

# **Viewing The Universe In Near Real-Time On Night Skies Network**

By Chris Appleton

We all know that as the years go by and the population increases around the world there becomes more and more demand for all types of street lighting causing a dramatic increase in what's known as light pollution. During the last twenty or so years this has been getting worse esp. for us astronomy hobby enthusiasts who have always enjoyed viewing the universe through a good old eyepiece and telescope. With new developments in astronomy technology there is hope that we can still manage to enjoy looking at all of the wonders in the universe.

One of the biggest advances in astronomy technology that comes to mind today is astro video. Thanks to astro video cameras like the Mallincam, Stellacam, Samsung and the latest one to join from Orion, so all of this is now possible to do even from your very light polluted backyard with a modest size telescope and monitor. One of the longest involved companies that have been working very hard to improve the advances of astro video technology is Pro-Com Electronics who's owner Mr. Rock Mallin has created a fantastic true astronomy video camera known as the Mallincam.

With this new exciting technology now been offered to the general public, a great astronomy video streaming site created by Mr. Jim Turner known as Night Skies Network has been out for just a little more then a year. This is a very special site that allows anyone around the world who has an internet connection to join in for free and view the wonders of the universe in near real-time. If you want to chat with the broadcaster or other viewers, you just sign in with your name at the start of the session and type away. You can also, if you wish, register and become a broadcaster on Night Skies Network for free and show your audience around the world your show from your very own location. All you will need in order to make this possible is a mount, telescope, video camera, a video frame grabber connected to your computer and an internet connection with Adobe Flash Player installed. I must say that this type of astronomy video technology is very addicting and has saved my interests in this wonderful hobby, so I hope it will do the same for you.

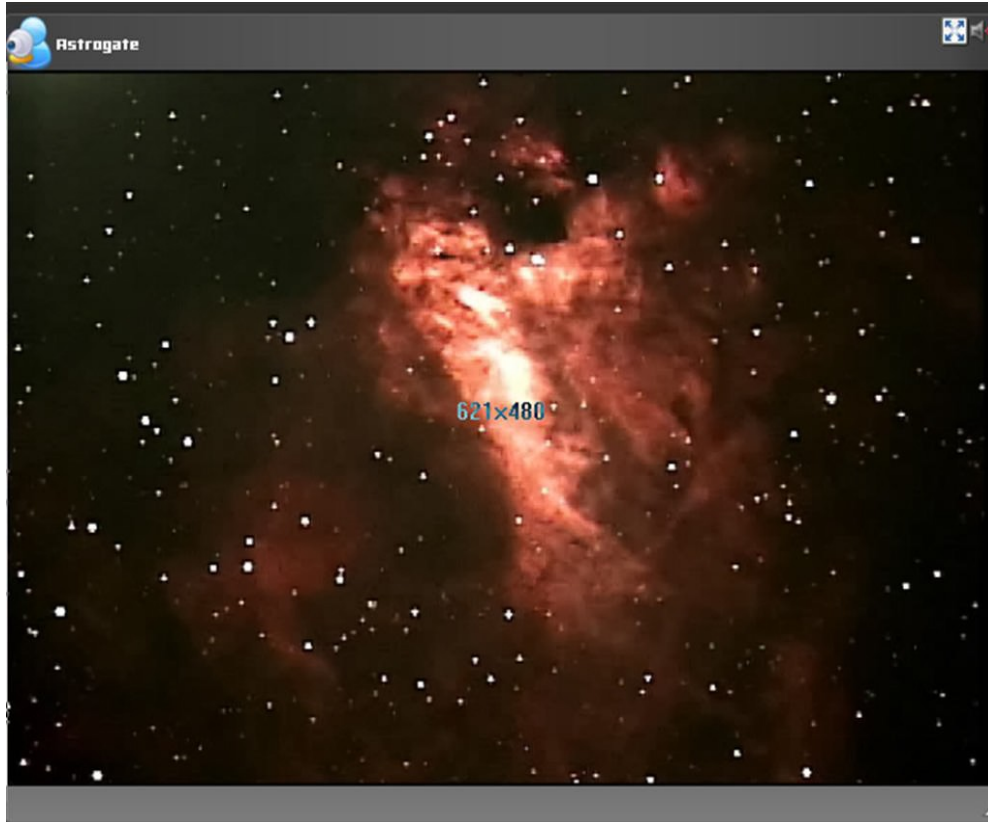
All types of astronomy broadcasts take place on Night Skies Network such as solar, lunar, planets and many of the different deep sky objects. Here are a few screen captures from my Night Skies Network broadcast using my Mallincam Xtreme video camera. These are exactly the way we all view them on Night Skies Network and are single unprocessed captures in near real-time.

Astrogate: Chris\_Toronto C9.25@F3.2 MFR-5 + 10mm spacer UHC+IR Filters Xtr



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## **Sites and Related Information**

Night Skies Network

<http://www.nightskiesnetwork.com/>

MallinCam Video camera

<http://mallinCam.tripod.com/index.html>

Samsung Video camera

<http://www.samsung-security.com/en/products/security-cameras.aspx>

Stellacam Video camera

<http://www.astrovid.com/index.html>

Orion Video camera

<http://www.telescope.com/Astrography/Astrography-Cameras/pc/4/58.uts>