



CASE STUDY

NAME: Baxall Wins Prestigious Californian Transport Contract

CASE: CALTRANS

BAXALL WINS PRESTIGIOUS CALIFORNIAN TRANSPORT CONTRACT WITH ITS DESTINY™-IP RANGE

Baxall Ltd. – the UK's leading manufacturer of CCTV equipment – has won a substantial contract to supply Destiny™-IP software to Caltrans (the State of California Department of Transport).

Caltrans is responsible for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the 15,000 mile California State Highway System. In order to monitor road conditions and control the traffic signal timing, Caltrans installed around 430 CCTV cameras. But in order for its Automatic Traffic Management System (ATMS) to cost-effectively monitor and control those cameras from any number of control points, it turned to British manufacturer Baxall and its Destiny™-IP Codec solution.

Baxall's Destiny™-IP Codecs are advanced products that convert camera signals into compressed data, allowing full-motion, real-time, digital quality video, together with audio and data, to be transmitted across an Internet Protocol (IP) compatible network – an Ethernet network in the case of Caltrans.

The Destiny™-IP Codecs can be configured as a server (encoder) or client (decoder). With Caltrans, a substantial number of both single and dual encoders and decoders have been installed.

The main advantages of using the Destiny™-IP Codec solution for Caltrans are that it is very flexible and cost-effective.

The flexibility comes from the Destiny™-IP Codecs supporting multicast video, which enables multiple Caltrans' operators to view the same image simultaneously from numerous locations. These images can be viewed and controlled either as a single, full screen or quad display, on computer monitors, as well as native video for display walls and dedicated monitors. Pan, tilt and zoom functions and camera-to-monitor switching are also easily controllable. Currently the decoders at Caltrans are used to provide images on monitors spread across diverse locations.

Cost effectiveness is achieved by no requirement for additional cabling as Caltrans' existing Ethernet network is used and the software will run on any PC using Windows 98, 2000, NT and Millennium.

The Caltrans' Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS) is currently only able to communicate via an RS232 port. Baxall's is providing the solution using a serial converter that allows those systems to connect to the Ethernet network.

In addition to the Codecs and this serial converter, Baxall has supplied Destiny™-IP keyboards and PC controller to control the system. Currently, the CCTV images are restricted to Caltrans employees, but with the introduction of the new Baxall software, plans are already afoot to put some CCTV images available for view on the internet, allowing the public to check the highways for traffic themselves.