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Video



CALIFORNIA  
ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES

“The Osprey product line is a rock solid streaming solution which I have used for over 15 years in corporate, educational, and government applications, capturing content from analog composite to HD-SDI.”

– Wayne Lunden

## Profile

The California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco is a unique combination of a natural history museum, aquarium, planetarium, indoor rain forest, educational facility, and a full research institution. The academy uses an array of live webcams to enable members of the public to see the natural behavior of sharks, rays, tropical fish, penguins, and tropical fish around the clock.

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Osprey Video  
901 S Kimball  
Southlake, TX 76092  
[www.ospreyvideo.com](http://www.ospreyvideo.com)  
800-251-7900

## Osprey Video Cards power highly popular 24/7 live streaming

“We have been using Osprey 825e video capture cards for our highly-popular live streaming webcams for many years,” said Tyler Sterkel, a web producer at the academy. “In fact, given the rock-solid performance of the Osprey cards in powering these 24/7 webcams, there is no question of shopping for competing products.”

The person responsible for obtaining products such as video capture cards is Wayne Lunden, electronics and exhibits engineering manager. As the academy's chief A/V technician, Lunden has indeed stopped shopping for other brands. He doesn't look elsewhere because he has never had an Osprey card fail. “They just work,” he said.

The academy has eight webcam encoders, six of which already have two-channel Osprey 825e cards. They recently acquired two more of the cards for the remaining encoding machines. “Standardizing the infrastructure that runs our webcams makes maintenance and fail-overs much simpler,” explained Sterkel.

The cards will be installed in encoders connected to two new underwater webcams in the academy's Philippine Coral Reef exhibit (<http://www.calacademy.org/explore-science/philippine-coral-reef-cam>). The new cameras will immerse viewers in a gorgeous and educational view of the tropical colors and diversity of fish and coral native to the Philippines. The academy sent a major expedition of academy scientists to the Philippines in April 2015, and they plan to launch the new underwater webcams along with the publication of the expedition's findings during the summer.