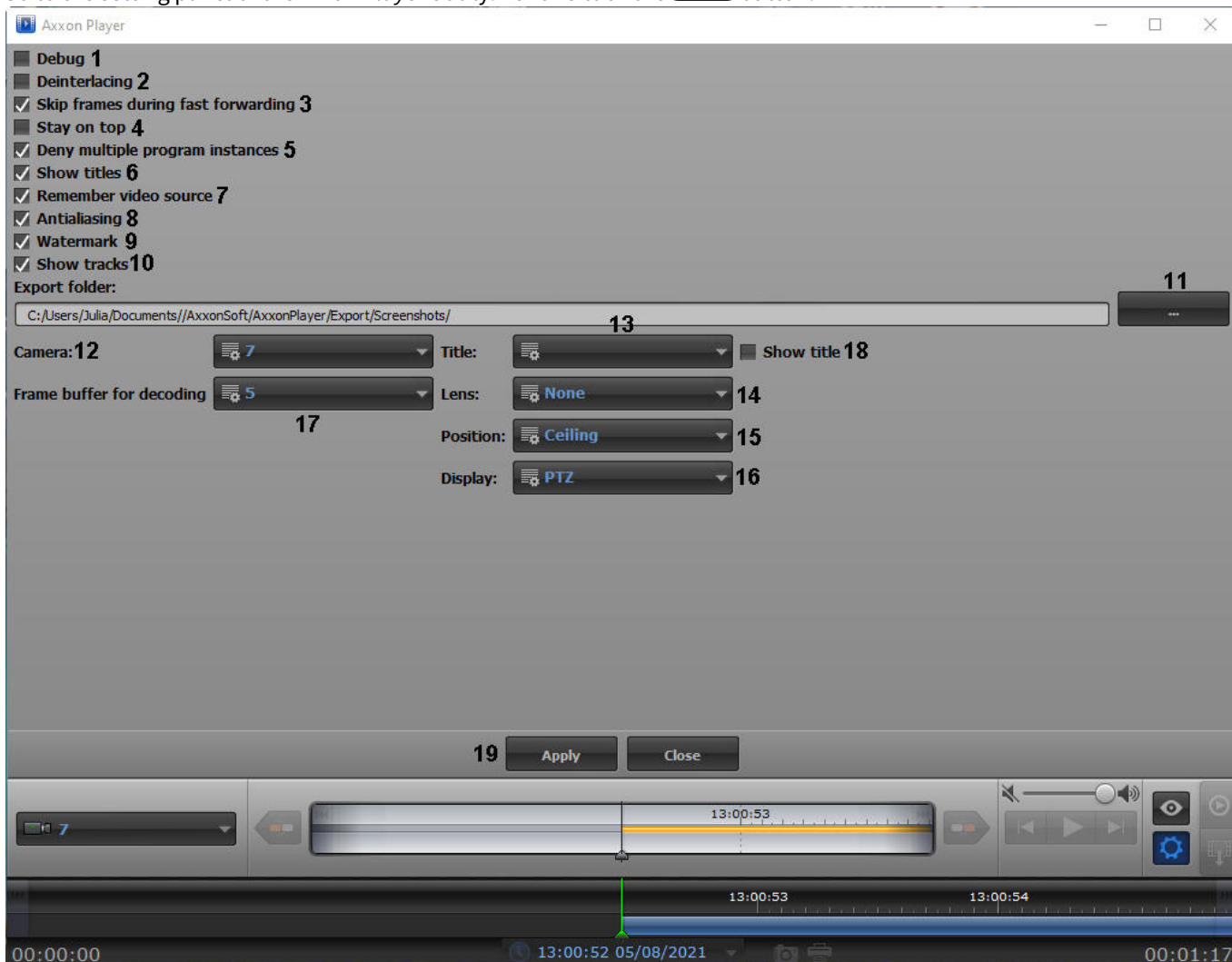
To start the Axxon_Player.exe utility in a single mode prohibiting simultaneous opening several windows of the utility, use the "single" parameter of the command prompt with "1" value. To start using several windows of the utility use 0 value of this parameter. For instance, using the Axxon_player.exe --source "H:\VIDEO\05-05-12 18\15._01" --single "1" command the Axxon_Player.exe utility starts with prohibition of simultaneous opening of several utility windows. By default the "single" parameter has "1" value.

To enable the option of titles displaying above video image while playing use the "titles" parameter of the command prompt with value 1. To disable titles displaying while playing the video image use value 0 for this parameter. On default the titles parameter is 1.

4 Configuring the Axxon Player utility

To configure the *Axxon Player* utility do the following:

1. Go to the setting panel of the *Axxon Player* utility. For this click the  button.



2. To display a semi-transparent debug window over each image, set the **Debug** checkbox (1).
3. To enable deinterlacing set the **Deinterlacing** checkbox (2). To disable deinterlacing remove this checkbox. Deinterlacing allows avoiding artifacts in the video image.

Image with artifacts:

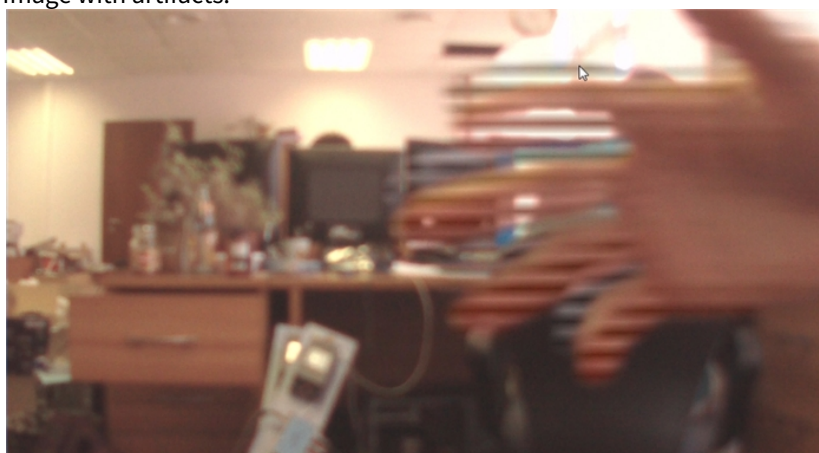


Image with no artifacts:



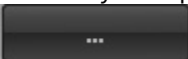
4. To enable the option of frames skipping when there is fast playback set the **Skip frames during fast forwarding** checkbox (3). This functionality is used to reduce the Server load.
5. To display the utility window over other windows set the **Stay on top** checkbox (4).
6. To disable the simultaneous opening of several utility windows set the **Deny multiple program instances** checkbox (5).
7. If it is necessary to display titles above video image while playing the video record, set the **Show titles** checkbox (6). Options of titles displaying such as font, color and place are specified by Settings.xml file which is located in the folder with video archive (in the VIDEO folder). This file is formed by the **Captioner** object (see the [Configuring captions display on a video image](#) section).

⚠ Attention!

To use the Settings.xml file, the path to the archive files should lead to the disk or to the folder where the Settings.xml file is located (see the [Opening video files by specifying the path in the utility](#) section). If the Settings.xml file is missing or a direct path to the archive file is specified, then the titles will be displayed in the center of the video image. If the path to the archive files leads to the exported archive file in the .avi format, then the titles will be displayed according to the information from this archive file.

ℹ Note

The axis of the titles coordinates is shifted to the right closer to the center of the player's screen in order to prevent the titles overlapping on the debug information.

8. If resources of video (disks, folders, files) are to be remembered and selected when the utility is run, then set the **Remember video source** checkbox checked (7). If the checkbox is set unchecked, then video is not shown when the utility is run, but when the path to the folder or file with video is selected, the previously specified path is shown. If the checkbox is set checked, then when the utility is run video is shown starting from the frame at which the viewing was previously stopped.
9. If the 'stairstep' artifacts appear on video while playing, set the **Antialiasing** checkbox (8) to eliminate them.
10. Set the **Watermark** checkbox (9) to show AxxonSoft watermark over the exported video (see [Watermarks](#)).
11. If it is necessary to display tracks during playback, set the **Show tracks** checkbox (10).
12. Click  (11) to open a standard Windows dialog box for specifying the folder to export *Axxon PSIM* archive into (see [Exporting the Axxon PSIM video archive using the Axxon Player utility](#)).

ℹ Note.

The path to the folder can be entered manually to the corresponding field.

13. From the **Camera** drop-down list (12), select the camera to which the below settings apply:
 - a. From the **Title** drop-down list (13), select the captions to display over the video from the camera while playing.
 - b. From the **Lens** drop-down list (14), select one of the following lens types installed in the camera (see also [Viewing archive of a fisheye camera](#)):
 - **None**

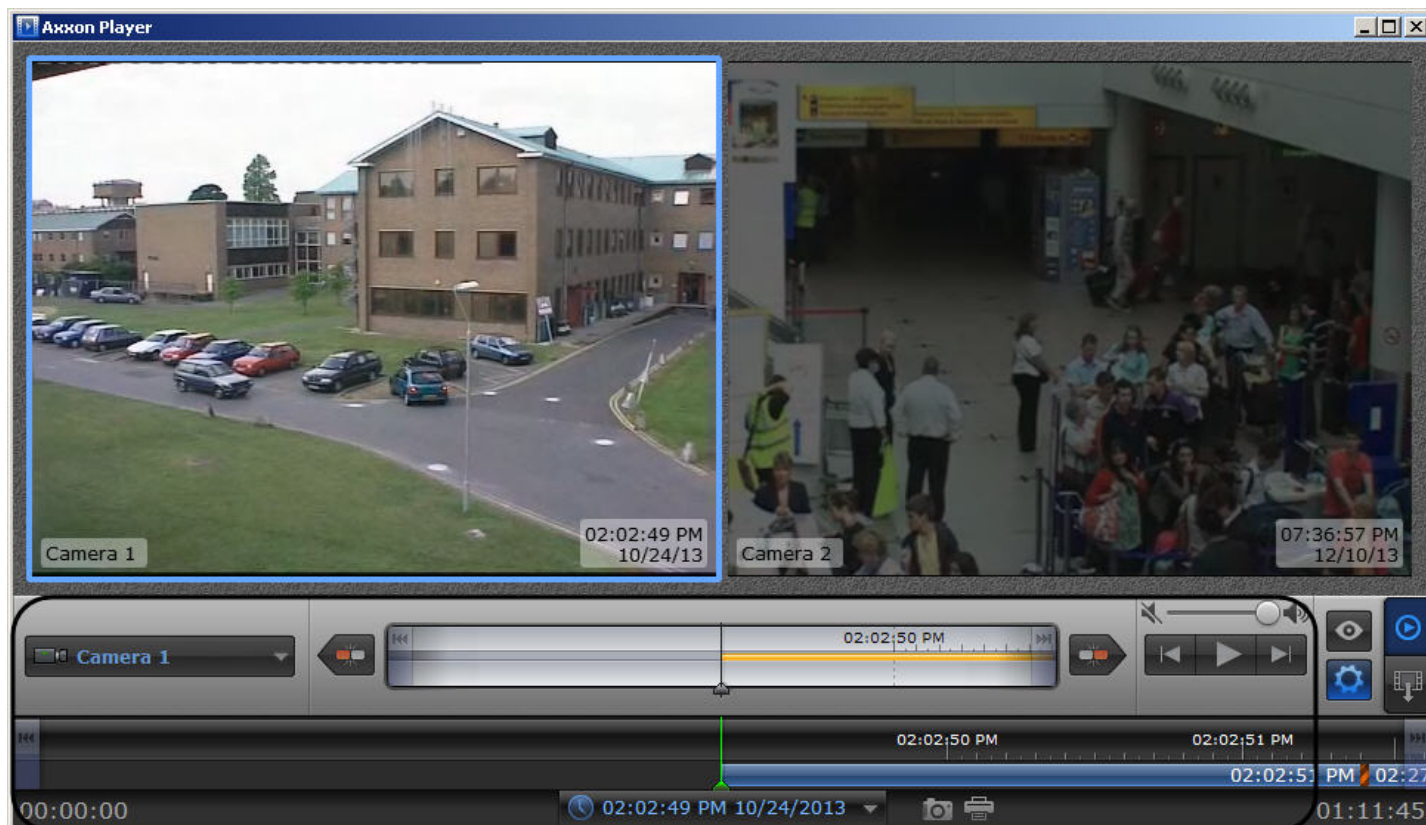
- **Standard fisheye lens**
 - **Auto calibrated**
 - **A0**V**
 - **A1UST**
 - **A8TRT**
 - **B0QQV**
 - **B4QQV**
 - **B5SST**
 - **B6SST**
- c. From the **Position** drop-down list (**15**), select the camera position:
- **Ceiling**
 - **Wall**
 - **Floor**
- d. From the **Display** drop-down list (**16**), select the camera type:
- **PTZ**
 - **Perimeter**
- e. In the **Frame buffer for decoding** drop-down list (**17**), select the number of frames for decoding: 3 or 5.
- f. Set the **Show title** checkbox to enable the selected captions displaying (**18**).
14. Click the **Apply** button (**19**).


The configuration the *Axxon Player* utility is complete.

5 Viewing video using the Axxon Player utility







5.1 The Playback control panel



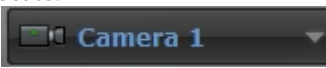


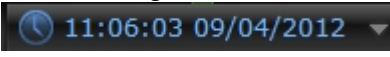

Archive playback control using the AxxonPlayer.exe utility is performed in the utility window on the playback control panel.



Click the  button to go to the playback control panel.

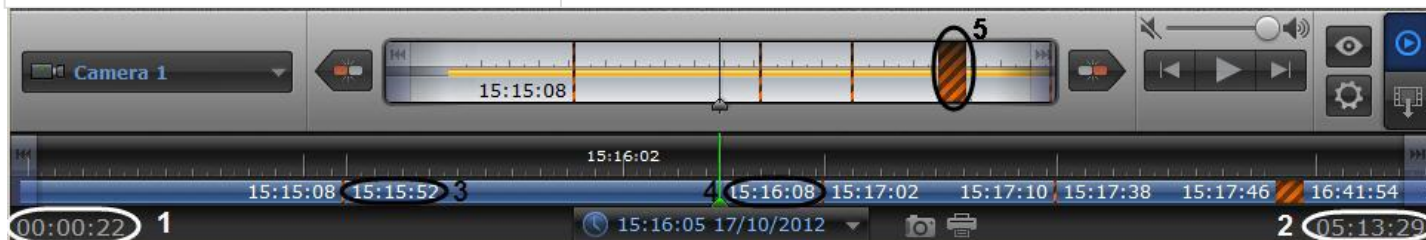
Elements description of the playback control panel is given below:

1.  Start the archive playback on cameras on which there are records on specified date. Synchronic archive playback is available.
2.  Playback stop.
3.  Playback speed up in two times relatively the current speed if the playback launched (maximum $\times 16$ speed up is available).
Go to the next frame if the playback stopped.
4.  Playback speed down in two times relatively the current speed if the playback launched (maximum $\times 16$ speed down is available).
Go to the previous frame if the playback stopped.
5.  Go to the current record beginning.
6.  Go to the current record ending.

7.  Go to the archive ending in the main time scale. Go to the archive ending of selected camera on additional time scale.
8.  Go to the archive beginning in the main time scale. Go to the archive beginning of selected camera on additional time scale.
9.  Select active camera for archive playback in full-screen mode if several cameras selected for archive playback.
10.  Saving the screenshot of the utility area displaying camera boxes. Screenshot is saved in C:\Users\%current user%\Documents\AxxonPlayer\Screenshots directory.
11.  Printing the screenshot of the utility area displaying camera boxes.
12.  Specifying time and date for archive record to be played.
13.  Volume adjustment.

Time and archive marks in the both scales are to be taken into consideration while controlling playback. Their description is given in the table below.

Mark	Description
Time mark for archive absence (5)	This mark means that there is no compressed archive. The more interval without archive, the thicker the mark is
Time mark 1 (1)	Time period from archive begin to the current moment
Time mark 2 (2)	Time period from the current period to archive ending
Time mark 3 (3)	Time of recording start
Time mark 4 (4)	Time of recording finish





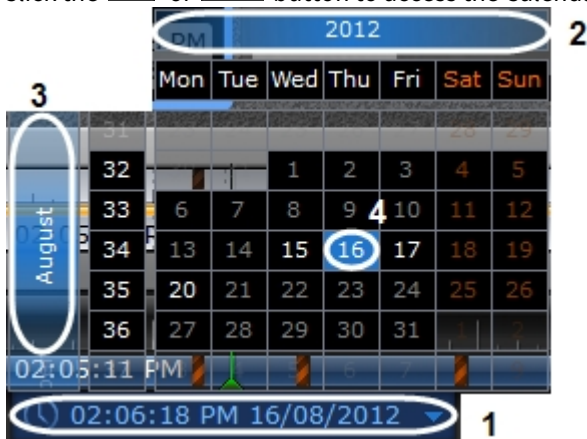
5.2 Archive navigation using the calendar

Archive navigation can be performed using the Calendar tool. This tool is designed to specify the date the archive on which is to be played back.



To specify date of archive viewing do the following:

1. Click the  or  button to access the Calendar tool (1).



2. Specify the year by dragging the calendar field left or right (2).
3. Specify the month by dragging the calendar field up or down (3).
4. Select the needed day by left-clicking the mouse (4). Days for which records are stored in archive are highlighted with white.

Going to the first archive record at the specified date is performed when the required date is selected in the calendar.

Date specifying for archive viewing is completed.

5.3 Archive navigation using the time scale

Archive navigation can be performed using the time scales.

Time scales contain color indicators of records presence per period – tracks.

There are following time scale types in the AxxonPlater.exe utility:

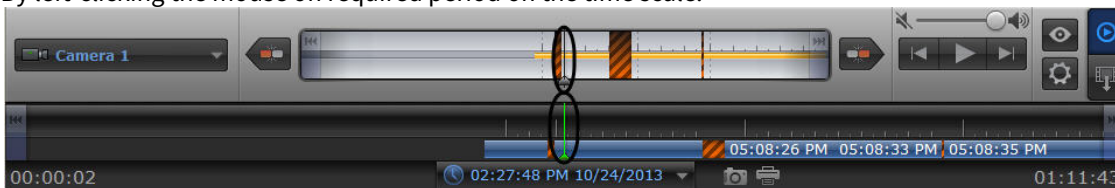
1. Main time scale (1). This scale displays tracks from all cameras selected to view.

- Additional time scale (2). This scale displays tracks from the active camera.



Archive navigation is performed in two ways:

- By dragging the scale relatively the indicator. When the indicator is matched to the point on the time scale then there is going to the moment on the record corresponding to this point.
- By left-clicking the mouse on required period on the time scale.



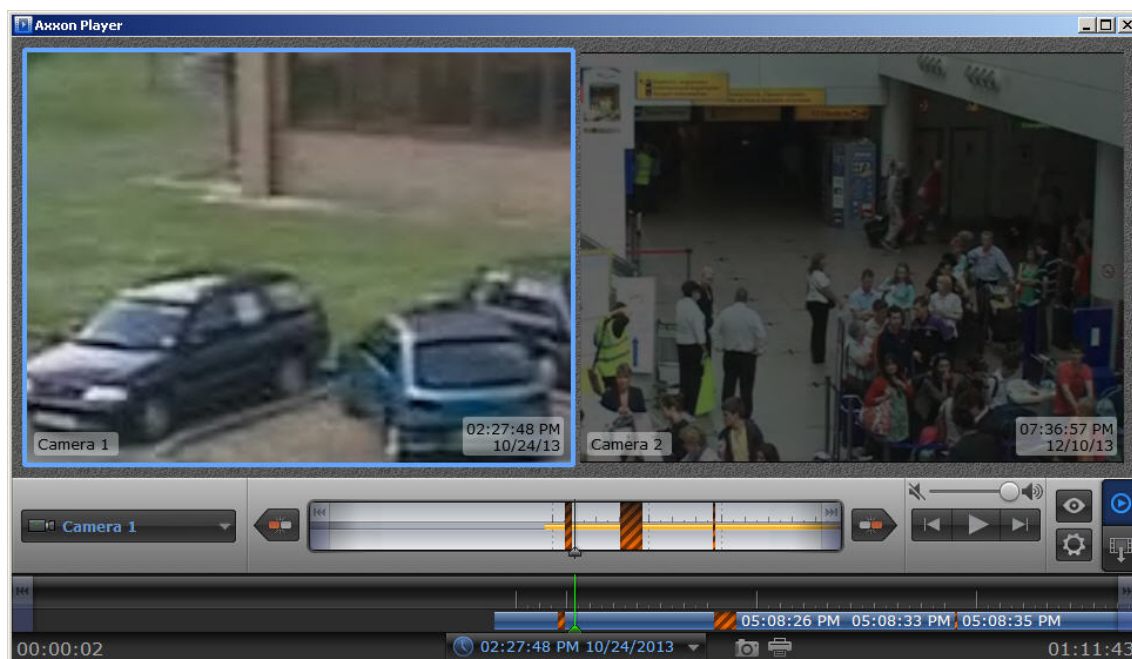
Going in the main and additional scale is synchronized.

It is possible to size time scales. Zoom in and zoom out of time scales are performed using the scroll wheel in required area of the time scale.

5.4 Scaling the video image

It is possible to scale viewing video images in the "AxxonPlayer.exe" utility.

Zoom in and zoom out of video image size are performed using the scroll wheel in the camera area.



Navigation over the blowup video is performed using the mouse cursor moving with holding the middle mouse button (wheel) pressed.

5.5 Saving the frame from the command prompt

It is possible to export frame from archive using the command prompt. The following parameters of axon_player.exe executive file are used:

- help – reference on parameters of executive file;
- source arg – specifying the video file/catalogue;
- channels arg – specifying the video camera id for frame export;
- destination arg – specifying the catalogue for frame export;
- time – specifying the time of export frame in YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS.ZZZ format.

Example.

```
« --source "D:\VIDEO" --destination "D:\CmdExportFolder" --channels "1 3 5" --time "2011-11-02 15:40:11.123" »
```

or

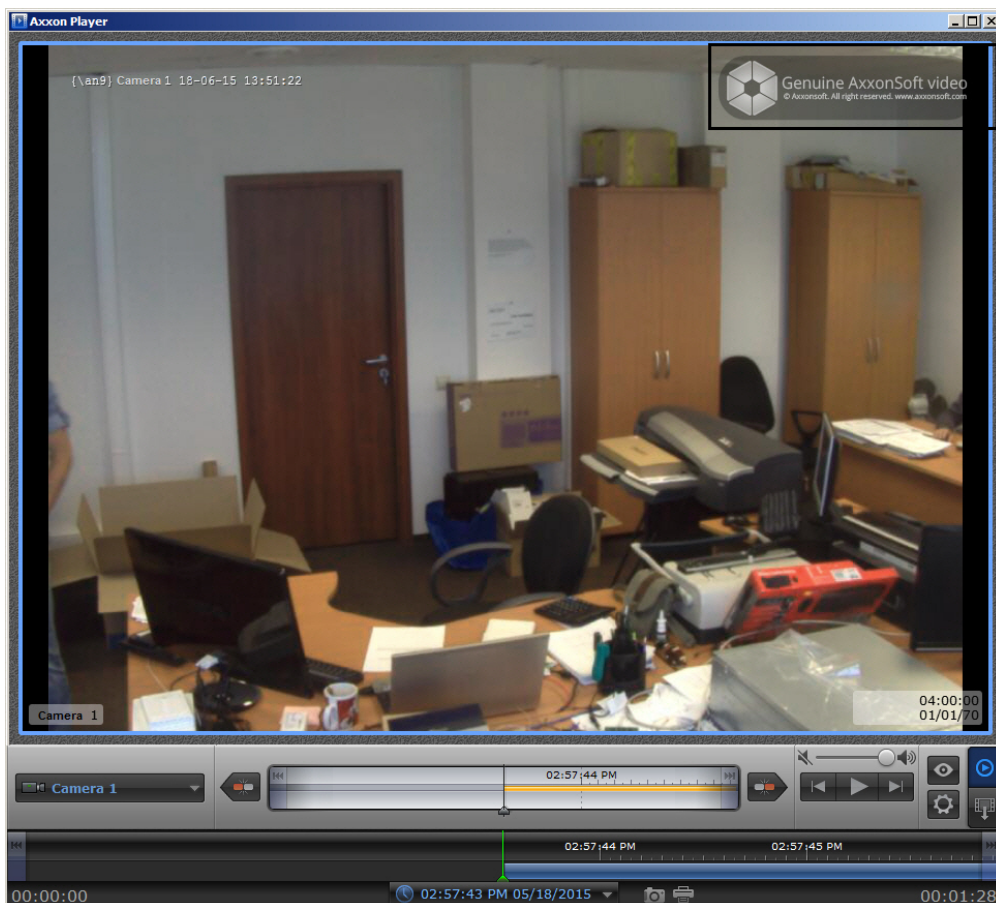
```
« --source "D:\VIDEO" --destination "D:\CmdExportFolder\UserFrame.jpg" --channels "1" --time "2011-11-02 15:40:11.123" »
```

File names like “dd-MM-yyyy hh-mm-ss-zzz channelID.jpg” are assigned automatically in the first case. In the second case file names are specified by the user and it is possible to save the frame in jpg, bmp or png formats.

If the **channels** parameter is not specified, then all existing channels are to be saved both for the video and images.

5.6 Watermarks

If a video file was exported using AviExport utility (see [The AviExport utility](#) section in Operator’s Guide), a watermark will be displayed on the video while viewing it using the AxxonPlayer utility:



Note.
 A watermark is not added to the video if video was exported in the original format and codec was not changed.

5.7 Viewing archive of a fisheye camera

Video files of a fisheye camera archive are opened in a common way – see [Opening video files](#).

However, the fisheye video is recorded to *Axxon PSIM* or *Axxon One* archive without any conversion, therefore conversion parameters are to be set in *Axxon Player* in order to view such archive video files – see [Configuring the Axxon Player utility](#).

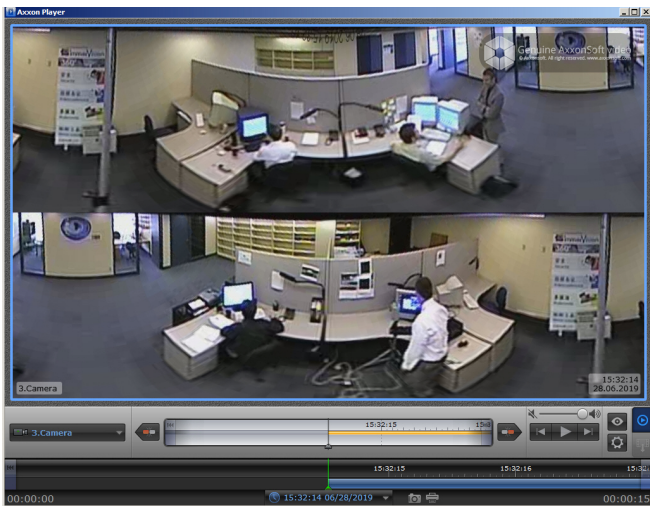
After setting the conversion parameters, the video is displayed in the "unfolded" form. When **Display: PTZ** is set, the virtual PTZ format is available during file playback after digital zoom of the video image with the mouse wheel by one scale division or more. In this format, click-and-move the left mouse button over the video to change the angle of view of the fisheye camera.

Example.

Video without conversion (**Lens: None**):



Video with the following conversion parameters: **Lens: Standard fisheye lens, Position: Ceiling, Display: Perimeter:**



Video with the following conversion parameters: **Lens: Standard fisheye lens, Position: Ceiling, Display: PTZ** (after scrolling the mouse wheel by one scale division):

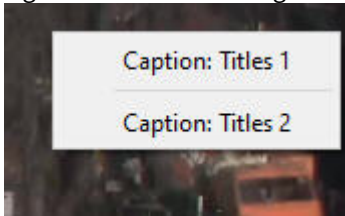



5.8 Displaying captions on video

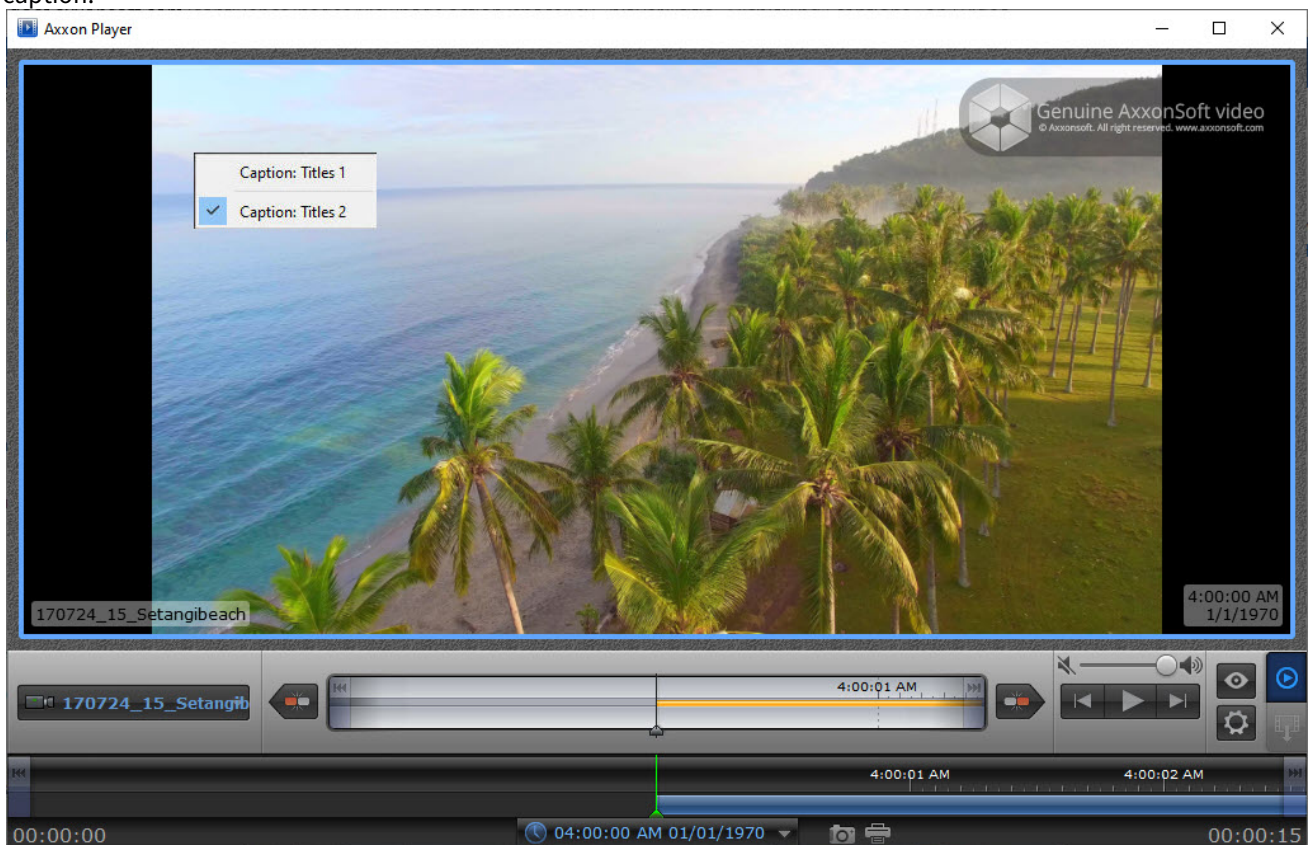
If the video file contains captions, you can adjust their display during the video playback in the *Axxon Player* utility. When playing back a video with both external and built-in captions tracks, the external captions are disabled by default. When playing back a video with the external captions only, they are enabled automatically.

To adjust the captions display, do the following:

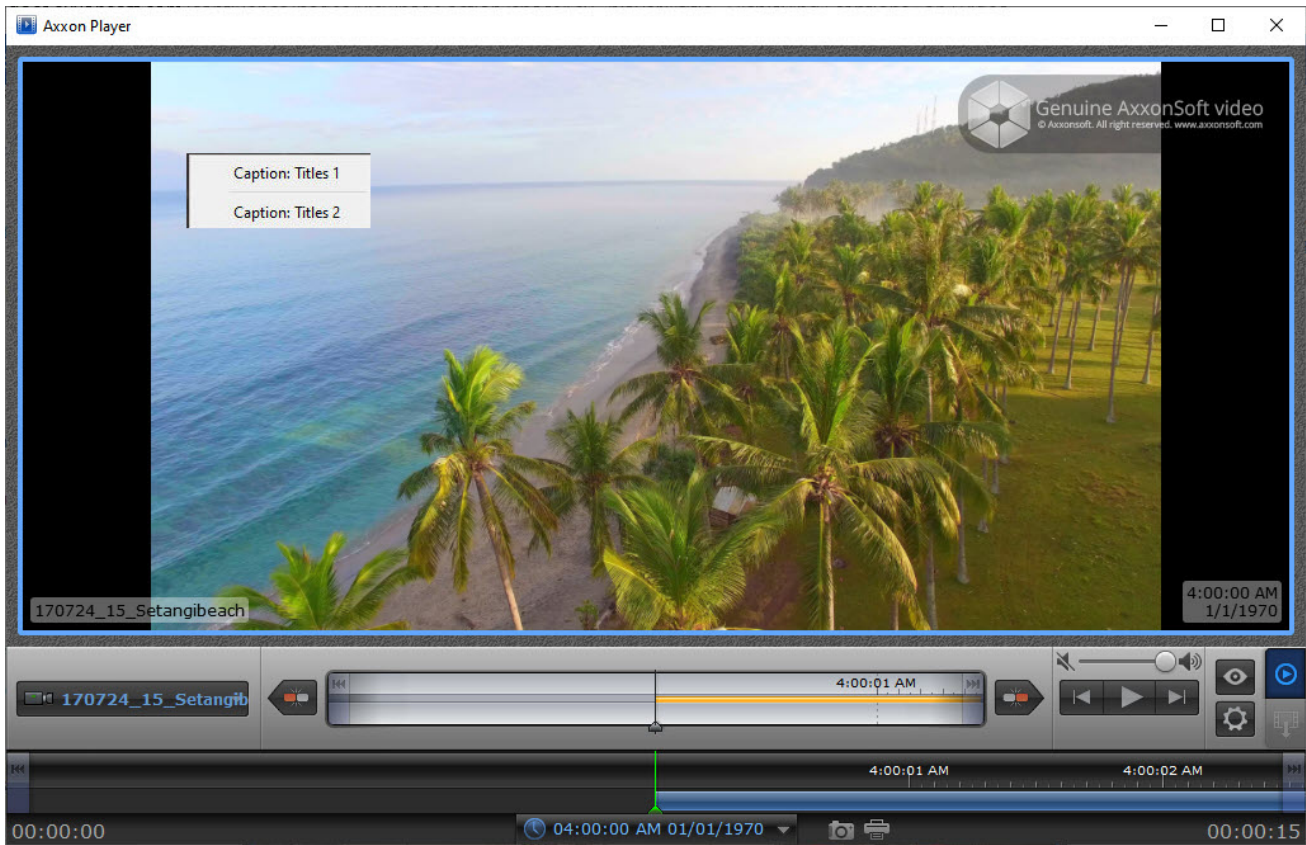
1. Right-click on the viewing area. A window with a list of available captions will open:



2. Click on the name of the caption that should be displayed. The  icon will appear next to the name of the displayed caption:



To disable the captions display, click on the caption name again:



6 Exporting the Axxon PSIM video archive using the Axxon Player utility

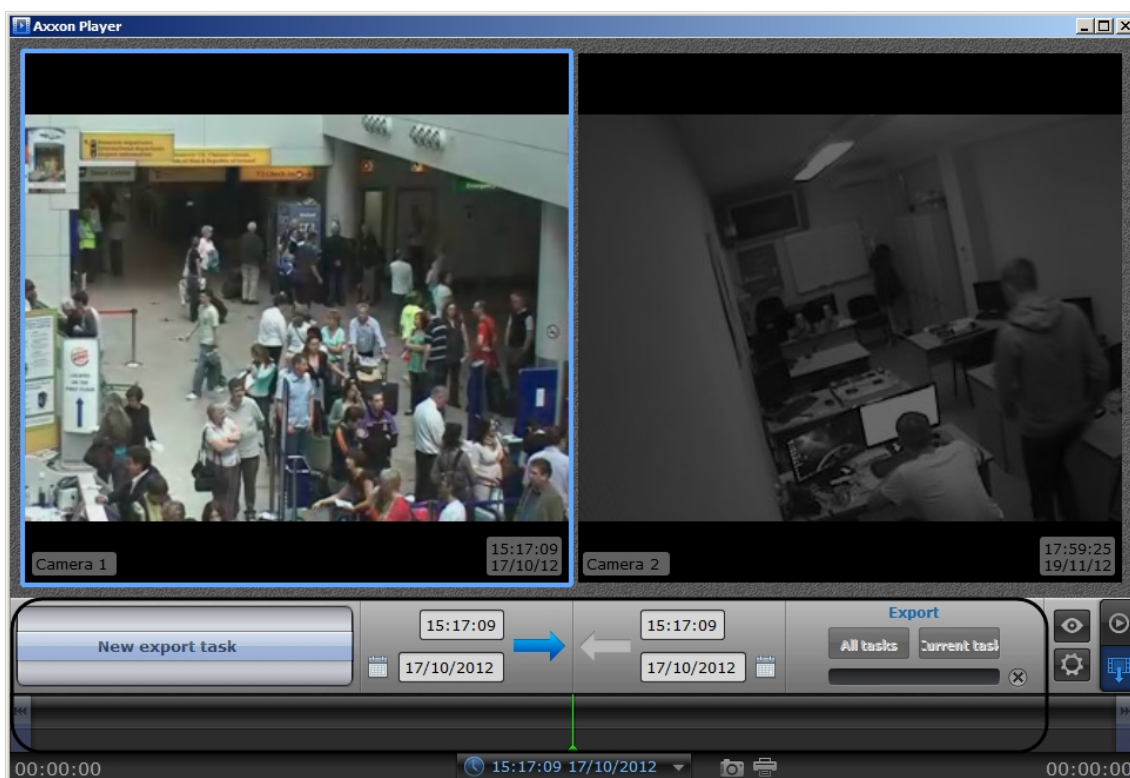
6.1 Order of video archive export

Exporting the Axxon PSIM software archive using the AxxonPlayer.exe is performed in the following order:

1. Specify the path to the folder to which archive files are to be exported (see [Configuring the Axxon Player utility](#)).
2. Go to the export panel (see [Going to the export panel](#)).
3. Create the export task (see [Creating the export task](#)).
4. Start the archive export (see [Running the archive export](#)).

6.2 Going to the export panel

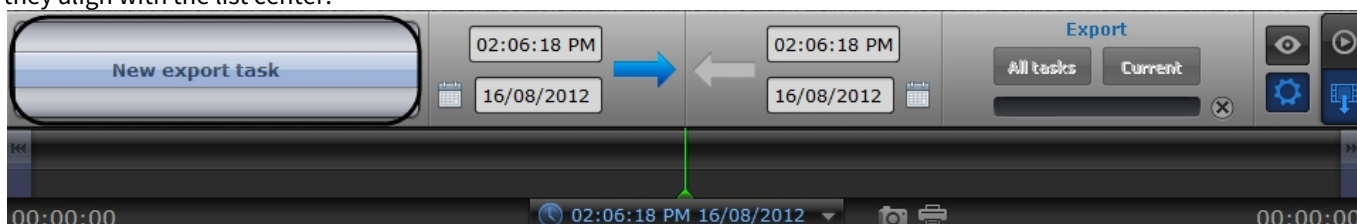
To go to the export panel click the  button. If .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .asf, .flv or .avi file is opened in the utility, this button is disabled and looks like .



6.3 Creating the export task

To create the export task, do the following:

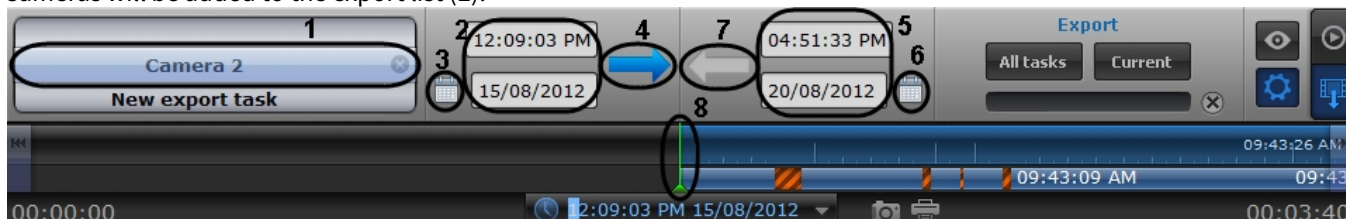
1. Select the **New export task** in the list. The list value selection is performed by dragging the list items up or down until they align with the list center.




2. Select the image from the required camera and drag it to the list using the left mouse button.







Cameras will be added to the export list (1).



Note
To remove the cameras list, click the  button.

Attention!
For the correct operation of the player, you should not add more than 10 cameras within one export task. The limitation is linked to the Windows API peculiarities.

3. Specify the export start date by one of the following ways:
 - a. Enter the required value in the field manually (2).
 - b. Click the  button and use the **Calendar** tool (3). Calendar operation algorithm is similar to the archive navigation (see [Archive navigation using the calendar](#)).
 - c. Click the  button (4) and specify the export start date by dragging the time scale relative to the indicator (8).
4. Specify the export end date by one of the following ways:
 - a. Enter the required value in the field manually (5).
 - b. Click the  button and use the **Calendar** tool (6). Calendar operation algorithm is similar to the archive navigation (see [Archive navigation using the calendar](#)).

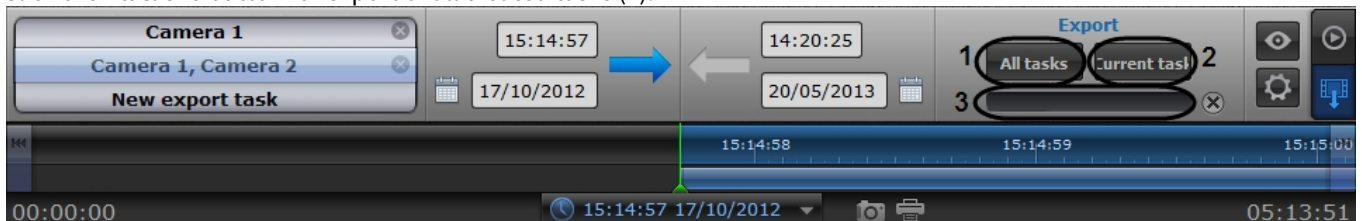
- c. Click the  button (7) and specify the export end date by dragging the time scale relative to the indicator (8).

Export task creation is complete.

6.4 Running the archive export

To run the export do the following:

1. Click the **All tasks** button for export of all created tasks (1).



2. Click the **Current** button to run the export of task selected in the task list (2).

The export state is displayed by the indicator of process display (3). Archive files will be copied to the export catalogue in the «drive_<Disk letter with the «Axxon PSIM» software archive» after the export completion, e.g. «drive_D».

Note.

Click the  button to stop the export. None of files will be exported.

Export of video archive is completed.

6.5 Setting the export parameters in the command prompt

It is possible to set the export parameters from the Windows command prompt. The following parameters of the axon_player.exe executive file are used:

- help – reference output by parameters of executive file;
- source arg – specify the video file/catalogue;
- channels arg – specify the video camera id for export through the space button ;
- destination arg – specify the export catalogue;
- from arg – specify the start export time in YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS.ZZZ format;
- to arg – specify the end export time in YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS.ZZZ format.

Example of line for export: «--source "D:\VIDEO" --channels "1 3 5" --destination "D:\CmdExportFolder" --from "2011-11-02 15:40:05.123" --to "2011-11-02 15:40:17.123"»

7 Unpacking video files packed in Axxon Player Portable

You can export the archive in the .exe format using the AviExport utility (see [The AviExport utility](#)).

If you have problems playing back the archive exported in the .exe format, you can extract the video from the .exe file and watch it separately.

You can do this as follows:

1. Place the exported .exe file in the same folder as the Axxon Player Portable utility.
2. While in this folder, launch the command line and execute the **Axxon_player_portable "%PACKED_FILE_NAME%" --extract "%VIDEO_FILE_NAME%"** command, where
 - **Axxon_player_portable**—the name of the Axxon Player Portable utility;
 - **%PACKED_FILE_NAME%**—the name of the archive exported in the .exe format;
 - **%VIDEO_FILE_NAME%**—the name of the file in the .avi format, which is obtained as a result of unpacking.



Attention!

If the exported .exe file is larger than 4 GB, it is necessary to add the **--executable** parameter to the command.

As a result, the exported file with the specified name will appear in the same folder.

Command examples:

Axxon_player_portable "Packed_video.exe" --extract "1video.avi"—if the source file is less than 4 GB

Axxon_player_portable "ExportVideo.exe" --executable "ExportVideo4GB.exe" --extract "result.avi"—if the source file is larger than 4 GB

8 Watch history in the Axxon Player utility

The utility saves the watch history and generates a text file named **AxxonPlayer.lh** (extension — log history). The file is located in the C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\AxxonSoft\AxxonPlayer folder.

The file writes the information about viewing the video archive only in *Axxon PSIM* own format, even if the archive was exported into the .exe format and then viewed in the Player. The information about viewing files in other formats won't be written.

The file contains the following information about the watch history:

- **AxxonPlayer start date**—the date and time of the Player start. This information is written at each new start;
- **Selected cameras:**
 - **count**—the number of cameras selected for viewing;
 - **date**—the date and time of the cameras selection for viewing;
- **id**—camera identifier;
- **name**—the name of the camera;
- **startTime**—the date and the time of the video archive from which you started the viewing.

The system date and time are used.

The file is also written when using the portable version of the utility.

Example of file content:

```
AxxonPlayer start date: 10-10-22T19:00:48
```

```
Selected cameras: count = 2, date: 10-10-22T19:00:48  
id = 1, name = Camera 1, startTime = 05-10-22T17:09:02  
id = 2, name = Camera 2, startTime = 05-10-22T17:09:02
```

```
Selected cameras: count = 2, date: 10-10-22T19:00:52  
id = 1, name = Camera 1, startTime = 05-10-22T17:09:02  
id = 2, name = Camera 2, startTime = 05-10-22T17:09:02
```