

SUCCESS STORY

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Smooth Sailing, with Elbfähre Glücksstadt Wischhafen and IP Solutions from Basler and HeiTel



Customer

- Elbfähre Glücksstadt Wischhafen (a ferry line)
- Location: Glücksstadt, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
- Industry: Transportation
- Completed: 2011

The Elbfähre Glücksstadt Wischhafen ferry line has been running between Glückstadt and Wischhafen since 1919, and is now in its third generation of operations under the Both, Harttermann and Lorenzen families. The mid-sized company employs roughly 50 workers, shuttling over 7000 vehicles across the water each year on four large ferries.

Application

The ferry connection between Wischhafen, Lower Saxony, and Glücksstadt, Schleswig-Holstein, is the most northwesterly crossing of the Elbe for cars, bicycles and pedestrians. During the summer months in particular, the 25-minute crossing is a favorite for tourists and day trippers headed off on vacation. The ferry link also serves as an alternative route to the frequently traffic-plagued Elbtunnel. During normal traffic hours, the ferry arrives twice an hour on each side. At peak times that is increased to three dockings per hour.

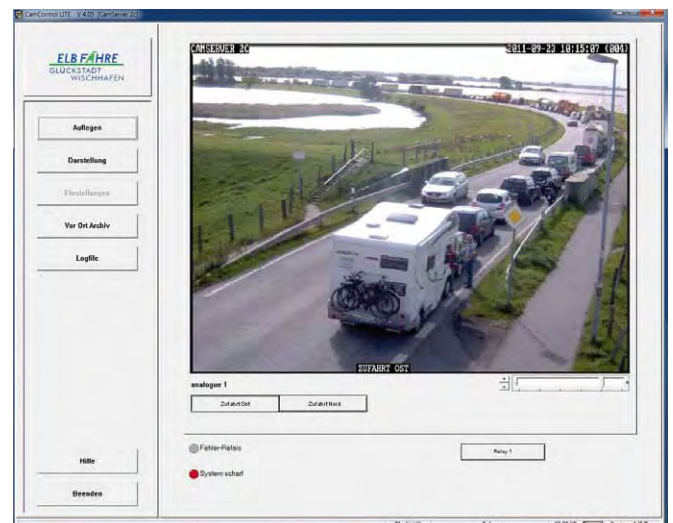
A precise traffic flow analysis system is essential to ensure efficient transportation of passengers during those peak periods. This includes the ability to continuously monitor the number of vehicles waiting at the docks for the next ferry. The ferry operators decided to equip the dock access road in Glücksstadt with cameras, and contacted Thiele Hauselectronic for help. Thiele, which has been planning and implementing security systems for more than 20 years, was tasked with defining a suitable system comprising cameras, servers and network infrastructure, for the Elbfähre Glücksstadt Wischhafen company.

Solution and Benefits

After evaluating several camera models presented by Thiele Hauselectronic, the ferry operators selected Basler IP Cameras. Torsten Faasch, a salesman consultant at Thiele Hauselectronic, recommended the BIP-DI300c-dn one megapixel camera, which features a weather and vandal-resistant dome housing that makes it ideal for outdoor use. The integrated day/night functionality was another key decision factor, as the need for traffic flow analysis does not go away just because the sun has gone down. The CCD sensor built into the Basler IP Camera ensures optimal image quality at any lighting levels – even when car headlights are casting oncoming light.

Poles were erected at intervals of several hundred meters to hold the cameras. Eight Basler IP Cameras were installed in pairs on the masts to cover the largest section of road possible, with the cameras pointing in opposite directions.

For the video gateway, Faasch selected a “CamServer 2c” from HeiTel, another Schleswig-Holstein company. “The ‘Made in Germany’ quality of the Basler and HeiTel products was simply convincing to me,” Faasch says. “Installation went completely smoothly and they’re available with competent support any time I have questions.”



Heitel's Cam Control LITE Software Allows the Ferry Operators to Keep an Eye on Current Traffic Conditions.

The HeiTel video gateways allow ferry operators to view the camera images directly via cellular signals, giving them the information they need to optimize their ferrying capacity. "The solution we put together with Mr. Faasch has more than fulfilled our expectations, especially in terms of image quality," notes Hildegard Both-Walberg, managing director at Elbfähre Glückstadt Wischhafen. "The installation of the IP cameras now allows us to keep an eye on current traffic conditions. We can react quickly when traffic volumes spike and even issue regular traffic notifications."

Technologies Used

- Basler BIP-D1300c-dn IP dome camera with pole mount
- HeiTel CamServer 2c with CamControl LITE software

More Information

www.elbfaehre.de

www.thiele-gruppe.de

www.heitel.com



Thiele Hauselectronic Employees Are Setting Up the IP Solution.



A Weather and Vandal-Resistant Metal Housing Makes Basler IP Dome Cameras Ideal for Outdoor Use.

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