

PRESENTATION ABSTRACT : Changing Cities

WEBCAM USAGE IN ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY COMPARED TO INTERNATIONAL TRENDS.

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Abstract

Web Camera (webcams) is a video camera that feeds or streams its image in real time to or through a computer to a computer network. When "captured" by the computer, the video stream may be saved, viewed or sent on to other networks via systems such as the internet as online streaming or as a burst feed.

Webcam technology is becoming cheaper and more greatly used by the public as the cost of data decreases and the availability of data increases. This paper evaluates the webcams that are available to the public and installed in the Ethekwini municipality by both private individuals, companies, as well as the municipality.

Current international webcam trends have been evaluated in this research and webcams have been found to improve the quality of life of the residents of different cities. Examples from major cities are presented.

A survey was conducted amongst some of the computer literate members of Ethekwini community to establish the usage and impressions of local webcams.

It was found that there is a demand for more public webcams in the city, and the proliferation of webcams could make better living conditions for citizens in the way of safety, security, traffic congestion and better time efficiency.

Keywords: webcam, data, Durban, technology