

Research Results

Equipment

October 2025

Project Title: Evaluation of Advanced Security Systems for Caltrans Equipment Yards/Maintenance Stations

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Evaluation of Advanced Security Systems for Caltrans Equipment Yards/Maintenance Stations

This research explored the potential of utilizing pole-mounted camera system to provide security at Caltrans facilities.

WHAT WAS THE NEED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) currently experiences high amounts of vehicle component theft at its facilities. Cumulatively, the state has had over \$4 million in catalytic converters stolen to date. Equipment yards and maintenance stations typically only have perimeter fences and sometimes standing guards, but a guard service is prohibitively expensive for wider usage across the state. These current measures are inadequate to deter thieves. Caltrans needs evaluation of a modern security system. One system type investigated in this task was a system of pole-mounted security cameras curated by Omniflow. Such a system holds the potential of reducing this theft problem and associated costs.

WHAT WAS OUR GOAL?

The goal of this project was to determine if a modern security system could reduce theft at Caltrans facilities, thus reducing subsequent repair costs.

WHAT DID WE DO?

The AHMCT Research Center and Caltrans presented potential systems to investigate to the project panel. The Caltrans task manager then facilitated the procurement, design, and installation of the Omniflow camera system at the Division of Equipment's Shop 3 in Marysville, California.

WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

The Omniflow system was successfully installed and power on at Shop 3 in Marysville, CA. Unforeseen delays in planning, procurement, and construction did not allow time to conduct the pilot test. Pilot testing will take place as part of Task 4455.



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WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

This project addressed the security needs of Caltrans equipment yards and maintenance stations across the state. These advanced security systems are expected to deter theft and streamline the process of alerting responding agencies to intruders at sites where these systems are deployed.

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Final Report online access forthcoming.