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## New traffic detector solution developed by Siemens

Leading traffic technology company Siemens has launched a new above-ground traffic detector with none of the road surface disruption associated with below-ground systems. Using advanced 24GHz radar technology, Heimdall offers all the benefits of above-ground detection for SCOOT or MOVA installations.

According to the company's Head of Product Management, Keith Manston, Heimdall is both simple and cost-effective to install or replace, and is equally easy and economical to maintain. 'The new detector offers high performance, simple installation and low on-going maintenance, while its small size ensures that unnecessary street clutter is minimised', he said.

At the heart of each detector is a technologically-advanced planar radar antenna system and a sophisticated digital signal processing engine. Developed by Siemens, these incorporate patented features that enable Heimdall to initially offer excellent count and occupancy performance as well as good 'gap' detection capabilities, ideal for SCOOT and MOVA applications.

'Unlike some vision-based systems, Heimdall's radar technology is totally immune to light level changes and the effect of shadows, and will work equally well in bright and totally dark locations. Similarly, the effects of fog and rain, which can severely affect the performance of vision-based systems, go largely unnoticed when Heimdall is deployed, ensuring the best possible performance of the road network, whatever the conditions,' added Manston.

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### Traffic Solutions, Siemens Mobility

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In addition to simple installation with minimal disruption, on-going maintenance costs are reduced compared with camera-based detection systems, particularly where frequent lens cleaning may be necessary to maintain performance. Heimdall's radar-based technology means such maintenance is not required, offering considerable savings.

Heimdall detectors are supplied pre-configured with standard settings, which are suitable for most typical applications. When customisation is necessary on-site, this can be achieved using simple configuration switch settings, which eliminates the need to use expensive and vulnerable PC or PDA-based configuration tools. If required, Heimdall can be supplied with Bluetooth functionality, allowing these functions to be accessed from ground level.

*Heimdall is the Watchman of the gods in Norse mythology, who requires less sleep than a bird and can see a hundred miles around him, by night as well as by day.*

## **About Siemens**

Siemens design, manufacture, install and maintain 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 Traffic Solutions business has around 800 employees including approximately 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.

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