

Disclaimer

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Add a device

Updated 23 September 2026

GC Surge supports four ways to add a device, depending on your device type, network setup, and how many devices you are adding at once. Choose the method that matches your situation.

METHOD	BEST FOR	AUTO-CONFIGURES THE DEVICE?
Guided setup	First-time setup or when you are unsure which mode applies.	Yes — for supported brands (AXIS)
Add sites manually	Adding one device at a time with full control over each field.	Partial — auto-detects Private/VPN from the IP.
Import from spreadsheet	Adding 10 or more devices at once.	Partial — validates before import; Private/VPN bulk config available.
Universal device support	Any device that pushes alarms via REST API	SMTP

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Add demo site with devices

If you want to explore GC Surge before connecting any camera hardware, use the Add demo site with devices option. It creates a pre-configured demo site with sample devices and simulated alarms so you can walk through the full workflow — Alarm Center, ZenMode, and alarm processing — without any physical equipment.

To create a demo site:

1. Open Configuration from the left sidebar.
2. In the Added sites panel, click Add demo site with devices (next to Add Site).
3. A confirmation appears and the demo site is added to your site list, along with its three pre-configured devices (Demo Device 1, 2, and 3).

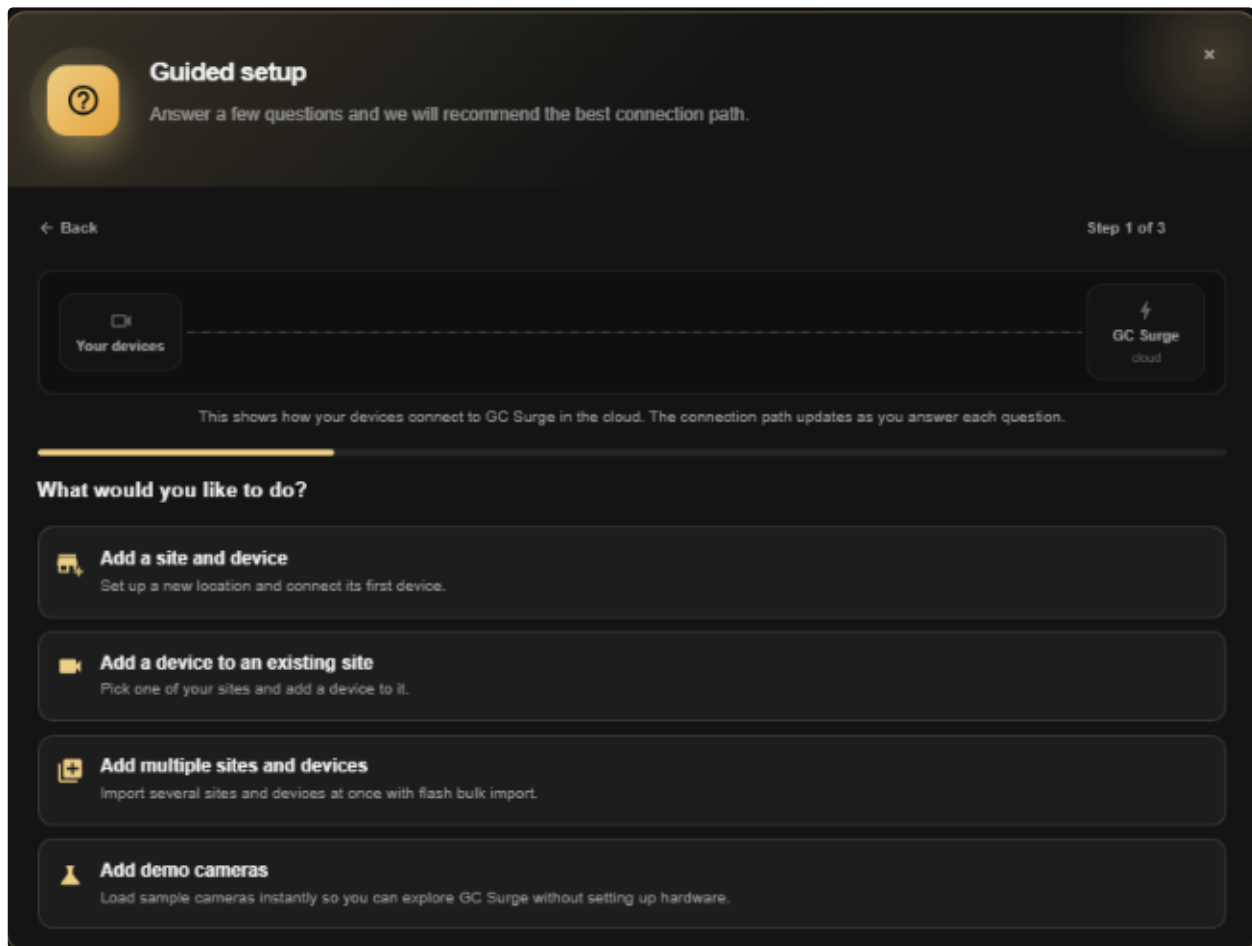
Video — available online at [/api/media/file/add-demo%20\(2\)-20260721-092123.mp4?prefix=media](/api/media/file/add-demo%20(2)-20260721-092123.mp4?prefix=media)

The demo site behaves like a real site — it appears in Alarm Center, generates alarms you can process in ZenMode, and contributes to your KPI metrics. Remove it with the Remove demo site with devices button in Configuration when you no longer need it.

I. Guided setup

Guided setup asks a short set of questions and routes you to the correct configuration automatically. Use this for first-time onboarding or when you are unsure which mode applies.

1. Open Configuration from the left sidebar.
2. Click Add sites & devices (top right) → Guided setup .
3. Select what you want to do:
Add a site and device : enter a site name, then select your device type — A brand from our list , My device can send alarms (API, FTP or SMTP) , or Use GC Edge — works with any device . Follow the on-screen steps. GC Surge configures the device and confirms when alarms are flowing.
Add a device to an existing site : select an existing site, then select your device type — A brand from our list , My device can send alarms (API, FTP or SMTP) , or Use GC Edge — works with any device . Follow the on-screen steps. GC Surge configures the device and confirms when alarms are flowing.
Add multiple sites and devices : opens the bulk import tool — fill in the spreadsheet template and upload it to create all sites and devices at once.
Add demo cameras : loads sample cameras instantly so you can explore GC Surge without setting up hardware.



Screenshot 2026-07-16 111731.png

For the full step-by-step per network mode (Public IP, Private/VPN, Edge), see [Setting Up Sites](#).

2. Add sites manually

Fill in the device's connection details directly — no guided questions. One device at a time.

1. Open Configuration → click Add sites & devices → Add sites manually .
2. Enter the Site name (type a new name to create a site, or pick an existing one).
3. Fill in device details: Device name, Device IP or hostname, Device brand, HTTP/S port, Use case (auto-detected based on device IP, port, and brand), HTTPS (Secure) toggle, Username, Password. To use GC Edge, enable the GC Edge device toggle — this removes the brand requirement.
4. If the IP is private (e.g. 192.168.x.x), GC Surge detects it automatically and shows the WHO INSTALLS THE LOCAL AGENT? section. Choose I am on-site or Delegate installation .

5. Fill in Contact info :if the local agent section appeared (private network device) or the GC Edge device toggle is enabled, Contact person and Contact email are required — they receive the site key and installation steps. Contact phone is optional.
6. Click Add site & device .

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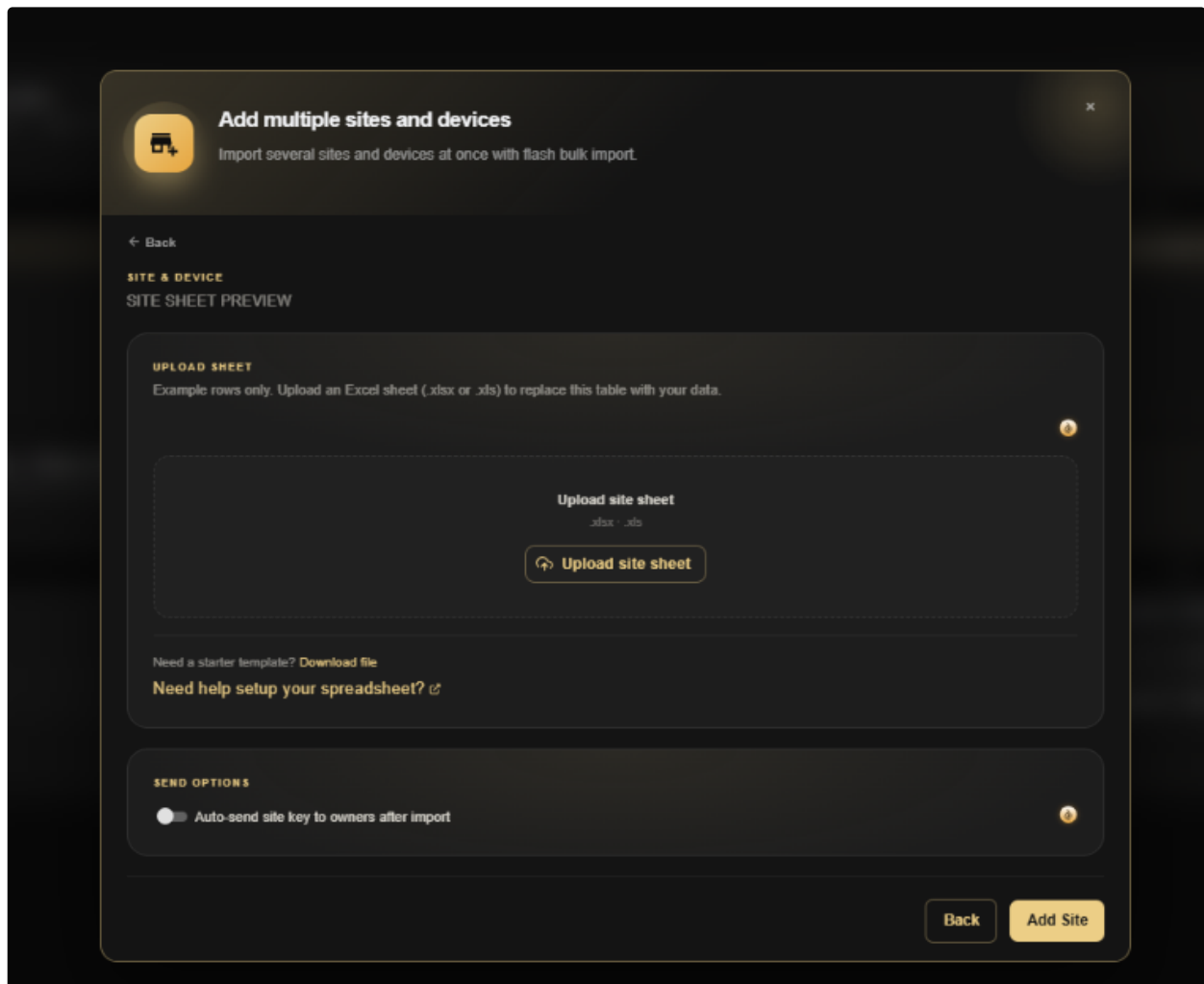
For field-by-field details and GC Edge toggle instructions, see [Setting Up Sites](#).

3. Import from spreadsheet

Add many devices at once using an Excel template. GC Surge previews the data locally before uploading to the server.

1. Open Configuration → click Add sites & devices → Import from spreadsheet .
2. If you need a template, click Download file . Fill in your devices (site name, device name, IP address, HTTP port, RTSP port, username, password, device brand, and contact info) and save the file.
3. Click Upload site sheet and select your completed file (.xlsx or .xls).
4. GC Surge loads the data into the IMPORTED SITES preview table — verify the rows are correct.
5. Under SEND OPTIONS , enable the Auto-send site key to owners after import toggle to automatically deliver each site's key to the assigned contact.
6. Click Upload to server . GC Surge processes the import and redirects to the IMPORT STATUS tab.

For the full column reference and bulk Private/VPN configuration, see [Bulk Spreadsheet Import](#).



Screenshot 2026-07-16 112131.png

Add multiple sites and devices

Import several sites and devices at once with flash bulk import.

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SITE & DEVICE

SITE SHEET PREVIEW

SEND OPTIONS

☒ Auto-send site key to owners after import

Delivery channel(s)

☐ WhatsApp
 ☐ Email

IMPORTED SITES

Previewing locally. Continue to upload to the server. 4 sites

Site name	Device name	IP address	HTTP Port	RTSP port	Username	Password	Device br
Site 1	Dahua Public IP	46.185.208.133	8000	-	admin	GCSurge	Dahua
Site 1	Dahua Private IP	192.168.1.178	80	-	admin	GCSurge	Dahua
Site 2	HikVision Private	192.168.1.116	80	-	admin	GCSurge	HikVisio
Site 3	Edge device	192.168.1.216	80	554	admin	GCSurge	ADPRO

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4. Universal device support

Use this when your device is not on the supported brand list but can push alarms on its own via REST API, Email (SMTP), or FTP. You pick the method your device supports and copy the generated credentials into it.

1. Open Configuration → click Add sites & devices → Universal device support .
2. Enter a Device name , select an existing site or type a new name to create one, and choose the alarm method your device supports: REST API , Email (SMTP) , or FTP.
3. Click Add Device .

4. GC Surge generates the connection credentials. Copy each value exactly into your device's alarm-forwarding settings.
5. Optionally, click + ADD FORWARD ALARM to add recipients in the Forward Alarms step.
6. Click Done.

For credentials per method and manual fallback steps, see [Adding Devices - Universal Device Support](#).

Screenshot 2026-07-16 112455.png

Verify the device is working

After adding a device by any method, confirm the following before marking it operational:

1. In Configuration , confirm the device appears under the correct site and the device count has incremented.



2. In Video Search , confirm events from the new device are appearing. This verifies the full alarm pipeline.
3. In the Home Dashboard , confirm KPI metrics reflect activity from the new site.
4. Do not mark the device as operational until the device's Configuration status shows Configured .