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Siemens launches LaneHawk

A new fully-automated, digital bus lane enforcement system based on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology has been introduced by Siemens, the traffic industry's partner of choice for traffic solutions. Providing improved violation detection and management, reduced costs and ultimately more efficient public transport, LaneHawk removes the need for hours of viewing and editing CCTV footage to identify violators and prepare evidential records.

According to Mark Bonnor-Moris, the company's Product Manager for Enforcement Systems, LaneHawk interfaces easily with existing enforcement back office facilities providing a high performance solution that is simple, quick, efficient and unattended. 'LaneHawk's high resolution evidential images and increased capture rate greatly improves the cost effectiveness of bus lane enforcement and the work of traffic managers and parking enforcement officers - and in turn the operation of public transport and the road network generally, he said.

'Furthermore, LaneHawk will be the first digital unattended system to obtain manufacturer's approval status from the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA), this will enable Siemens to install and commission systems without the need to seek further approval from the VCA', he added.

LaneHawk compares potentially violating vehicles against a dynamic 'white list' of allowed vehicles such as buses, taxis, emergency and delivery vehicles. LaneHawk will automatically prepare evidential records for unauthorised vehicles and send them directly to the enforcement back-office.

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On behalf of Essex County Council, Dave Howard, Traffic Management and Parking Officer, said: 'In Essex we have previously used video and CCTV based solutions for bus lane enforcement. Unfortunately they have provided inconsistent image quality and have been labour intensive to manage and retrieve images. Siemens LaneHawk unattended ANPR based system provides us with the technology to enforce our bus lanes more effectively by capturing more offences, providing complete evidential records remotely and integrating the information with our existing back-office system'.

The LaneHawk outstation consists of an ANPR reader with an IRIDIS imaging assembly that captures images of vehicles entering the zone and determines the vehicle's registration number. In addition, a colour video overview will record five seconds of video images prior to the violation to remove any ambiguity of the vehicle's movement.

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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