Rules for the use of cameras not intended for camera surveillance

Strict rules apply to filming or taking photos in the office. This is because each intentional act of filming or photographing in houses or non-public spaces is prohibited. The site and buildings of the University of Twente are publically accessible, but this does not apply to offices and similar spaces. Making films or taking photos is only permitted in that situation if it has been clearly announced in advance (Section 139f of the Dutch Criminal Code). For example, a member of staff may use a camera for a video conference, but only if all people present are aware that audio and video recordings are being made.

Making video recordings or taking photos on public roads or in public spaces with mobile (not fixed) cameras is, in principle, permitted. However, an individual is not allowed to stand outside a house or business property to make recordings of the space inside. When making recordings in public spaces, there is portrait right to contend with. That means that a photograph or film may not be published (e.g. on the internet) if the portrayed person has a reasonable interest against publication, for example in the case of an accident or an intimate situation.

The use of a fixed camera on public roads or in public spaces is permitted, but only on the following conditions. The fixed camera must not be pointed at the public road. It is not permitted to install a fixed camera without putting up a sign alerting everyone to the camera's presence. A fixed camera is permitted if the camera is placed at a distance sufficient to render people unrecognizable. This applies, for example, to cameras that record the construction or renovation on the University of Twente's site. In this respect it is important that the camera is removed as soon as the reason for placing it has gone; in this example this means once the renovation or construction work has been completed.