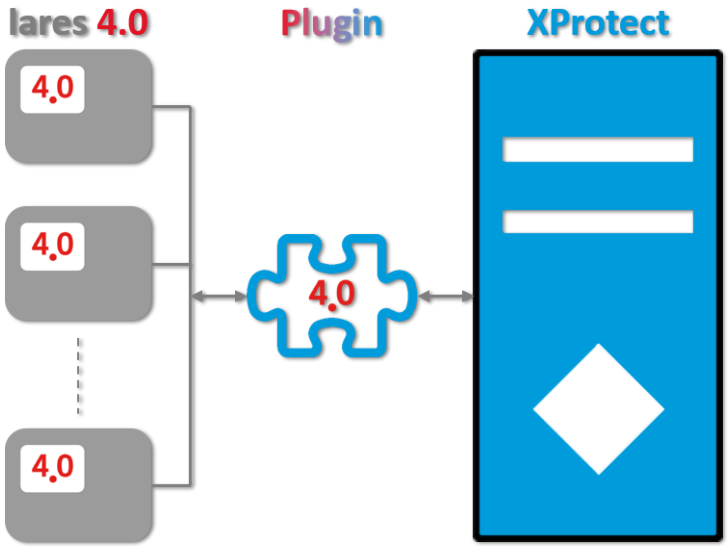
lares 4.0 MIP Plugin

User Manual



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Copyright and Disclaimer

Disclaimer

This document is intended for general information purposes only of the Plugin and its application to the Milestone XProtect Platform, of which at least basic knowledge is required.

Any risk deriving from the use of this information and/or the Plugin itself is the responsibility of the recipient who cannot in any case claim the Manufacturer.

All references to systems, people and organizations used in the document are dummy and any resemblance to real situations is purely random and unintended.

Ksenia Security reserves the right to make changes to the Plugin without notice.

Conventions

The following definitions are used in this document:

- **SECURITY PANEL**: the security panel of the lares 4.0 family to which the peripheral system or part of it belongs
- **SYSTEM**: the set of security panel, peripheral cards and managed objects (zones, partitions, outs, scenarios, etc.)

By convention, the name of the system coincides with that of the control unit.

Acronyms

- **DB** Database
- **ES** Event Server
- **MC** Management Client
- **SC** Smart Client
- **SW** Software
- **VMS** Video Management System

Definitions

CSV	Comma Separated Value is a common format for encoding the information contained in files that can be imported directly from all spreadsheets and/or databases

1 Intro

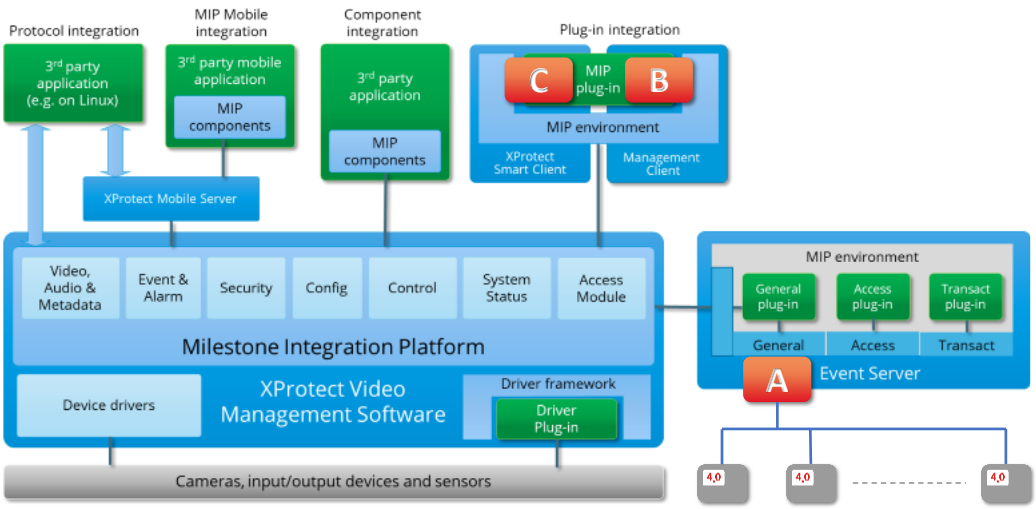
This Plugin was developed in order to integrate the security panels of the "lares 4.0" family on Milestone's XProtect VMS platform.

The Plugin is able to completely control, from the Platform where it is installed, a virtually unlimited number of security panels of the family reachable via the network.

In compliance with the access rights to the individual entities established through the Roles menu, the Plugin is able to receive from the controlled units whatever happens on the relevant system, as well as send all the commands allowed to the Users (set, reset, arm, disarm, etc.).

1.1 Plugin Architecture

The following figure illustrates Plugin's Architecture.



The Plugin is basically composed of three distinct parts, each with its own specific tasks, and differs, for some particularities, from the traditional ones indicated in the figure as MIP plug-in.

The traditional part is made up of components B and C which operate respectively in the MC and SC environment; the first for the management of the Configurations, described in this manual, and the second for the Operational management of the Systems, described in the User Manual.

To these two components is added a third, defined A in the figure, which operates in the background, in conjunction with the Event Server from which it is started, and acts as a server for components B and C. This architecture offers the following advantages:

- Only component A communicates with the security panels in the field, thus guaranteeing a virtually infinite number of clients connected at the same time, exceeding the maximum limit of 5 permissions from each control panel
- Component A is always active, even if there are no connected clients, so when the user makes a connection on the platform, typically with the SC, he receives all the information of what happened when the system was unattended
- If changes are made to the configurations of a security panel, the same notifies the event with a dedicated message which, intercepted by component A, causes the configurations to be re-read and the statuses updated, without any intervention by the User via the MC

1.2 Plugin Language

The current version implements Italian and English languages management, the choice of which is automatically linked to the language chosen for the Clients (MC and SC).

If the language chosen for the clients is Italian or English, the Plugin will use one or the other (even different from each other), for any other language chosen the Plugin will use the English language.

2 Using the Plugin

This chapter describes all the functions offered by the Plugin to Users for Operational Management; for installation and configuration please refer to the Administrator Manual.

The Plugin on the Smart Client, in addition to managing the protocol with the controlled Security Panaels, which acts in the background, offers two distinct categories of features that interact with the User:

- The Management of the elements that make up the controlled Systems through the icons on the Graphic Maps (status display and commands)
- The Management of Events and System Elements through a dedicated workspace

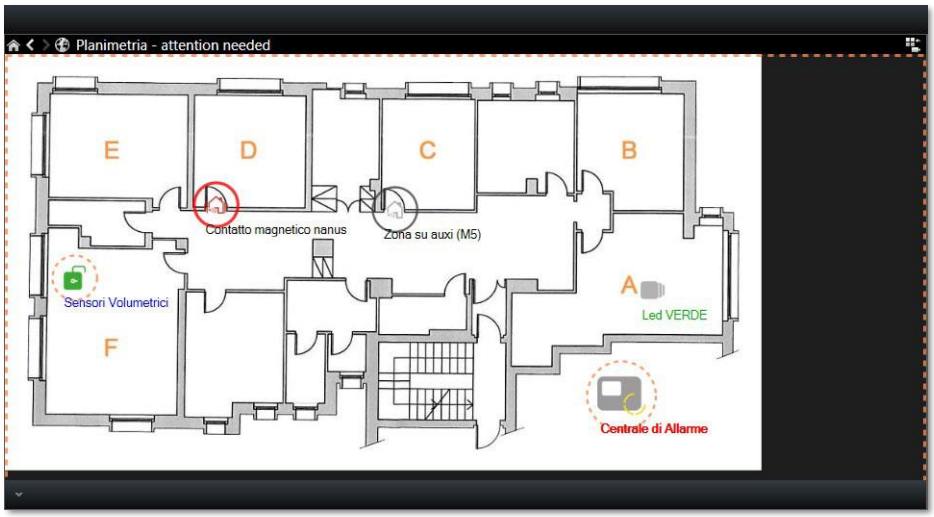
2.1 Systems Management through Graphic Maps

This section represents one of the traditional elements of the XProtect Platform. Although it is possible to use graphic maps also in the workspaces of live and recorded views, inserting them in the views, as well as video streams and other elements, the most frequent use is linked to the Alarm workspace but, as reported, the following can applies to all situations in which maps are present.

Each category of Item on the maps has its own set of icons that allows immediate identification of the Operating State in which it is operating (quiet, alarm, fault, disabled, etc.), as well as its own set of Commands, which can be recalled via contextual menus (right click with the mouse on the icon). In addition, each item uses the "Status View" functionality of the Platform implemented through circles surrounding the item icon on the maps that may have different color, thickness, hatching and flashing speed. These circles can be customized as described in the administration manual.

The Plugin, as above mentioned, in addition to the Alarm and Quiet states, also manages those of "Attention Needed", "Not Operational" and "Disabled"; the second refers to the Offline Control Units while the last obviously refers to an Item that is not enabled on the MC, while the first is linked to the managed Anomalies which, as for the generation of alarms, can be Faults, Tampering condition of "System not Armed" (totally or partially). Of course, this last state may be desired (eg. volumetric sensors in a busy area during the day), but it can be useful for Operators to check, with a glance, the arming status.

Below is an example of a graphical representation of the operating states based on the settings shown in the previous image.



The situation illustrated is the following:

- The "Sensori Volumetrici" Partition is circled in Orange (flashing) since it is Disarmed (not active)
- The “Contatto magnetico nanus” Zone is circled in Red (flashing) because it is in Alarm
- The Zone "Zona su auxi (M5)" is circled in Gray (fixed) because the Item is disabled
- The Security Panel is circled in Orange (flashing) because it is in Battery Fault state
- The Output "Led Verde" is not circled because the Item is in a quiet condition

Finally, it should be noted that the presence of Items with Anomalies (Orange circle) causes the entire map to be surrounded by an Analogous box (Orange flashes) appending after the map title the sentence "attention needed".

2.1.1 Managed Element Icons on Graphic Maps

The graphic representations of the icons of the various elements are illustrated below, combined with the operating states they represent (not all elements can assume all the Operating States).

Element	Quiet	Disarmed	Alarm	Fault	Tampering	Block	Off-Line	Disabled
Security Panel		–						
Partition				–		–	–	
Zone		–				–	–	
Output			–	–	–	–	–	
Scenario		–	–	–	–	–	–	

As previously indicated, to each element on a graphic map, the platform, except for the Quiet state, adds a circle, with different color, thickness, stroke and flashing, to indicate an Operating State that is not, in fact, from that of Quit, therefore, following the example of the previous graphic map:

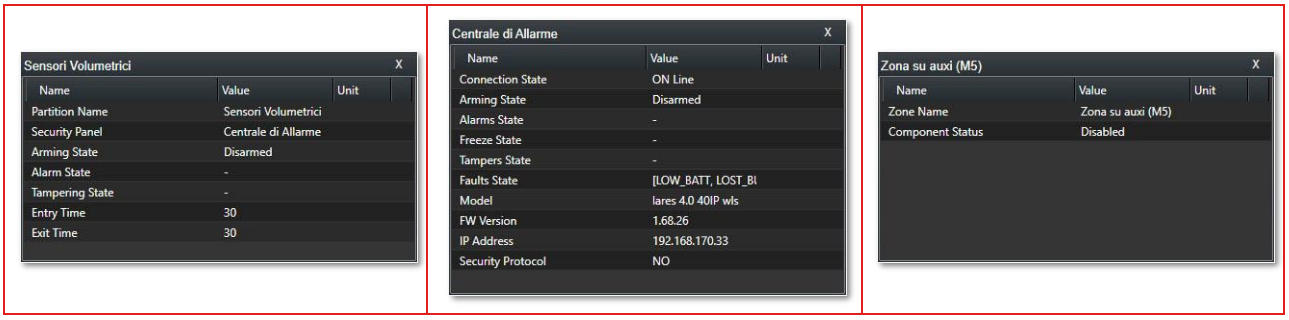
- A red, solid, flashing circle will be added to the icons in the Alarm column
- An orange, dashed and flashing circle will be added to the Disarmed, Fault, Tamper, Lockout and Offline columns
- Finally, a gray circle will be added to the Disabled column, with a continuous and NOT flashing line

Here are some examples.

Scenario Disabled	Partition Disarmed	SP Disarmed	Zone Excluded	Zone Disabled
				

2.1.2 Summary Information of the Managed Elements on Graphic Maps

By clicking with the right mouse button on an icon of a managed element, you access the context menus, part of a general nature and part dedicated to the specific Item. Among the various menu items, "Status details" appears (the last one at the bottom). Selecting this option opens a window that shows summary information of the selected Item. Here are some examples, again referring to the previous example graphic map.



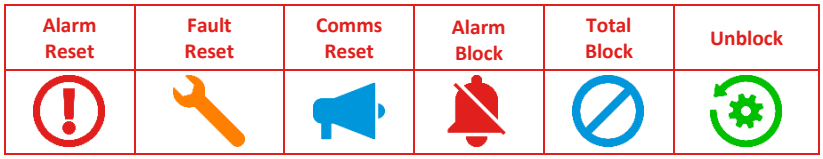
As illustrated below, in the dedicated workspace it is possible to view the detailed information of each element of the System, of which the previous ones represent a minimum subset.

2.1.3 Commands for Managed Elements on Graphic Maps

Nell'elenco delle voci del menù contestuale indicato in precedenza compaiono, differenziati per tipo di elemento, le voci corrispondenti ai possibili Comandi che possono essere inviati. Ciascuna voce è composta da una descrizione e da una icona che visivamente richiama di che Comando si tratta. Di seguito le voci di menù di ciascun Item.

The elements corresponding to the possible commands that can be sent appear in the list of the context menu indicated above, differentiated by type of Item. Each element consists of a description and an icon that visually recalls what Command it is about. Below are the menu elements of each Item.

- Security Panel:



- Partition:

- Zone:

- Output:

- Scenario:

It is necessary to know that the Platform allows you to assign specific menus to the various types of Items only when the Plugin is started and it is not possible to modify them before opening, as can be done with a normal program; unfortunately, this can sometimes lead to confusion. For example, if it were possible to act on the Partitions menus only one of the two items would be enabled as a Command from time to time, if the Partition were Enabled only the Disarm item would be active and vice versa; not being able to do so, the User may request the execution of a Command that cannot be executed, eg. the Disarm command on an already Disarmed Partition.

To solve the matter, as we will see later, in the Event Log of the dedicated workspace all the commands sent, the relative responses of the destination Control unit and the possible result of the Command, if executed, are listed.

Actually, if you command the arming of a partition in this Register the following Events will appear:

- The Command request (Arming Partition XYZ)
- The response of the SP which will be OK if the Partition can be armed or the reason for the refusal otherwise
- One or more Events triggered by the Command executed; for example, if a Partition with one or more excited Zones is armed, the following Events will be generated:
  - Partition Arming
  - Zone (or Zones) Alarm
  - Partition Alarm
  - SP Alarm (if it wasn't already on Alarm)

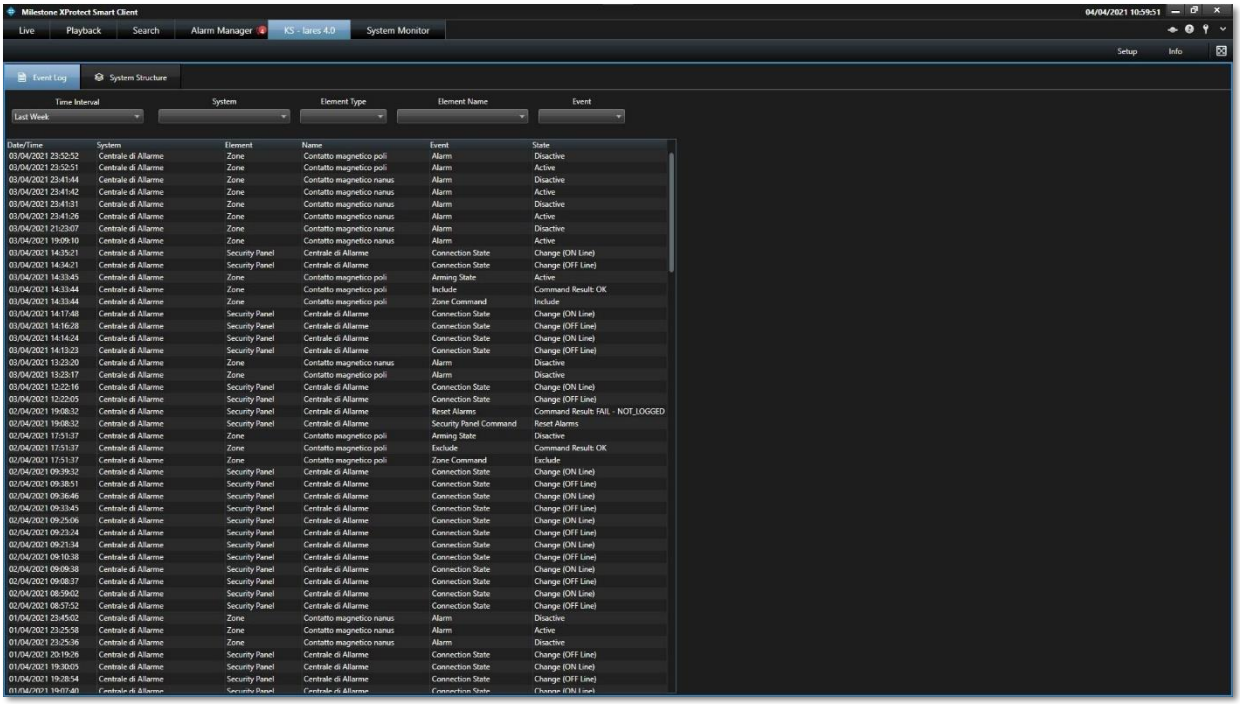
It is therefore advisable, in case of doubts about the outcome of the commands, to consult the Event Log to check, step by step, what actually happened.

To complete the discussion about menu and commands, it is necessary to point out that there are only two conditions that do not create feedback in the Event Log:

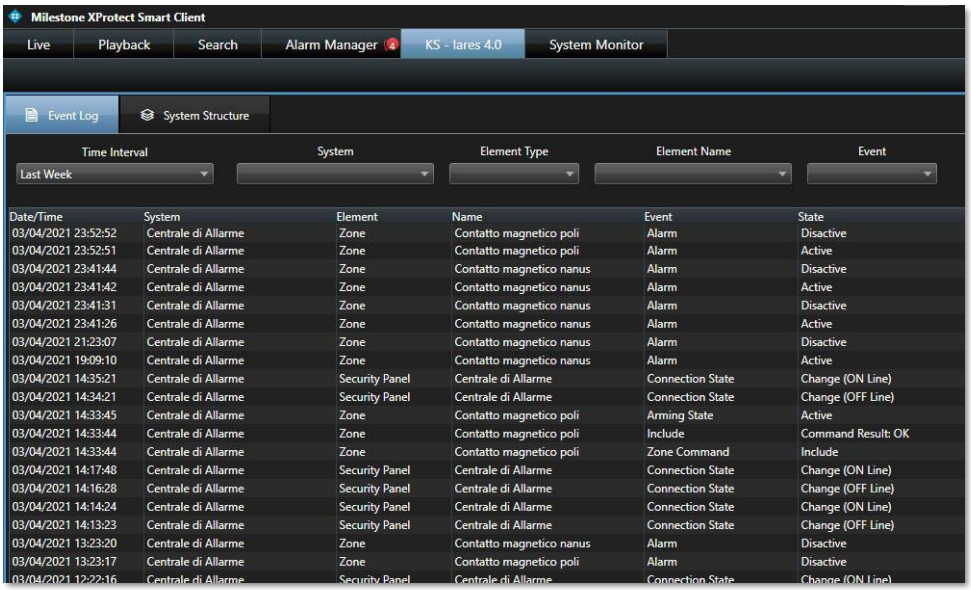
- If you try to send a Command to a Disabled Item; disabling an Item has the highest priority, so the Platform will prevent the execution of the Command (as well as making no sense to do so)
- If you try to send a Command to an Item for which you do not have the Rights to do so; in this case, the Command is still passed to the Plugin which will notify the User, with a specific message, of the impossibility to execute it.

2.2 Systems Management through Dedicated Workspace

The Plugin implements a dedicated workspace called "KS - lares 4.0" consisting of two distinct sections, one called "Event Log" and the other "System Structure".



2.2.1 Event Log



All the Events generated by the Controlled SP, as well as those corresponding to the requests for execution of the Commands by the Users, and related responses from the destination Centers are accumulated by the Plugin for a period of time that can be configured via MC, from a minimum of 2 weeks to a maximum of 3 months.

These Events are displayed in the Event Log section, as shown in the previous figure. The data that make up the Event records are the following:

- Date and Time
- System of Origin (identified by the name of the SP)
- Type of Element (in the example they are Zones and SP)
- Element Name
- Event Type
- Event Status, including Command Actions

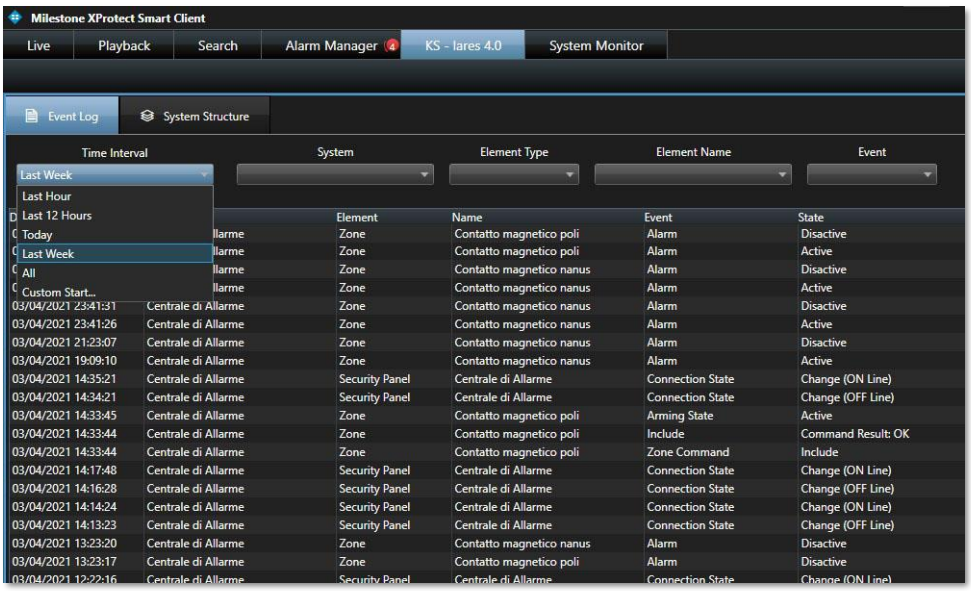
All Events not containing the Command Result in the Status column are spontaneous, for example Zone Alarm Activation and Deactivation, or SP OFF Line/ON Line.

In the central part there are 3 Events referring to the "contatto magnetico poli" Zone (from bottom):

- Zone Inclusion Command
- Command execution OK result
- Zone Arming Notification

2.2.1.1 Display Time Interval Selection

Through the relevant drop-down list you can select the display time interval which by default, at startup, is set to "Today".



The image shows the possible choices where:

- Everything is obviously linked to the retention period set; it could even be 3 months and not less than two weeks (except when installing the Plugin for the first time)
- Custom Start allows you to specify the start date and time of the views; obviously if a date/time prior to the actual availability of the information is indicated, the information will be displayed starting from the first available

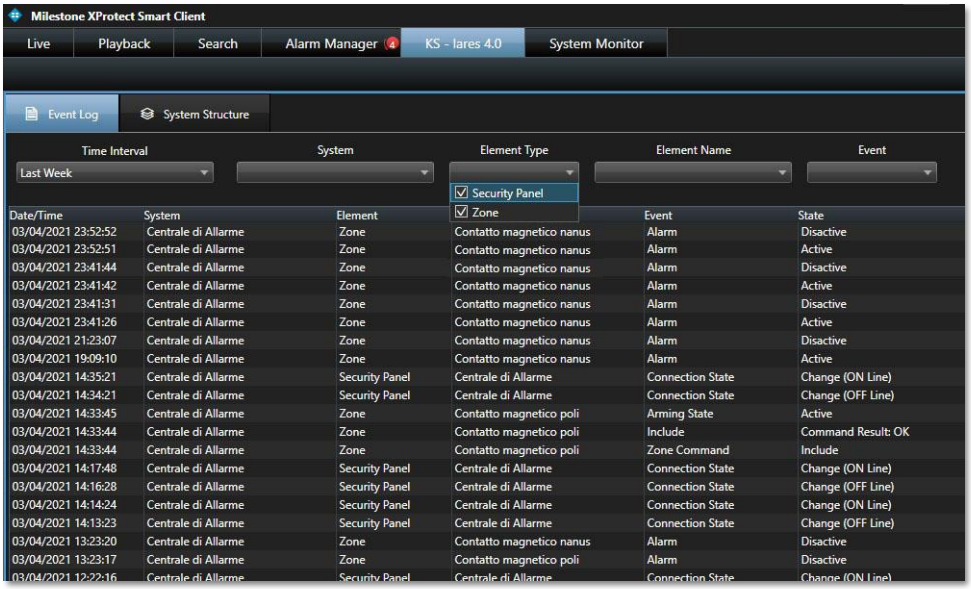
You can change the interval at any time.

2.2.1.2 Event Display Filters

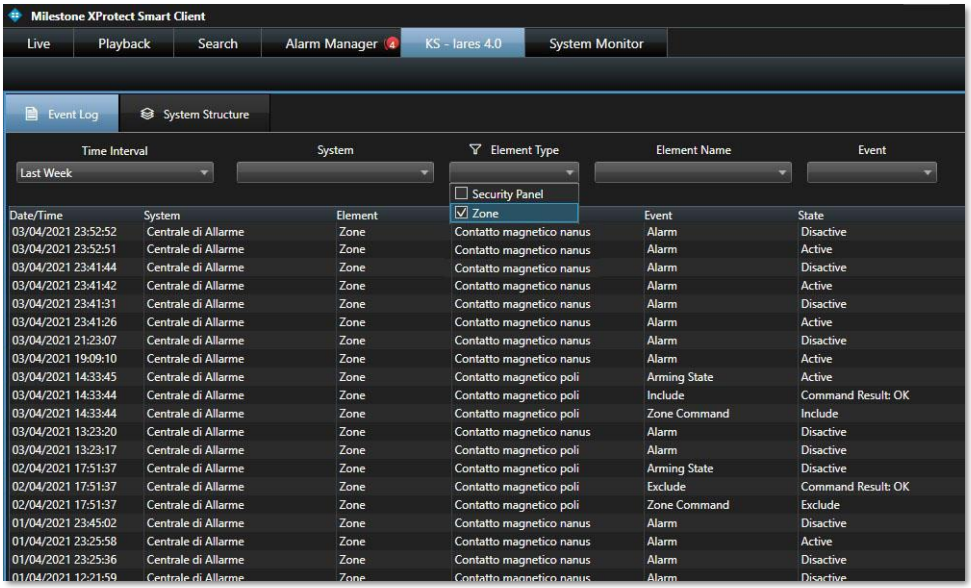
To facilitate the search for Events of interest, there are filters for all the fields of the records, except the one referring to the Status/Command Results.

These filters are dynamic, since the elements that appear in each drop-down list are only those present in the current view in order to limit the filter lists to those that, if applied, will have a certain effect on the list of events displayed.

For example, in the list of the previous Element Type, only the items "Zone" and "Security Panel" will appear, and so on for the others.



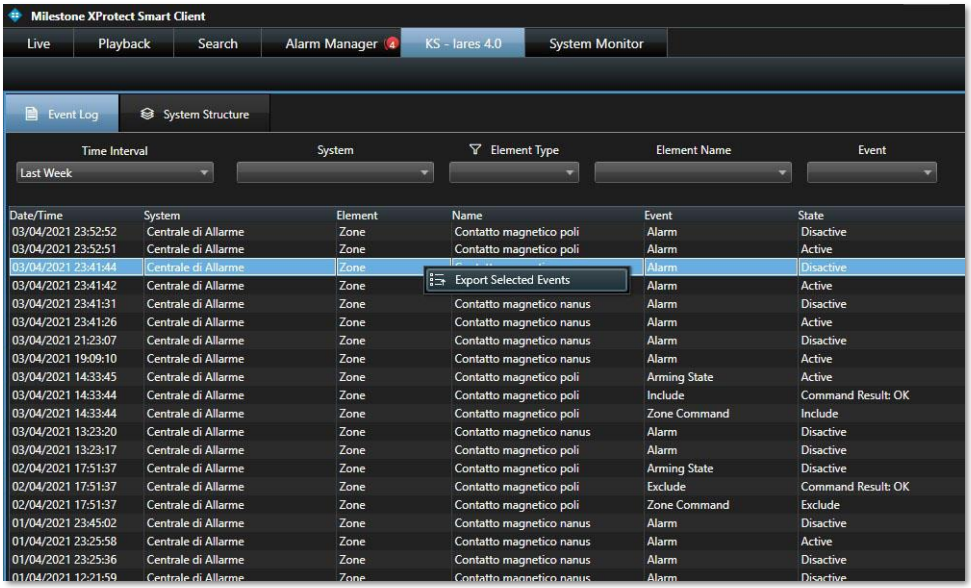
If you deselect the first item at this point, all the lines of the "Security Panel" will disappear immediately (even before releasing the list of filters).



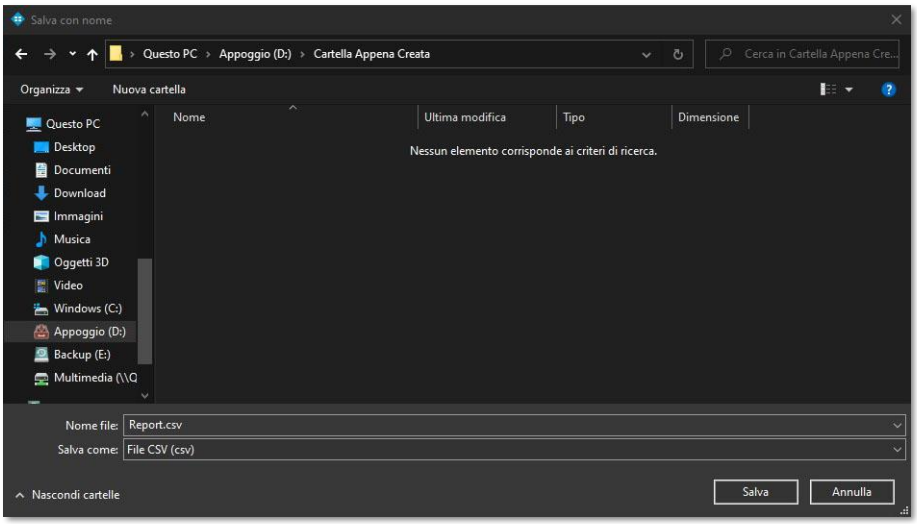
Similarly, you can proceed with the other available filters.

2.2.1.3 Export of Events

If you right-click on any area of the list of Events, including the bar with the names of the Fields, a contextual menu is activated, with a single item, which allows you to export the list of Events displayed at that moment, therefore dependent not only on the selected time interval but also on the applied filters.



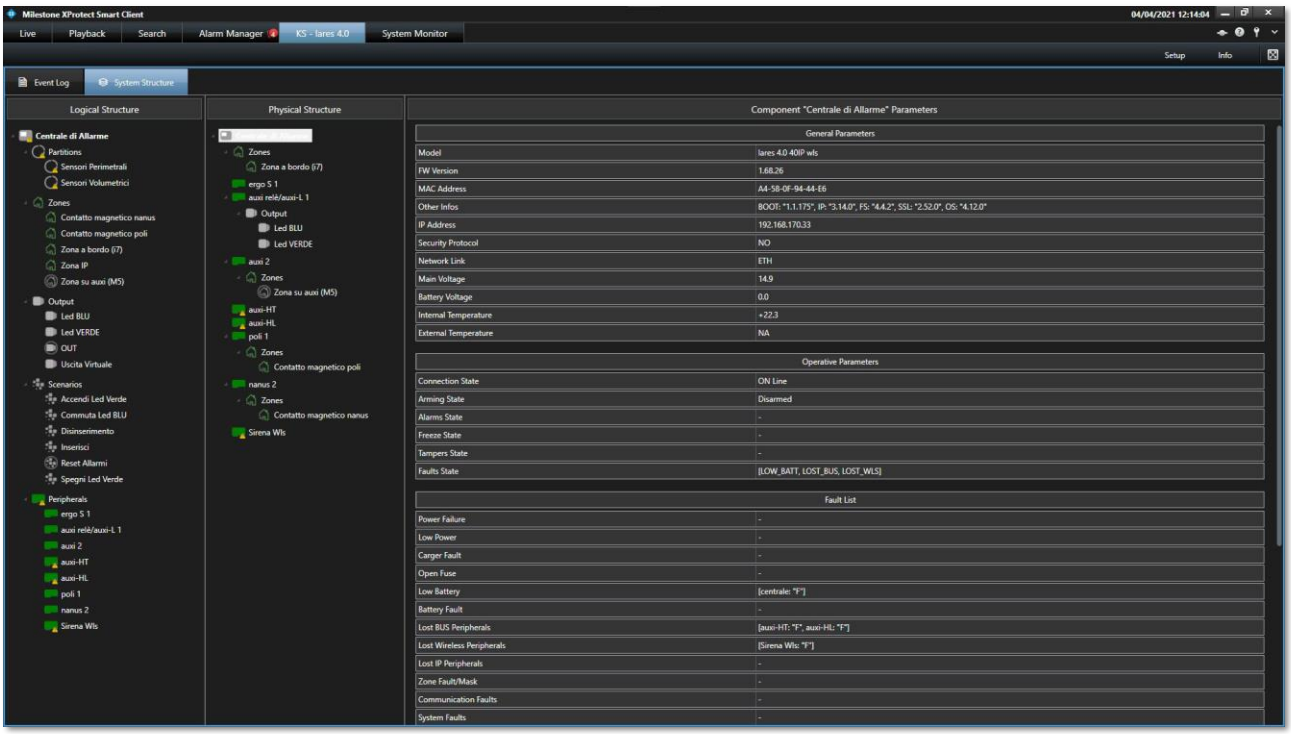
If you select the item, the typical window for saving a file appears, of which it is possible to choose/create the destination folder; the export is in CSV format and the proposed name for the file is Report.csv, the name can be changed but any extension other than .csv is replaced with this.



If you confirm the operation using the Save button, the List of Events displayed at that time will be exported to the chosen file.

2.2.2 Logical and Physical Structures of Systems

The second section of the dedicated workspace contains the System Structures.



From this section you can:

- View the Logical and Physical Structures of all configured Systems
- View the detailed status of all the Items
- Execute commands using the same context menus as the icons on the graphic maps

2.2.2.1 Structure Icons

The following convention is used for the structure icons:

- Each Item type has its own icon
- If the Operating Status of the Item has any Anomaly among those listed above, a yellow Warning triangle is added to the basic icon
- If the Item is disabled, the icon will be gray inside a gray circle

Hereafter some examples of the possible icons of an Item.

Normal	Anomaly	Disabled
		

2.2.2.2 Logical Structures

The Logical Structures contains all the Elements that make up the System, both physical and logical; ex. Zones and Outputs are Physical elements while Partitions and Scenarios Logical one. For this reason, the Logical Structure is generally composed of more Elements than the Physical one.

The root of the System tree is the Security Panel, to which the following groups of Elements are connected:

- Partitions
- Zones
- Outputs
- Scenarios
- Peripherals

The icons of the groups may in turn overlap with the yellow warning triangle to indicate that at least one of the Group Items has the condition of Anomaly (eg the icon of the Peripheral Group).

2.2.2.3 Physical Structures

The Physical Structures all contain Peripherals that make up the System, with their I/O when present, starting from the Security Panel itself.

From the image of the previous example you can see that the Zone called "Zone a bordo (i7)" is located on board the SP while the two Zones called "Contatto magnetico poli/nano" are on board of specific (radio) peripherals.

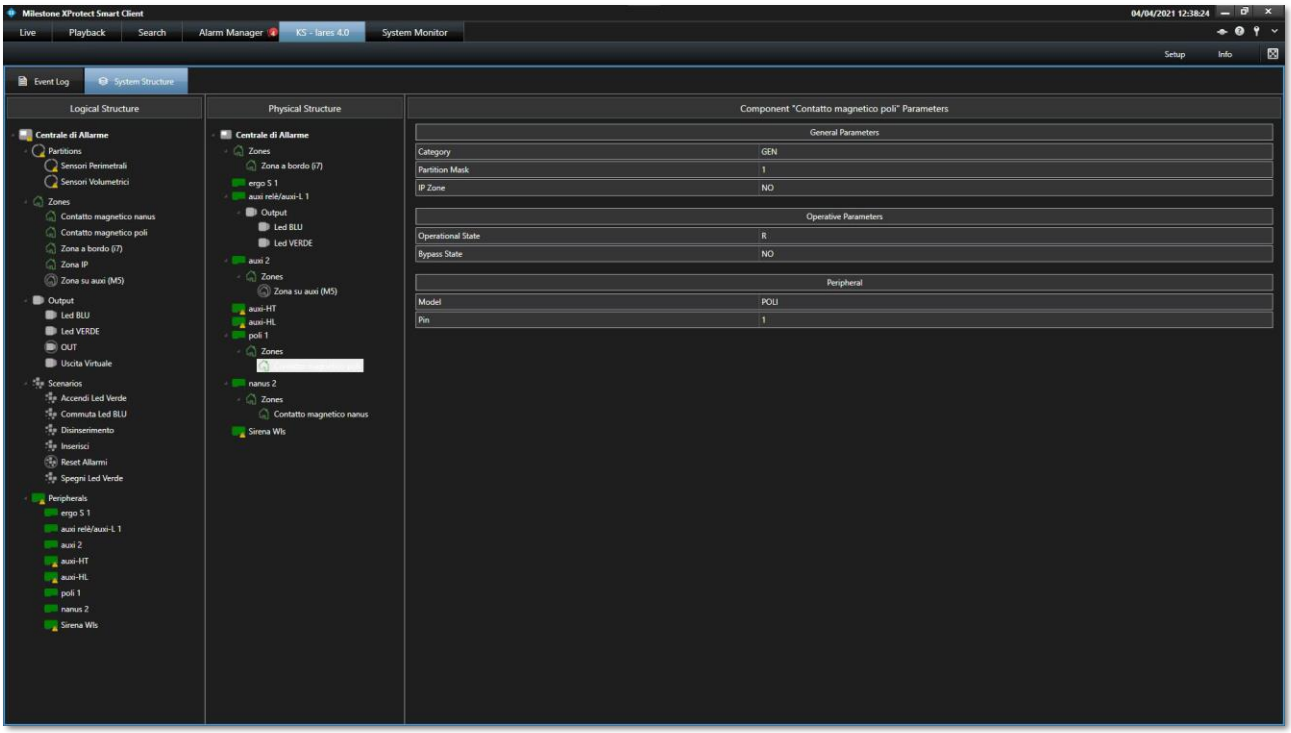
Not all peripherals have their own I / O that can be used as Zones/Outputs, for example the Peripheral called “ergo S 1” which corresponds to a keyboard/display module does not have any.

Attention should be paid to peripheral devices with Anomalies, when this depends on the disappearance of the peripheral (loss of connection) implies that you no longer have control of all the I/O connected to it. To this it must be added that if a peripheral is configured but has never gone Online, therefore it has always been in the Disappeared condition, as it has not been possible to download the related configurations, it is not known if and how many I/O it has.

2.2.2.4 Detailed Information of System Elements

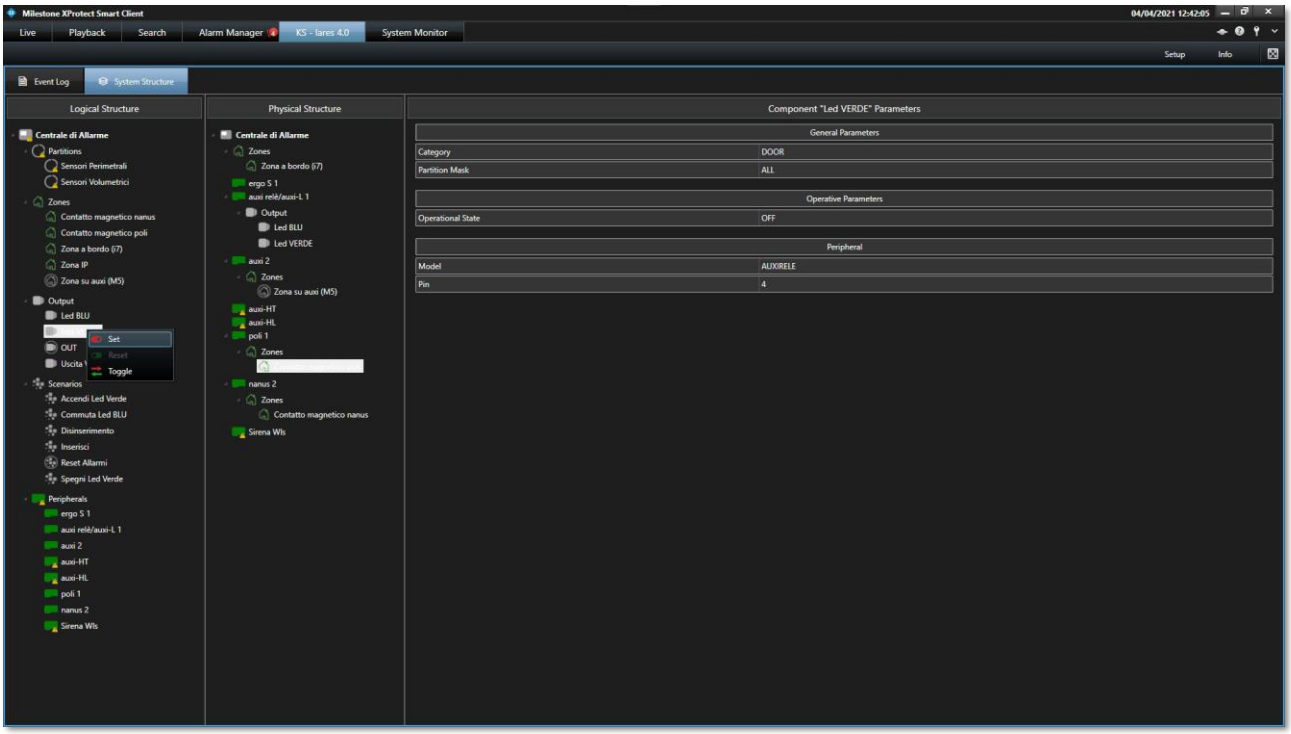
By selecting any Element from one or the other list on the right, a page appears that illustrates its Configuration and Real Time Operating Status (the pages, as well as the icons, are automatically updated for each change in the status of each element).

In the case of Zones/Outputs, in addition to the above information, the connection terminals on the peripheral to which they belong are indicated.



2.2.2.5 Contextual Menu of Icons

All the icons, except those of the Group, have the same contextual menus for the Commands as those positioned on the Graphic Maps.



Unlike what is reported for the same menus of the graphic maps, here the commands, where possible, are conditioned by the operating status of the selected element. In the previous example, the Disable Output command is inhibited as the Output is already in this state.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