



SUCCESS STORY

Nobel Prize Award Ceremony

Captured by Axis Network Cameras

The mission

- To show the Swedish Nobel Award Ceremony and all its preparations live to the public on the Internet from the web-site of Nobel e-Museums (NeM).
- The Nobel Committee needed a camera that was easy to use and could deliver high quality pictures. Additionally, the camera was required to manage secure transfer of images between Stockholm City Hall and the NeM web-site, managed from a remote office.

The solution

- Nobel e-Museum selected two AXIS 2120 Network Cameras for image capture.
- Under control of a remote server, the AXIS 2120 delivered a picture every ten seconds to the web-site, www.nobel.se.
- An AXIS 2120 with its built-in web-server required no other equipment than a network connection and power outlet.

The result

- Nobel e-Museum is very pleased with the AXIS 2120 Network Camera's performance, easy installation and high picture quality.
- While the AXIS 2120 Network Camera was in operation during the week of the Nobel festivities, there was an increase in the number of visitors to the Nobel web-site.



The customer

The Nobel e-Museum (NeM), www.nobel.se, is the official web site of the Nobel Foundation. On the web-site, visitors can read about Nobel Prize winners and their extraordinary discoveries and activities.

Web Master of the Nobel e-Museum since 1995, Hans Mehlin is a biologist who received his doctorate in Molecular genetics in 1992.

Nobel Awards – live on the Internet

For the second year in a row, the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony in the City Hall of Stockholm was captured and broadcast live by Axis Network Cameras. The preparations for the Nobel Award festivities, the guest arrivals, and toasting of the King and Queen of Sweden were captured and displayed on the Nobel Foundation's Web site at: www.nobel.se. "We actually used two Axis cameras this year," says Hans Mehlin, webmaster of Nobel e-Museum (NeM). "One camera scanned the entire festive hall, while the other camera overlooked the stairs leading guests down to the banquet hall and the tables near the stairs."

The yearly Nobel Prize Award Ceremony is by far the most internationally recognized and well-covered event in Sweden. During the week of the Nobel festivities, there is an extraordinary amount of activity as prize-winners share their discoveries with the rest of the world by holding seminars, delivering lectures, and presenting reports. At the same time an equally intense activity occurs at Stockholm City Hall as preparations begin to host the Nobel Prize Awards banquet.

"The idea of using a network camera has developed bit by bit," explains Mehlin. "I have participated in the festivities for several years now, and I've seen all the preparations made for this special event. Each time I have been equally impressed and fascinated by the preparation activities and also by all the people involved who know exactly what to do. I want to share this fascinating process and show it to other people."

Solid and dependable performance

Mehlin praised the AXIS 2120 Network Camera especially for its ease-of-use and its attractive and handy installation. "It was not a coincidence that NeM chose to use an Axis camera for capturing the event," Mehlin says. "The AXIS 2120 is perfect for our needs. The only other equipment I required besides the camera itself was a network connection and a power outlet."

"A neat physical installation is as important to us as the camera's technical performance. The AXIS 2120 Network Camera is uncomplicated to install, it's handy and very discreet, and, above all, it is solid and dependable. Another advantage, which is a necessity for our application, is that Axis uses technology based on open standards, e.g. http, allowing reliable transmissions between the City Hall and the office of NeM."

Recognized for new product innovation at the ISC Expo in New York last year, the AXIS 2120 Network Camera is Axis' most recent camera model. Featuring a built-in web-server, the AXIS 2120 can transmit very high quality digital pictures in real time.

"I am totally satisfied with the camera's performance," says Mehlin. "Picture quality is higher than traditional web cameras, providing better sharpness in the darker parts of the image. Transmission speed of the AXIS 2120 Network Camera is also a lot higher. An exciting and elegant innovation is the rapid picture transmission, delivering live video with as many as 25 pictures per second, which I am considering using next year."

Nobel's taste for technology

Image transmission from the cameras to the Nobel Web site on the Internet was absolutely trouble-free. Every ten seconds a server in the office of Nobel e-Museum requested a new picture from the AXIS 2120 Network Camera. The picture, together with other information such as time and date, was put into the Web site, www.nobel.se. "We are now preparing a time-lapse sequence of all these pictures," reveals Mehlin. "Our Web site will depict the film and some of the best pictures of the banquet and its preparations."

As the official Web site of the Nobel Foundation, the Nobel e-Museum (NeM) contains information about Nobel Prize Winners, including their extraordinary discoveries and activities. "We have a wide range of visitors to our Web site," says Mehlin. "Our ambition is to show them all of the Nobel Foundation's activities. The possibility of depicting the banquet in pictures as we have done feels unobtrusive and polite."

"Since 1995, when NeM was founded, the number of visitors to our Web site peaks every year in October as the names of the Nobel Prize winners are published. Using the network cameras both this year and last year, we noticed a similar peak in traffic to our Web site during the week of the Nobel festivities."

Simplicity of operation

Axis' network cameras differ dramatically from PC-attached, or web cameras in this way: although a web camera must be connected to the network via a PC, a network camera can connect directly to the network. Since it does not require proximity to a PC, a network camera can be used virtually anywhere. All the intelligence is inside the camera—no extra hardware or software is needed to use the network camera for applications such as remote monitoring and web enhancement. Axis network cameras are designed for minimal service and require practically no traditional "PC maintenance."

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