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Siemens to supply new traffic control system in Columbia

Siemens Traffic Controls is pleased to announce that it is the first to supply an adaptive traffic control installation to Colombia with the order of a PC UTC system for the city port of Cartagena. Following the award of a civic contract to Alumbrado público de Cartagena for the modernisation and maintenance of Cartagena's traffic lights system, Siemens will provide a comprehensive system consisting of PC SCOOT, 52 ST800 controllers, UTMC Ethernet TCP/IP communications, videobeams for video detection and digital map projection and traffic flow monitoring for 54 cameras with video recording.

The introduction of new solo articulated bus lanes is anticipated to have a major impact on traffic flow in the city centre, a change accelerated by the growth of commercial and tourist traffic. Once the new bus lane construction programme reaches completion, Siemens will install the SCOOT infrastructure needed to monitor and control the priority bus lanes.

The network will use wireless and fibre optic technologies and will be implemented over the next 12 months. A second order will follow in 2008 for Siemens to supply a further 40 controllers.

SCOOT optimises traffic signals to minimise stops and delays, with Split, Cycle and Offset functions each optimised in real time using second-by-second communications to ensure the best possible decisions are being made. The system puts more than 150 parameters at an engineer's disposal, including real time optimization, user configurable optimizers, public transport priority, emissions calculations, gating algorithms and multi-node support.

The algorithm has developed many features during its development, each designed to effectively deal with different situations that SCOOT has encountered around the world. This has led to a system that can now be deployed confidently anywhere in the world, with systems now operating in Africa, Asia, Middle East, North and South America and Europe.

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'We are delighted to have been chosen to supply the PC SCOOT system to Cartagena,' says Peter Preston, Marketing Manager for Siemens Traffic Controls. 'Cartagena is a model city of growth for South America, expanding through new opportunities in manufacture, trade and tourism. This rapid growth needs the city infrastructure to adapt accordingly and the PC SCOOT system will be a major asset in helping achieve this.'

Cartagena, situated on the Caribbean coast of Colombia, was founded in 1533 and became a major destination during the colonisation of South America. Today it is the capital of the Bolivar state in North West Columbia and is a major port for the export of oil, coffee, and platinum as well as a manufacturing base for leather, cosmetics and textiles.

About Siemens Traffic Controls

As part of the Siemens Industrial Solutions and Services (I&S) group, Siemens Traffic Controls designs, manufactures, installs and maintains a wide range of traffic engineering products and systems to enhance road safety and improve traffic flow in congested urban and inter-urban areas. In the United Kingdom, the company installs and maintains more traffic infrastructure than any other company and has 700 employees including 350 skilled service engineers dedicated every day of the year to maintaining over half of all traffic control equipment installed on the UK road network. The Siemens Industrial Solutions and Services Group (I&S) is an integrator of systems and solutions for industrial and infrastructure facilities, and global service provider for the plant and projects business covering planning, installation, operation and the entire life cycle.

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