



UV Bandpass Technologies

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Eurotunnel Electrical Train Line inspection with the DayCor®II camera

by **Controle et Maintenance (C&M) -
France**

The Eurotunnel train line connects the UK with France and enters the undersea tunnel at the French town Calais. The proximity to the sea causes a high level of salt contamination on the insulators and cables, and an annual maintenance program has been prepared, though not tested.

In October 2002 the trains travelling UK - France stopped all of a sudden and so did the train from Calais to Boulogne. To reactivate the trains an immediate washing of one side of the line was ordered. Apparently, this procedure was awkward and lengthy since the maintenance team could not pinpoint with its instruments the contaminated spots, and had to clean all along the whole line.

As a result, C&M, the DayCor®II representative in France, was commissioned to check the quality of the washing. Using the DayCor®II camera it became immediately evident which side of the line was washed, and exactly which of the washed insulators were not properly washed and had still corona and arcing activity on them. Furthermore, with the DayCor®II camera mounted on the washing railway trailer C&M pointed out to the washing team which of the insulators needed urgent and high priority washing.

A video clip is available upon request.

For more information please check:

DayCor camera website: www.daycor.com,
www.seeing-corona.com

C&M website: <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/controle-et-maintenance/>
Email: c-et-m@wanadoo.fr



Figure 1: Note the strong discharge on the lower insulator of the pylon on the right side of the railway



Figure 2: Pylon on the right side of railway. There is Corona on the lower insulator and arcing on the upper insulator. This side was not washed



Figure 3: Corona on one of the insulators on the left side of the railway. This side was washed, the discharge on this insulator is due to either insufficient washing or the team skipped this insulator for unknown reason