

# Photographic memory

Time-lapse technology: cameras document the seismic retrofit of the Bay Bridge, San Francisco, with spectacular results...

## EARTHCAM SYSTEMS

### WEB CAMERAS:

- 3 ROBOTIC 72 MEGAPIXEL CAMERAS
- 1 ADVANCED MEGAPIXEL CAMERA
- 2 CONSTRUCTION CAMS PROVIDING LIVE STREAMING VIDEO
- 1 LIVE TRAFFIC MONITORING CAMERA
- CAPTURING 38 INDIVIDUAL ANGLES
- LIVE MONITORING
- 3 DAILY PANORAMAS FOR WEBSITE

The restructure of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, a critical transportation link for 280,000 passenger and commercial vehicles daily is targeted for completion in 2013. However, the US\$8.7 billion engineering and construction feat is already well on its way to becoming one of the most documented public projects in history.

EarthCam, the international leader in webcam technology, estimates that before the end of 2009 the project archives will surpass the 1.2m image mark since its cameras began monitoring the massive infrastructure project.

Authorities added EarthCam live and HD panorama webcams in April 2008 and invited the public to see the live images of the seismic retrofit program from the webcams initially intended for engineers, managers and authorities. Since the addition of the EarthCam systems they have delivered and

**“One of the most documented public project in history”**

archived more than one million images for monitoring and documenting key sections of the Bay Bridge.

The robotic cameras have automatically changed points of view and will shift more than 170,000 times before the new year to capture those images. The cameras are best known as the source of live images, three daily panorama views and a time-lapse movie of a major detour installation of the historic project seen on the Caltrans and Bay Area

“The webcams are an integral part of the retrofit project. They are a proven efficiency tool bringing those of us unable to visit the site daily a live instant progress update” said Andrew Fremier, Deputy Executive Director of the Bay Area Toll Bridge Authority, “During the recent detour installation at the East Span the cameras once again proved to be an excellent value for us. Not only were we able to monitor and archive the unprecedented engineering feat but the cameras let

Bay Area residents and the rest of the world see it live,” Mr. Fremier added. The detour installation was completed over the US three-day Labor Day holiday weekend to minimize traffic interruption.

The bridge was closed and a 300-foot-long double-deck section of the East Span of the structure 150 feet above the Yerba Buena Island was cut and rolled out of the way. Engineers and crews then slid a new pre-constructed, double-deck section into place to connect the bridge with a detour that rerouted traffic of an existing tunnel approach. The detour is allowing crews to connect the new East Span to the tunnel. The US\$200m bypass was viewed live by thousands and continues to attract attention as a time-lapse movie.

“Our seven cameras are strategically located to provide images from 38 angles of the project with detailed HD clarity,” said Brian Cury, CEO and Founder of Earth-

Cam. He added, “The systems offer maximum flexibility serving the public with a first-hand look at the daily progress of this landmark accomplishment while providing authorities with immediate live information and documentation for history.” The EarthCam systems are set to view the Skyway and locations on Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island. The live cameras include three robotic 72 megapixel panorama systems, one advanced megapixel 8 camera, two ConstructionCams providing live streaming video and one additional camera to monitor Skyway traffic.

The unique camera systems feature streaming video, high definition historic print quality archiving and self-diagnosis plus wiper systems to provide maintenance free, clear images in a harsh environment. TH

For more information, visit [www.earthcam.com](http://www.earthcam.com)

**“They have delivered and archived more than one million images”**

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