

Highways Drone Services

SAFER · GREENER · FASTER

CASE STUDY

RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE · CALVERT, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

10km of HS2, **tracked visit by visit.**

EKFB

10km
of HS2 covered each visit

16
structures and 3 compounds

1,000+
high-resolution images a month

100%
safety record

THE PROJECT

EKFB needed a fast, consistent way to document progress across a large and fast-changing section of HS2. HDS delivers bi-weekly drone monitoring of the Calvert section without interrupting live construction.

THE CHALLENGE

- A 10km site too large for traditional progress capture
- Compound layouts and structures changing between visits
- Stakeholders needing clear, current, structured visual updates
- Nearby helicopter activity requiring advanced airspace awareness

OUR APPROACH

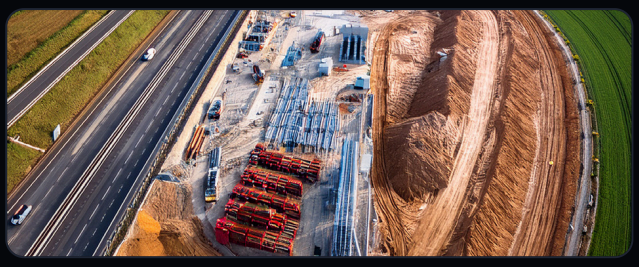
01 Drones launched from a slow-moving vehicle to sweep the full 10km while keeping visual line of sight

02 High-resolution stills and 360° video of every key asset on each visit

03 Flights under PDRA-01 at low speed with a visual observer, within EKFB's safety framework

04 ADS-B, acoustic awareness and dynamic home points for safe operation in active airspace

05 Structured uploads to SharePoint so every team can find what it needs



Structures captured on a fixed route every visit



Compounds and haul roads recorded for the commercial team

OUTCOMES

Improved reporting

All visuals uploaded to SharePoint in a searchable, categorised format.

Rapid turnaround

Edited video reports delivered within hours of each capture session.

Zero disruption

Filming conducted from a moving vehicle, with no site set-up and no interruptions to work.

Safety first

100% visual line of sight, operations aligned with PDRA-01 and EKFB protocols.

THE RESULT

Over 1,000 high-resolution images and full video coverage every month, with two structured video reports delivered on time, every time, and a 100% safety record.

Start a project

Tell us about your asset. A desktop review, airspace check and fixed cost, agreed before we mobilise.

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