

Odakyu Electric Railway Co., Ltd. announced that it is carrying out trials of Nokia's SpaceTime scene analytics in order to identify ways of enhancing rail crossing safety.

With testing underway at Tamagawa Gakuenmae No.8 railroad crossing in Machida City, Tokyo, Nokia's scene analytics can detect abnormal events by applying machine-learning based artificial intelligence to available camera images. Trials will be conducted from February 14 into March.

Analyzing available image feeds generated by conventional railroad crossing cameras, scene analytics identifies potential issues in real-time. Running on edge computing resources, it can also greatly reduce required bandwidth at remote sites, which may have limited connectivity.

The Odakyu Electric Railway is committed to advancing innovative technology in order to make the Odakyu Line the safest rail company in Japan, enabling its customers to travel with complete peace of mind.

One of the leading private railway operators in Japan, Odakyu Electric Railway currently has 229 crossing points across 120.5 kilometers of rail track, with 137 radar systems for object detection.

John Harrington, Head of Nokia Japan, said: “Odakyu Electric Railway is renowned for being an early adopter of new technology and this trial illustrates the role that AI can play in delivering enhanced levels of vigilance. This is a critical milestone for Nokia to help contribute not only to railway safety improvement but also to decrease operational costs and enhance performance.”

Nokia SpaceTime scene analytics, which was developed by Nokia Bell Labs, is also capable of providing real-time alerts for unauthorized entry into remote facilities. It can detect and alert supervisors when personnel or equipment access unsafe locations in industrial settings or when heavy machinery is out of position creating a potential hazard.

Harrington added: “Network connected cameras are one of the most prolific sources of IoT data that can provide valuable insights to help promote high safety standards. By running

machine learning analytics on camera feeds, and sending solely relevant scenes and events to operators, the full benefits of video surveillance can be realized in a wide variety of settings – with rail crossings a particularly relevant use case."

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