# IPVM

## Dahua Provides "Uyghur Warnings" To China Police

*Published on Feb 09, 2021*

Dahua provides "real-time Uyghur Warnings" to China police, as Dahua's own technical documents reveal, discovered by IPVM. This video explains what Dahua is doing:



[Dahua Provides "Uyghur Warnings" To China Police - YouTube](#)

This proves Dahua lied when Dahua claimed it "does not sell" products that feature [an] ethnicity-focused recognition function" after it was revealed that Dahua had Uyghur tracking in its code.

IPVM collaborated with the LA Times on this report, see: LA Times Race detection and 'real-time Uighur warnings' — inside Dahua's facial recognition technology.

**Dahua China Support Documents**

Dahua's China product support portal, via a link on Dahua's own website, documented Dahua police video surveillance projects including numerous explicit references to Uyghurs.

In China, police security camera networks integrate 'Uyghur alert' AI software that notifies police when a Uyghur-looking face appears on video surveillance footage.

**Dahua Heart of City**

Heart of City (HOC) is Dahua's smart police solution. Dahua describes HOC:



> Improves the ability of police intelligence" by creating "a **new 'online police' model** that enhances prediction, **early-warning and prevention** capabilities of the police [emphasis added]

**"Real-Time Uyghur Warnings" For "Smart Police"**

"Real-time Uyghur warnings" (　　) are listed by Dahua in a December 2019 document for Dahua's Smart Police Heart Of City program:

> **Real-time Uyghur Warnings**
>
> 1. web operating terminal, human face system- research and analysis, configure/deploy **Uyghur person model**

2. Client, facial recognition-data model-model search, choose **Uyghur person model**, search for corresponding data

3. prerequisites require the front end to support **reporting Uyghur [face] attributes** [emphasis added]

| 人脸技战法 | 维族人员实时预警　(Real-time Uyghur warnings) | 1.web操作端，人脸系统-研判分析，配置维族人员模型<br>2.客户端，人脸识别-数据模型-模型查询，选择维族人员模型，查询到对应数据<br>3.前提需要前端支持上报维族属性 |
|---|---|---|

This means if a Dahua security camera sees what it believes is a Uyghur, it immediately/automatically reports that to police. The reference to "front end" supporting "reporting Uyghur attributes" means security cameras must be technically advanced/well-placed enough to support automated detection of Uyghur faces. (This is common - Hikvision, Dahua's rival, once promoted an Uyghur-detecting AI camera.)

**Big Face Platform Supports Uyghur Warnings**

Another Dahua HOC support document of "standard features" dated March 2020 shows "real time Uyghur warnings" are "supported" by V1.1 of the C9505 Big Face Platform:

| 人脸技战法 | 同行人分析，频繁出现 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 时空碰撞 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ |
| | 维族人员实时预警 (Real-time Uyghur warnings) | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ |
| | 首次出现，落脚点分析、人员查重 | V1.2 | 定制支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ |

Dahua says the C9505 Big Face platform processes a "massive [amount of] face information" for things like "suspect tracking":

> provides capability of network-based access, analysis, processing and visualized display of **massive face information**, which effectively addresses such issues as difficult query and **suspect tracking** [emphasis added]

**"Real-Time Warning Mode For Non-Local Uyghurs"**

A Dahua test report of its own face analytics from March 2019 mentions "real time Uyghur warnings" thirteen separate times. The document targets "non-local" Uyghurs specifically, i.e. Uyghurs that don't already live within a police jurisdiction:

> **Adding real-time warning mode for non-local Uyghurs**
>
> 1. Log in to the web administrator's face system to study and analyze, click 'Add'
> 2. Select the **real-time warning mode for non-local Uyghurs**, enter the task name, enter the task remarks, and click 'Next'
> 3. Select the monitoring range, select the corresponding channel, and the settings appear... [emphasis added]

| 技战法向导-添加非本地维族人员实时预警任务<br>(Adding real-time warning mode for non-local Uyghurs) | 打开研判任务的页面 | 1.登陆web管理员端-人脸系统-研判分析，点击添加<br>2.选择非本地维族人员实时预警模型，输入任务名称，输入任务备注信息，点击下一步<br>3.选择监控范围，选择相应的通道，设置出现研判规则，点击下一步<br>4.设置比对库<br>5.设置运行方式每日零点运行，勾选标签，选择相应的标签信息，点击完成 | 1.添加成功，默认关闭状态 | Pass 陈玮 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

As can be seen above, Dahua marked this as "Pass", meaning this feature was included/functional. The guide does not explain why "non-local" Uyghurs are targeted, however, in practice, they would likely draw extra scrutiny compared to those already known to authorities.

**Tracking "Uyghurs With Hidden Terrorist Inclinations"**

Another Dahua document is a "big data" guide from December 2020 for Dahua's "Sharp Eyes" projects, the name given to the PRC's wide-ranging police video surveillance projects.

The guide mentions a number of categories of people Dahua tracks under "Police Data", including "Uyghurs with hidden terrorist inclinations" (　　), given code "3185":

| | |
|---|---|
| 隐性涉恐维族人员<br>**(Uyghurs with hidden terrorist inclinations)** | 3185 |

Other categories next to "Uyghurs with hidden terrorist inclinations" includes drug addicts, thieves, prostitutes, fugitives, gangsters, fraudsters:

| | |
|---|---|
| 戒毒脱失人员 **(Drug abusers who failed to complete rehab)** | 3 |
| 侵财人员 **(People convicted of robbery or fraud)** | 86331 |
| 涉黑前科人员（有照片url）<br>**(People related to gang activity)** | 18035 |
| 全国在逃人员（有照片blob）<br>**(Nationwide fugitives)** | 89061 |
| 隐性涉恐维族人员<br>**Uyghurs with hidden terrorist inclinations)** | 3185 |
| 省临控（有照片blob）<br>**(Provincial criminal investigation)** | 256 |
| 涉稳人员（有照片url）<br>**(People who damage social stability)** | 5024 |
| 省高院（有照片blob）<br>**(Provincial High People's Court)** | 4686 |
| 涉黄人员（有照片url）<br>**(People engaged in prostitution)** | 135940 |
| 盗窃人员 **(Thieves)** | 193379 |

The PRC government considers many mundane things as signs of "hidden terrorist inclinations" such as having a full beard, owning multiple knives, going to a mosque, etc. Uyghurs suspected of such "inclinations" are typically rounded up and sent to Xinjiang's brutal 're-education' camps.

**Background: Dahua Under Fire For Racist Software**

In November 2020, an engineer exposed in a viral tweet that Dahua's SDK included lines of code specifically for identifying Uyghurs. This was covered by several outlets, including The South China Morning Post, which quoted Dahua denying it sells "ethnicity-focused recognition":

> Dahua Technology does not sell products that feature [an] ethnicity-focused recognition function

Clearly, the evidence in Dahua's own technical documents shows the contrary.

**No Response from Dahua**

IPVM contacted Dahua more than a day and a half prior to publishing, detailing the evidence discovered, but Dahua did not respond. Furthermore, Dahua did not respond to the LA Times' multiple requests for comments.

**Dahua Boasted About Human Rights Sanctions**

Dahua boasted that human rights sanctions showcase its "strong technological capability" after it was sanctioned by the US government for being "implicated in the implementation of China's campaign of repression, mass arbitrary detention, and high-technology surveillance" against Uyghurs. Prior to that, IPVM found that Dahua won almost $1 billion in massive police surveillance projects in Xinjiang.

**Conclusion**

This is clear proof that Dahua is involved in the repression of an ethnic minority. Video surveillance is increasingly at risk of abusing human rights, as Dahua is here, which poses a risk to the public acceptance of video surveillance as a whole and to the people who

governments surveil.

**UPDATE April 2021**

Since Dahua has made a number of public comments including denying offering Uyghur warnings, we are adding in full screencaps of the Dahua webpages where we obtained the information to show it in context how Dahua designed, tested, and documented their Uyghur warning solution:

# Comments (22)

**Undisclosed Manufacturer #1**

**Tobias Steiger**

Who pays commands. So the client, the state, is responsible. Not the order recipient.

**John Honovich** IPVM |
In reply to Tobias Steiger

Dahua can choose to sell or not sell. They choose to sell.

Even Huawei when caught with much less extensive evidence than Dahua has been caught with responded:

| Huawei opposes discrimination of all types, including the use of technology to carry out ethnic discrimination

Dahua's position is to refuse to say anything and keep making their money, daring any government or organization to do somethin

**Undisclosed Integrator #2**

What happens to Dahua if he refuses? It will die?

**John Honovich** IPVM |
In reply to Undisclosed Integrator #2

Refuses what? All evidence points to Dahua being a willing participant in this. Dahua is being paid handsomely ([at least $900 mil](#)

**MICHAEL PETROV**

So what? Never mind that the tech does not work that well for sorting out Uyghurs, it's not the tech company but the END USER who p
got fulfilled. It is the end user who should be held responsible, which in this case is the PRC gov. How is it different from companies s
computers for video surveillance storage? AI is a ubiquitous enabling tech that correlates whatever is fed into it. We are just a couple
the AI corporate social responsibility, and up until last year Amazon, Microsoft IBM and others were selling face rec for the U.S. police
the USA and morally questionable (though much less effective than the internet user tracking via browser ad ID that we are all subjec
correlating facial appearance with sexual orientation (Stanford U), with criminal intend (Harrisburg U), with IQ, terrorism and pedophili
appearance from speech (MIT). We are one of the few developed countries in the world (though not my New Jersey!) that let the polic
contains billions of photos illegally stolen from different social media sites. In other words, we may have issues similar to the one discl
we can actually comprehend the business process and the END USER intend, and held the END USER responsible.

**John Honovich** IPVM |
In reply to MICHAEL PETROV

> it's not the tech company but the END USER who puts it in action!

No, the manufacturer developed something specifically to persecute an ethnic minority, this is not some general purpose product t

Take, for example, an American company, like yours, imagine you developed a solution called 'Mexican warnings" that scanned v
sold that to the Customs and Border Patrol. Are you saying that your company would not understand or recognize what would be u

To be clear, your company is not doing this and there is no evidence that Customs and Border Patrol would do this but can anyon
and sold such a 'Mexican warning' to the border patrol that it would be both unethical and the responsibility of the manufacturer an

**MICHAEL PETROV**
In reply to John Honovich

If CBP puts an RFP asking for ID of Mexicans there will be a dozen US companies replying to it, no doubt! Obviously, CBP wo
legal assessment. But case in point: DHS procurement last year of a security system for protecting TSA management. It called
across all images posted on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc. - they listed a dozen specific sites! I.e. they implicitly called fo

**Undisclosed Integrator #4**
In reply to MICHAEL PETROV

Agree,

[Facial recognition scanners are already at some US airports](#)

**John Honovich** IPVM |
In reply to MICHAEL PETROV

> DHS procurement last year of a security system for protecting TSA management. It called for an investigative system o

Facial recognition is fundamentally different from what Dahua developed here - Uyghur warnings.

Facial recognition can be used in many different ways - to try to find people who disappeared or recognize a VIP or to spot

some are not.

Uyghur warnings by China police, like hypothetical Mexican warnings by Customs, is developed for a specific unethical tas

Do you see that difference?

---

**MICHAEL PETROV**
In reply to John Honovich

John, absolutely agree with you that police tracking Uyghurs is immoral and unethical. But by analyzing documentation
business application is, if the police comprehends individuals, ignores alarms altogether, or, for example, Uyghurs get a
to be local to the town (either is unethical and immoral, from where I stand!). And you squarely put the blame on the tech
we say that Macy's use of facial recognition is probably not right (as in to track shoppers who did not opt in), we don't poi
Macy's fault! In fact, in none of the BIPA violations the tech vendor was named a defendant I believe (well, there was on

---

**John Honovich** IPVM |
In reply to MICHAEL PETROV

> you don't know for certain what the business application is, if the police comprehends individuals, ignores alarm
> a 10% bus ticket discount since they are expected to be local to the town

Michael, Dahua was free to explain this to the LA Times. Maybe in your imaginary world, the PRC police were receiv
Uyghurs red envelopes and hugs.

That said, keep in mind, in Dahua's documentation, Uyghurs are listed alongside drug abusers, gangsters, prostitute

| | |
|---|---|
| 戒毒脱失人员 **(Drug abusers who failed to complete rehab)** | 3 |
| 侵财人员　**(People convicted of robbery or fraud)** | 86331 |
| 涉黑前科人员（有照片url） **(People related to gang activity)** | 18035 |
| 全国在逃人员（有照片blob） **(Nationwide fugitives)** | 89061 |
| 隐性涉恐维族人员 **(Uyghurs with hidden terrorist inclinations)** | 3185 |
| 省临控（有照片blob） **(Provincial criminal investigation)** | 256 |
| 涉稳人员（有照片url） **(People who damage social stability)** | 5024 |
| 省高院（有照片blob） **(Provincial High People's Court)** | 4686 |
| 涉黄人员(有照片url) **(People engaged in prostitution)** | 135940 |
| 盗窃人员　**(Thieves)** | 193379 |

---

**MICHAEL PETROV**
In reply to John Honovich

Good point John! Evil company, and rightfully sanctioned in the USA. I also like there "People who damage socia
understand. Just an idea for you closer to home - dig in how the U.S. retail uses facial recognition. I have not see

**Charles Walker** IPVMU Certified
In reply to MICHAEL PETROV

I typed up a huge rant on this before reading the other replies and I changed my comment. Everyone else has clearly made their po
horse.

---

**Undisclosed Manufacturer #3**

To those who say it is the end user who is responsible, that would be the case if the user was looking for a certain type of person, etc.
wrote code, developed products, firmware, etc. for the end user for the use case. It would be different if it was a generic product and th
But that is not the case here.

Of course they always deny it and point to their documentation of glorious esteem and they do the right thing. And slammers will conti

---

**John Honovich** IPVM |

Update, the US Security Industry Association has provided comment:

> The Security Industry Association (SIA) believes that the application of technology, such as advanced video analytics, to target a
> on ethnicity or race runs counter to our industry's goal of creating safety and security for all people. At SIA, we are developing pro
> inclusion, so any application of technology intended to suppress or exclude a unique population is contrary to the vision and miss

---

**Ross Vander Klok** IPVMU Certified
In reply to John Honovich

Was there also a sentence (I know there wasn't I am being facetious) that said "So we at SIA are cutting all ties with Dahua globall
reprehensible practice!" I'll bet you didn't miss that sentence seeing as they did not even mention the company by name in their sta
than nothing but not by much.

Put a little more teeth into it SIA!

---

**Undisclosed Distributor #6**
In reply to John Honovich

> The Security Industry Association (SIA) believes that the application of technology, such as advanced video analytics, to targe
> based on ethnicity or race runs counter to our industry's goal of creating safety and security for all people. At SIA, we are deve
> diversity and inclusion, so any application of technology intended to suppress or exclude a unique population is contrary to th
> defined for itself, **until it affects our income or junkets, or may upset our valuable (give us more cash) partners..**

---

**Undisclosed End User #5**

I find the argument that the tech developer and seller is not responsible particularly silly. By that logic: Cyberdyne Systems is off the h
the tech their end users wanted...

---

**John Honovich** IPVM |

Update, Dahua has provided a new response, copied in full:

> We here reconfirm:
>
> In the regional markets reported by the LA times, i.e., Xinjiang, PRC, Dahua never provided products or services for ethnicity dete
>
> For the countries and regions outside of China, Dahua never provided products or services for ethnicity detection.
>
> For the regions other than Xinjiang in China, according to days' investigation, we haven't found any products or services for ethni

That Dahua did not provide Uyghur detection to Canada or the UK, etc., is totally believable since no Canadians or British desire to g

The issue remains for Uygur warnings inside of China. Our response to Dahua:

> Can you clarify what you mean by 'any products or services'? The documentation we found shows products / services for ethnicit
> Dahua specifies 'real time Uyghur warnings', what does Dahua mean by that, if not ethnicity detection?

**John Honovich** IPVM |

In reply to John Honovich

Dahua has not responded to this question despite us asking/following up 3 times in the past 2 weeks.

**John Honovich** IPVM |

**UPDATE April 2021**

Since Dahua has made a number of public comments including denying offering Uyghur warnings, we are adding in full screencaps of
information to show it in context how Dahua designed, tested, and documented their Uyghur warning solution:

**a]hua** TECHNOLOGY

📢 公告

Business Contact Person
业务联系人：谢凯伦 | 695602

IT Contact Person
IT部联系人：祝焰敬 | 657277

维族

| 产品支持中心 | Solution Support Center 解决方案支持中心 | Case Center 案例中心 | Service Solution 服务方案 | Training Certification 培训认证 |

■ 产品支持中心 ★
Product Support Center

首页　搜索结果 ×　20190322人像自... ×　HOC智慧警务V1.... ×　HOC智慧警务V1.... ×

▶ HDCVI产品
▶ 摄像机
▶ 存储
▶ 传输产品
▶ 显示产品
▶ 系统产品
▶ 软件平台
▶ 楼宇产品
▶ 智能交通
▶ 云计算
▶ 智能分析服务器
▶ 智慧消防产品
▶ 配件线
▶ RFID
▶ 百宝箱

📄 HOC智慧警务V1.0标准方案功能清单_V1.1.xlsx **HOC (Heart of City) Smart Police V1.0 Standard Solution Ability Checklist_**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 非机动车业务 | 对非机动车及违章进行查询 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9500 | 王威武 | √ | |
| | 车辆库布控 | 在库管理中设置车辆库，并进行集中布控，可实现红名单控制 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9500 | 王威武 | √ | |
| | APP签收反馈信息 | 平台可对APP端处理的预警信息进行反馈查阅和审核。 | V1.2 | 支持 | C9500 | 王威武 | √ | |
| | 库配置 | 布控库、静态库的管理，支持公安库对接更新，文件导入 | V1.0 | 定制支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | 1、提前准备库接口文档和调试联系人 |
| | | 非标准人脸入库添加增加审核功能 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | 一个寮... |
| | 特征摸人 | 根据性别、年龄等特征属性在路人库进行搜索 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 以图搜人 | 导入图片在路人库进行搜索 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 1:1比对 | 支持两张人脸图片进行1:1比对 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 身份核查 | 在静态库中进行身份核查 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| 人像大数据 **Portrait Big Data** | 布控值守 | 以地图为背景实时刷新布控报警信息，支持按通道、库、布控阈值过滤 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | | 支持通道过滤、阈值过滤、卡片和地图模式切换 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | | 人脸报警：支持人员分组、地点分组报警 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | | 人员临控：实现客户端布控、管理端审核、业务分离控制 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 人脸技战法 **Facial Technology Strategy** | 同行人分析，频繁出现 | V1.0 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | | 时空碰撞 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | | 维族人员实时预警 **Real-Time Uyghur Warning** | V1.1 | 支持Support | C9505 | 孙伟 Sun Wei (employee name) | √ | |
| | | 首次出现、落脚点分析、人员查重 | V1.2 | 定制支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 人脸红名单 | 红名单中的人脸在不能再以图搜图中被检索到（相似度支持自定义） | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |
| | 一脸一档 | 对相似或同一路人照片进行归类 | V1.1 | 支持 | C9505 | 孙伟 | √ | |

---

**a]hua** TECHNOLOGY

📢 公告

Business Contact Person
业务联系人：谢凯伦 | 695602

IT Contact Person
IT部联系人：祝焰敬 | 657277

维族

| 产品支持中心 | Solution Support Center 解决方案支持中心 | Case Center 案例中心 | Service Solution 服务方案 | Training Certification 培训认证 |

■ 产品支持中心 ★
Product Support Center

首页　搜索结果 ×　20190322人像自... ×　HOC智慧警务V1.... ×

▶ HDCVI产品
▶ 摄像机
▶ 存储
▶ 传输产品
▶ 显示产品
▶ 系统产品
▶ 软件平台
▶ 楼宇产品
▶ 智能交通
▶ 云计算
▶ 智能分析服务器
▶ 智慧消防产品
▶ 配件线
▶ RFID
▶ 百宝箱

📄 HOC智慧警务V1.1软件平台验收标准_V1.0.xlsx **HOC (Heart of City) Smart Police V1.1 Software Platform Acceptance Standard_**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 布控值守 | 人脸报警：支持人员分组、地点分组报警 | 1.客户端，人脸识别-人脸报警，查询结果，点击右上角按人员分组按钮，展示点击按地点分组按钮，展示为按地点分组 |
| | | 人员临控：实现客户端布控、管理端审核、业务分离控制 | 1.客户端，人脸识别-人员布控，添加人员信息 2.web操作端，人脸系统-临控审核，审核相应数据 |
| 人像大数据 **Portrait Big Data** | 人脸技战法 **Facial Technology Strategy** | 同行人分析，频繁出现 | 1.客户端，人脸识别-技战法查询-同行人，添加图片能够返回相应的同行人结果 2.客户端，人脸识别-技战法查询-频次查询，根据出现次数返回相应的结果 |
| | | 时空碰撞 | 1.客户端，人脸识别-技战法查询-时空碰撞，配置碰撞条件点击查询，返回正确... |
| | | 维族人员实时预警 **Real-time Uyghur Warnings** | 1.web操作端，人脸系统-研判分析，配置维族人员模型 2.客户端，人脸识别-数据模型-模型查询，选择维族人员模型，查询到对应数... 3.前提需要前端支持上报维族属性 |
| | | 首次出现、落脚点分析、人员查重 | 定制支持 |
| | 人脸红名单 | 红名单中的人脸在不能再以图搜图中被检索到（相似度支持自定义） | 1.web操作端，人脸系统-人脸管理，新增红名单库，添加红名单人员 2.客户端，人脸识别-抓拍检索-身份核查-同行人查询-一脸一档，非system用户对库中人员进行以图搜图，提示无权限查询 |
| | 一脸一档 | 对相似或同一路人照片进行归类 | 1.web操作端，人脸系统-人脸设备，开启通道聚类分析 2.客户端，人脸识别-一脸一档，查询到对应人员档案信息，包含同一人的抓拍... |