

MyConstructionPhotos: Free, Web-Based, Large Scale, High Resolution, Captioned, Keyword Searchable Photographs

MyConstructionPhotos.Smugmug.com is the world's largest source of free, large scale, high resolution, captioned, keyword searchable photographs of construction sites, processes, and equipment. It is freely accessed on the Internet from anywhere in the world by hundreds of people a day who download and view, save, print, distribute thousands of photos per day. The photos are used in books, slide shows, and other instructional materials in courses and independent study by tens of thousands more.

The 1,800 photos are all taken, edited, and captioned since 2002 by Robert I. Carr, PhD, PE, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at the University of Michigan, specifically for this site to provide its service. The scale and resolution of each photo are tailored to make it appropriate viewing on a large monitor or screen and printing on 8.5 x 11 inch paper for a scrapbook or to hang on a wall. The photos show equipment and workers at work, and captions describe the equipment and the work it is performing. They are not staged photos of new or clean equipment, except for photos taken at ConExpo and World of Concrete.

MyConstructionPhotos is innovative because it has uniquely filled the lack of such readily available photos that Bob Carr discovered in 2000. He searched the Internet for photos suitable to make an equipment photo book for his new grandson Rip, as he had earlier for his sons and nephews. Bob was disappointed to find that web photos of equipment from manufacturers and new and used equipment dealers were invariably small scale and inappropriate. Equipment magazine ad photos were usually covered with ad graphics that made them inappropriate. In 2002, with retirement on the horizon after his career teaching and researching construction, Bob bought digital photography equipment and software and began taking and editing photos to provide free high quality, full page size photos on the Internet for kids, students, and professionals. It turned out to be fun, as well as productive, and the number and range of photos continues to grow.

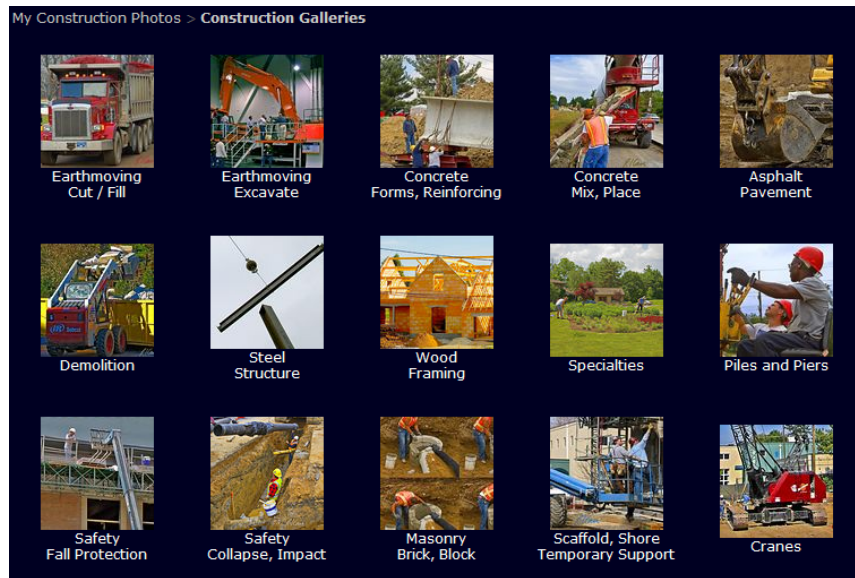
- Together, the photos have thousands of keywords. The number of photos for some important keywords are dozer 45, crane 162, loader 86, truck 211, concrete 299, asphalt 102, steel 160, brick 32, block 61, demolition 105, backhoe 168, safety 145, fall 49, trench 56, ConExpo 153, pile 46, pier 73, structure 65, skid steer 46, Caterpillar 84, bridge 135, earthmoving 204
- MyConstructionPhotos.smugmug.com is the first site listed for Google, MSN, and Yahoo searches for "construction equipment photos" and no other site listed provides large scale free construction photos. Similarly, MyConstructionPhotos is the top web site in Google searches for "earthmoving construction photos" (earthmoving CS), concrete CS, asphalt CS, dozer CS, safety CS, steel CS, brick CS, scaffold CS, forklift CS. It is edged out of top position in many other searches only by commercial stock photo businesses.
- Site photos are used in countless courses worldwide, kindergarten to graduate school, construction trades to executive training, because they are easily found, high quality, well captioned, free, and cover great breadth .

Site statistics for March 2007 demonstrate the demand and interest in MyConstructionPhotos:

- 13,400 unique visitors from 69+ countries: USA 5047, Canada 794, UK 453, Peru 227, Czech Republic 200, Spain 190, Unknown 180, Venezuela 172, Australia 156, Portugal 137, Netherlands 135, India 120, 25 others w/ over 25 visitors each, 15 others w/ 10+, 26 others with fewer than 10.
- Downloaded were 21.3 Gigabytes consisting of 53,200 web pages containing 1,136,700 total photos of the following sizes: tiny = 803,300, thumbnails = 244,900, small = 6,800, medium = 41,700, large = 24,000, original = 15,600.

The following are typical of comments received via email:

- I have been working on the development of a 30 hour OSHA Construction presentation for our company. I have used several of your great photos in the presentation. Chance Duensing, Corporate Safety & Health Specialist, Burns & McDonnell, Kansas City, MO.
- You have a great website, and I have used several images in my lecture course - Materials and Methods of Construction. It is wonderful to have such a good source of images available. Thank you. Diane Arm Priest, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
- Looking through your constructions pictures of unsafe practices on building sites. I would like to use some of them in the delivery and teaching practices at my College in Norwich, England UK. Brian Evans, City College Norwich
- I have downloaded one of your crane photos to incorporate into my presentation on construction insurance to building trade students at the local institute of technology where I guest lecture. Thanks, Ted Murray, 10952 144A Street, Surrey, BC, Canada
- I am a lecturer of English for Austrian Civil Engineering students and just want to say a very big thank you for your amazing educational site which is a tremendous asset for my students to learn technical terms in English. It is also the most user-friendly site I have ever come across. Best Regards, Mark Tolson, School of Civil Engineering & Architecture, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, Austria
- Thank you so much for your website with all the construction equipment. My 14-month-old son has been fascinated with these machines ever since they repaved the street in front of our house. He calls them all "tractors" and points to the computer every morning with the request "DAK-DOR! DAK-DOR!" I upload the photos, put on the slide show and he sits still through the entire thing saying "dak-dor" and "wowwww." Thank you again. AD
- WOW! My two year old, Andrew was in heaven looking at your construction photos. He likes to look at your pictures and tell me what's going on in them. What a fun site! You are going in our favorites. RV



Construction Galleries Page: Click on photo to go gallery.



First of Five Pages showing 52 Asphalt Paving Photos



Collage of five MyConstructionPhotos photos, each of which is full page size at the site.