Meteorcamera network in Hungary

Some considerations about our hardware

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Starting in 2009 an efficient meteorcamera network developed in Hungary

Main characteristics:
- Amateur owned and operated
- Based on commercial security cameras
- Part of the IMO video network
Waterproof camera box

- We had some problems on rainy days...
- The solution is a fully waterproof outdoor electrical box (marked as IP65)
- ...and this is how I cut a hole for a regular photo UV filter
- all edges are sealed with sanitary silicon
Comparison of cameras

- **Watec 902 H Ultimate:**
  - advantages: Compact and seem very sensitive
  - disadvantages: The manual gain screw is very difficult to handle. In fact one should adjust it each night, on cloudy nights or in Moonshine a lower value is desirable. Price performance ratio is disappointing (~300 EUR)
  - In the long run its detection efficiency is NOT very convincing

- **Mintron 12V6:**
  - advantage: also very sensitive, has 2x integration
  - disadvantages: We purchased this cameras from two sources (www.modernastronomy.com and schneider electric). Apperantly there is a big random difference between identical type cameras. On some of them we notice vertical stripes which are independent of the grabber. This camera is quite expensive ~400EUR.
  - Detection efficiency – at lucky cameras – are far the best, also confirmed by our IMO admin works when we compare with other Mintron cameras, for example in Italy

- **KP&C 350BH:**
  - advantages: Very cheap, very sensitive
  - disadvantages: only 1/3” chip
  - Detection efficiency: surprising, but with a good lens it is very close to the Watec. Pricewise beats anything, only 100 EUR.
Comparison of lenses

Computars are not produced any more, very difficult to get them even on ebay.
Computar 6mm:
  Excellent, very high detection efficiency, we have only two cams with this one
Computar 3.8mm:
  Excellent, ~90x70 deg FOV,
  we have 3 Mintron+3,8 Computar configs, they are different, probably due to
  the different sensitivity of the Mintron CCD

Computar 4mm f1.0: 1x

Fujinon 2.8x2.8: 3x

Goyo  GADN1308095BS4 1/3” 3-8mm f:0.95 (f~3.2mm):

Panasonic 6mm: 1x

Panasonic 4,5mm: 1x