

South Africa Gears Up for World Cup





March Networks Video Surveillance Systems to Help Create a Safe, Secure Environment on New Bus and Rail Systems

Tens of millions of eyes will be focused on the world's top-ranked football stars battling for supremacy at the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, but behind the scenes, March Networks video surveillance technology will be playing an important supporting role.

SEVERAL major transportation infrastructure projects under construction in the country are being equipped with state-of-the-art March Networks® video surveillance systems to help create a safe and secure environment for World Cup football fans and commuters.

Johannesburg's new Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system will consist of more than 300 kilometers of dedicated bus lanes and 150 bus stations. The first phase of the system, scheduled for completion in 2009, will include 48 stations covering a distance of 40 kilometers. A second phase, scheduled for completion in time for the FIFA World Cup, will cover an additional 86 kilometers and include 102 stations.

"The tender for the recording system was very competitive. We won the bid with the solution we proposed because of the quality of the March Networks product and the fact that it complied with all of the rail operator's requirements."

March Networks' VideoSphere™ fixed and PTZ IP cameras are being installed at every station by Bona Electronic Solutions (Pty) Ltd., a division of Basix Technologies (Pty) Ltd., a March Networks Certified Solution Provider. The cameras will be linked to March Networks NVRs located at the Joint Command and Control Center operated by the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) via a high-speed fiber-optic network.

Bona Electronic Solutions also won the contract to supply fixed video recording systems for South Africa's 80-kilometer Gautrain, another major transportation infrastructure project. One line connects OR Tambo International Airport with Sandton, Johannesburg's financial and business center, and another links Johannesburg with the country's capital, Tshwane, formerly Pretoria. Traveling at speeds of up to 160 kilometers per hour, the Gautrain will take 42 minutes to make the 54-kilometer trip between the two cities.

The fixed Gautrain video surveillance system will cover 10 stations and one rail depot for a total of more than 800 analog cameras connected to March Networks VideoSphere Edge encoders and networked recorders.

The system will include a viewing station at each rail station as well as five monitoring stations at Gautrain's control center to investigate incidents and proactively monitor platform risks such as overcrowding. To further enhance security, video from dedicated cameras covering emergency telephones will be automatically displayed on overhead LCD monitors at the control center once activated.

The first phase of the Gautrain from OR Tambo International Airport to Sandton is scheduled for completion by the end of June 2010. The remainder of the system will be completed by March 2011.

"An enormous amount of time and energy was invested in the procurement process," said Jeff Groenewald, Group Managing Director, Basix Technologies. "The tender for the recording system was very competitive. We won the bid with the solution we proposed because of the quality of the March Networks product and the fact that it complied with all of the rail operator's requirements."





Basix Technologies

Basix Technologies is a leader in the design and implementation of turnkey electronic security solutions which seamlessly integrate with communication technologies and management systems. A fully accredited ISO 9001:2000 integrator, Basix has the expertise, the technologies, and the design and tailored engineering capabilities to provide a complete range of smart solutions. www.basixtech.co.za

Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit

Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit is a rapid transit system with 300 kilometers of dedicated bus lanes and 150 bus stations serving Johannesburg and surrounding suburbs. The first phase of the system, scheduled for completion in 2009, will include 48 stations covering a distance of 40 kilometers. A second phase, scheduled for completion in time for the FIFA World Cup will cover an additional 86 kilometers and include 102 stations. www.reavaya.org.za

Gautrain

The **Gautrain** is an 80-kilometer state-of-the-art rapid rail network that will link Tshwane (Pretoria) and Johannesburg, as well as OR Tambo International Airport and Sandton, Johannesburg's financial and business center. The first phase of the Gautrain from OR Tambo International Airport to Sandton is scheduled for completion by the end of June 2010. The remainder of the system will be completed by March 2011. www.gautrain.co.za

SANRAL

The **South African National Roads Agency Limited**, generally known as SANRAL, is an independent, state-owned company with a mandate to finance, improve, manage and maintain the national road network. SANRAL has a corporate centre in Hatfield, Pretoria and four regional locations across the country. It manages 16,500 kilometers of roads and has assets worth in excess of R30 billion. www.nra.co.za

"In all cases, March Networks technology was our first choice. Quality, reliability, and value for money were key considerations. Another important factor was the option to take advantage of March Networks' video analytics in the bus and rail station environments sometime in the future."

Coincidentally, the Bombardier Transportation high-speed trains running on the Gautrain will be equipped with an onboard SEKURFLO security solution jointly designed and developed by Bombardier and March Networks (*March Networks News*, September 2007).

Bona Electronic Solutions is also using March Networks recorders for Intelligent Transportation Systems that monitor traffic on major highways serving Johannesburg and several other cities in South Africa. The systems include analog and IP cameras, March Networks' VideoSphere Edge encoders and 32-channel networked recorders linked to a monitoring center operated by the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL).

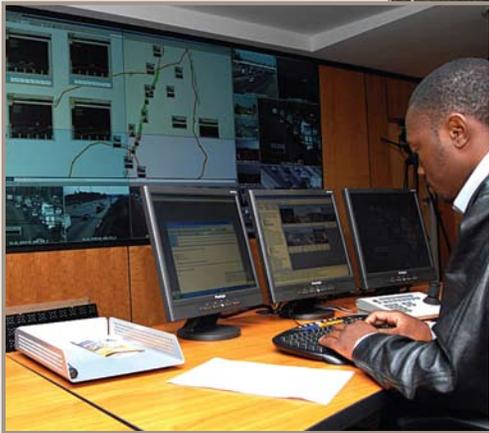
The first ITS contract was awarded in 2004 for the Ben Schoeman Highway, which links Johannesburg and Tshwane, and carries some 300,000 vehicles a day, making it the busiest highway in the southern hemisphere. Bona Electronic Solutions was also successful in its bid to supply variable message signs on the highway, said Groenewald.

"The system allows SANRAL to notify motorists about accidents and traffic congestion so they can take alternate routes."

An additional three contracts were awarded in 2008 to the Basix Technologies division for several other highways, bringing the total number of cameras on highways in the Johannesburg region to 270.

"In all cases, March Networks technology was our first choice," said Groenewald. "Quality, reliability, and value for money were key considerations. Another important factor was the option to take advantage of March Networks' video analytics in the bus and rail station environments sometime in the future.

"The March Networks platform offered our customers an open migration path to evolving technologies like video analytics that can be used to trigger alarms and quickly respond to potential threats." ✨



▲ Monitoring center staff keep an eye on highway traffic, notifying motorists of traffic tie-ups and enabling them to choose alternate routes.



▲ An Intelligent Transportation System operated by the South African National Roads Agency relies on March Networks video surveillance technology to monitor traffic on major highways serving Johannesburg and several other cities in South Africa.

▲ Cabinets equipped with March Networks video surveillance hardware are prepared in advance for eventual transfer and installation at Gautrain stations.