

New signs to help motorists in Nottingham

Nottingham City Council has unveiled new variable message parking signs supplied and installed by Siemens as part of a revolutionary new project to help cut congestion and parking queues in the city. ParkSmart aims to establish a comprehensive car-park guidance signing strategy by integrating traffic and destination management for five colour-coded and uniquely named zones in the city centre, each reflecting a specific character of the area.

The project includes the supply, installation, commission and servicing of 44 modular, single-pole, car park variable message signs (VMS) and 40 non-VMS advanced directional signs in and around the centre of Nottingham.

All of the signs have been designed and their locations identified for installation within the contract and all of the car park operators have supported the proposals to install detection equipment that is UTMC compliant facilitating communications with Nottingham's Traffic Control Centre (TCC).

VMS will be used at important 'decision making' points around the city centre road network to inform motorists in real-time of the availability of parking spaces in each of five distinctive colour-coded zones and several car parks. The information will give the drivers confidence to accept the guidance information, dissuade them from approaching full car-parks and thereby reduce congestion and minimise queuing.

Nottingham's road network is managed through the TCC. Under the new system, data will be fed from the car park operators to the TCC and then onto electronic message boards. The TCC is managing interactive parking signs, and it will be set up to monitor the new zones and provide internet displays of car parking availability.

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Cllr Jane Urquhart, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Area Working at Nottingham City Council said; 'Nottingham City Council is the first city in the UK to integrate parking signing which will make it easier for people visiting the city as well as cutting congestion and parking queues.'

About Siemens

Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 166 years ago and now employs 18,402 people in the UK. Last year's revenues were £3.7 billion. As a leading global engineering and technology services company, Siemens provides innovative solutions to help tackle the world's major challenges, across the key sectors of energy, industry and healthcare. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Frimley, Surrey. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit www.siemens.co.uk

For more information, contact: Siemens Mobility, Traffic Solutions,

Head of Communications

Peter Preston
Tel: +44 (0) 1202 782390
Email: peter.preston@siemens.com

PR Account Manager

Julian Gollogly
Tel: 07770 924441
Email: julian.gollogly@ntlworld.com

This press release can be found on the web at: www.siemens.co.uk/traffic