

innovations

practical application of technology in passenger transport

ISSUE 31 - SUMMER 2015

SUPPORTING COACH & BUS LIVE 2015 TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITORS



The Technology Zone at Coach & Bus Live at the NEC, Birmingham, will showcase those products designed to offer multi-modal solutions and smooth operations for UK operators.

Technology exhibitors include:

- 21st Century Technology
- Ablemail Electronics
- Alcolock UK
- Alfatronix Ltd
- Bus Media Server
- Byttoken
- Chameleon Codewing
- E P Morris and Co
- Falt Communications
- Filtration Control
- Icomera
- INIT
- Key Manager
- Licencecheck
- Masabi
- Metric Group
- MiniCasp
- MiX Telematics
- Mobile Onboard
- Navaho Technologies
- Omnibus
- Parkeon
- Premier Hazard
- Rise Digital Media
- Synectics Mobile Systems
- Tachomaster
- Ticketer
- Timespace Technology
- TomTom Telematics
- Traffilog
- Transmach Systems
- Tranzaura
- TruTac
- Zeta Automotive

Register to visit for free at
www.coachandbuslive.com

Technology matters

The coach and bus industry is becoming increasingly technology-savvy. Visit Coach & Bus Live to stay up-to-date with progress

There has never been a better time to be a buyer in the UK's coach and bus industry. The array of technology available grows by the year, and there is so much choice anyone would be forgiven for feeling baffled by it.

The Technology Zone at Coach & Bus Live is a one-stop shop for those buyers, allowing them to see what's on offer, compare different products and services, and get to grips with how technology can help in business.

It's the ultimate opportunity for coach and bus industry professionals to touch and feel the future, getting close to new technology, questioning the experts, finding out how it works, and understanding the practical applications available.

The Technology Zone will once again feature the Master Class Theatre, a programme of



MASTER CLASS THEATRE REMAINS POPULAR

seminars that draw crowds thanks to the speakers – who are either experts in their particular field, or the top names of the UK's coach and bus companies imparting their own wisdom and experience of technology.

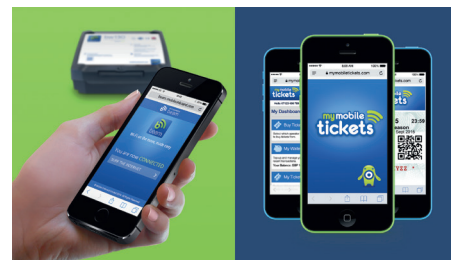
Wi-Fi and m-ticketing

Mobile Onboard's latest range of Beam on-bus Wi-Fi makes it easier for operators to exploit the capabilities a Wi-Fi-connected bus has to offer.

In addition to providing passenger internet access, Beam Wi-Fi can be used to connect CCTV systems, power a 'talking bus' system, run sponsored portals, and provide a powerful platform to market directly to passengers before they've even connected to the internet.

Mobile Onboard's m-ticketing solution, MyMobileTickets, has added new and improved features including offline tickets, improved ticket security, faster performance and a boarding pass-style ticket for faster QR code scanning.

The new release also features multi-lingual and multi-currency support, and offers a fully-



M-TICKETING APP CAN BE BRANDED

branded ticketing app for operators within seven days.

■ www.mobileonboard.com

Audio-visual: 'Something special'

At Coach & Bus Live, Rise Digital Media will be demonstrating its latest product from the BusHub project – NextStop.

NextStop is an onboard audio-visual solution, which uses mobile technology to announce each stop on a bus journey as it is approached, and with enough time for passengers to safely alight from the vehicle.

NextStop has been developed in close liaison with leading industry representatives, and has been rolled out in Surrey at Abellio Surrey Bus and also in Glasgow for ScotRail.

The system has been designed to provide assistive support to blind and visually impaired bus users, but also has relevance for other types of passengers including tourists, commuters and school/college passengers.

From an operator's perspective, NextStop provides a cost-effective opportunity to deliver an onboard announcement service for passengers, rivalling the TfL iBus system.

MD Scott James says: "Our NextStop solution galvanises the spirit of why we entered the



NEXTSTOP COMES FROM RISE DM'S INNOVATIVE BUSHUB SUITE

passenger transport market.

"With NextStop we think we have something special, as these interactive display screens are connected to an advertising network that offers operators the opportunity to generate capital from popular services and routes which are matched to location based advertising for destinations, attractions and places of interest within the local community."

The new service also provides a mobile app for passengers who prefer to use their own device for next stop announcements.

At the show, Rise DM will be providing a complete demonstration using live service data, and there will be a limited number of pilot registrations available.

■ www.risedm.com

Masabi 'Inspect'

Masabi will be demonstrating its multi-format ticketing service, Inspect.

The company's JustRide Inspect ticket validation software provides rapid and accurate scanning for barcode mobile tickets displayed on a screen or printed out. Inspect is format-agnostic, so it can be used with different ticketing technologies.

■ www.masabi.com

Full integration

21st Century Technology (21CT) offers a number of on-board solutions, including mobile CCTV and telematics.

But where it truly excels is its ability to integrate technologies, assisting operators to get the best from their fleet. 21CT has created an Adoptive Warranty Scheme: When it enters a maintenance contract for the equipment it installs, it will also care for any existing technology.

■ www.21stplc.com

Breath-testing for drivers

Alcolock V3, the breath-tester from Alcolock UK, is used worldwide as a transport industry standard, and is designed for commercial applications. It ensures employee safety while reducing employer liability.

It requires the operator to blow into a mouthpiece on the handset, and if the breath alcohol concentration exceeds the predetermined limit, the vehicle will not start.

Alcolock UK can link the system into existing fleet tracking systems, which can send real-time alerts and messages to the fleet managers.

No sim card is used, thus saving operators a service or daily charge, and all messages are relayed at no additional cost.

■ www.alcolock.co.uk

'FutureRailway' is coming

ByteToken is working to bridge the gap between the transport industry and the growing technology sector through its mobile ticketing infrastructure.

Its technology can be implemented with almost no infrastructure, and integrated with multi-vendor hardware and software.

Once completed, its FutureRailway smartphone app for the UK will offer transport

operators and commuters several convenient methods for purchasing and activating rail tickets. The system will use the Bluetooth LE wireless technology on modern smartphones, enabling riders to have their rail fare validated by simply walking through fare-gates equipped with new wireless readers.

■ www.bytetoken.com

TruTac re-launching

TruTac is launching two new products. The all-new TruTime will replace its previous TAS product, and the re-launched TruControlPSV has various new features.

TruControlPSV is the only tachograph system developed for coach and bus operators. It now includes attestation letters, the 12-day coach rule, and fully customised reports with company branding.

■ www.trutac.co.uk

Real-time feedback

WebFleet OptiDrive from TomTom gives you the tools you need to promote safe and efficient driving from the office.

And Active Driver Feedback presents live feedback on the driver's driving style on the TomTom PRO device. Real-time alerts appear on the screen to indicate driving events and fuel-related concerns. These remind the driver to adopt a safer, more fuel-efficient driving style.

■ www.aes2.co.uk

VoIP modernises

FältCom has delivered an innovative Voice over IP (VoIP) solution for Region Skåne's buses. It is future-safe, easy to enhance with new features, and lowers cost.

The solution is based on FältCom's scalable communications device MIIPS. It serves as a common platform for Skånetrafiken's entire vehicle fleet.

■ www.faltcom.com

DDA-inspired

The Metric Public Transport ticketing range is recognised as a market-leading product in the passenger transport sector.

The Metric.optima bl with its DDA-inspired design, optional large colour touch screen and ergonomic passenger interface, delivers best-in-class performance.

■ www.metricgroup.co.uk

MiniCasp: 'Bringing the best customer experience'

MiniCasp is making waves with its new booking, quotation and scheduling management systems.

MD John Daly took over the business in December 2014, bringing over 10 years' programming experience to the company and introducing an innovative and client-led development process.

MiniCasp is focused on bringing the industry the best customer experience, new technology and developments at an affordable price. Maintaining the systems' simple, user-friendly approach is key, along with ongoing support for operators of any size.

Already in place is a comprehensive but simple back-end management system for



MD JOHN DALY AND TEAM FOCUS ON BEST CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

bookings, scheduling, driver and vehicle management, as well as optional quote, book and pay systems via the operator's own website.

■ www.minicasp.com

Real-time licence checking

Licencecheck has launched a real-time driving licence checking service that directly accesses the DVLA's database in Swansea.

It provides information on driving licence validity, entitlement, disqualifications, endorsements and penalty points.

It will allow coach and bus operators to check

drivers' entitlement and expiration dates, as and when required.

The new service will also incorporate foreign licence recognition and e-consent, so that real-time checks can be made at remote depots.

■ www.licencecheck.co.uk

Revenue reports from EPM

The EP Morris & Co Depot Performance system (DPS) continues to develop.

Smartcard and mobile ticketing has changed the proportions of on-bus to off-bus revenue.

EPM's next phase is to streamline the import of off-bus revenue data into DPS, enabling more complex yield calculations.

■ www.epmorris.co.uk

Zeta fuel saving device

Fleet operators will recognise, only too well, the increasing need to reduce fuel consumption and cut CO2 emissions from their vehicles.

Zeta Automotive has a simple solution. EconoSpeed Connect is a unique, patented acceleration and speed limiting device,

designed specifically for commercial fleets. It has particular benefits for bus operators.

It significantly reduces fuel consumption and cuts CO2 emissions by limiting acceleration to emulate that of a fully-laden vehicle.

■ www.zetaautomotive.com

Space-saving USB charger

Alfatronix supplies the automotive industry with inherently reliable power conversion products, including dc-dc voltage converters, solid state battery guards, power supplies, battery chargers and now the new, popular range of USB chargers.

The USB chargers are being trialled by bus operators, producers and equipment suppliers throughout the UK and Europe.

They offer the distinct advantage of avoiding the safety issues of mains supply voltages, while still providing mobile charging facilities for a wide range of devices.

As with all Alfatronix products, the chargers are manufactured in the UK, are e-marked, ce-

marked and covered by a lifetime warranty.

The new chargers are designed to accept inputs of both 12vdc and 24vdc with a 5vdc output voltage and charging capability of 2.1 amps.

They are suitable for both Apple and Android accessories – the internal intelligence allows the charger to detect the type of device attached.

Customised options are available for OE customers and a new space-saving USB that permits installation where depth is an issue is proving popular in areas for disabled passengers.

■ www.alfatronix.com

Reading Buses goes MiX

Reading Buses has equipped all 172 of its buses with MiX Telematics' Fleet Manager.

The company had undertaken a comprehensive market evaluation and concluded that MiX provided the best fleet management solution for its needs.

"Topping our priority list was the desire to uplift performance while simultaneously improving the overall customer experience," says Jacqui Gavaghan, Performance Director of Reading Buses.

"That means in addition to looking to reduce our fuel consumption and carbon footprint, we were also keen to adopt a system which would help ensure incidents such as harsh braking and over-speeding are minimised in order to benefit the comfort and safety of



FIRM CONSIDERED VARIOUS OPTIONS BEFORE CHOOSING MIX

our passengers." MiX is providing ongoing consultancy services.

■ www.mixtelematics.co.uk

Crewplan is just the job

National Express Bus is a long-standing customer of Omnibus, having used OmniTIMES and OmniBASE coupled with Crewplan to automatically produce efficient crew schedules.

More recently it has added OmniMAP which helps supply data to Real Time Information systems and move forward with EBSR.

After using Crewplan at all locations, and achieving significant efficiencies, National Express decided to look more closely at the recent developments released in the system to see if there was more that they could do with it.

Andy Foster, Head of Network Management for National Express Bus, says: "We had achieved excellent results with Crewplan but knew that

there was more that we could do if we carried out some development work and fine-tuned the parameters."

The company found the right person for the job in Richard Brain, a young scheduler responsible for Birmingham Central (the company's largest garage) who was immediately at home with the software. "Richard was very keen to develop the system so that it gave us even more flexibility," says Andy.

"By taking Crewplan's capabilities and flexibility to the next level, we have been able to meet those specific requirements."

■ www.omnibus.uk.com

The best in coach and bus innovation



The Technology Zone is a major feature of this year's UK trade show – Coach & Bus Live 2015.

It's a dedicated area showcasing the very latest developments in IT, software, information systems and equipment, revenue collection systems, ticketing and mobile technology.

Targeted at a cross section of visitors from technology and operating-based companies as well as local, transport and regulatory authorities, this dedicated feature area will highlight the different many ways technology can improve customer services.

■ [Details: www.coachandbuslive.com](http://Details:www.coachandbuslive.com)

COACH & BUS LIVE 2015 SHOW DATES

30 September-1 October

VENUE

Halls 17, 18 and 19, NEC, Birmingham

OPENING HOURS

Wednesday, 30 September – 0930-1700hrs
Thursday, 1 October – 0930-1600hrs

OPEN TO

Trade visitors and press only

CONTACT

t: 01733 405735
e: mlaverton@divcom.co.uk
w: www.coachandbuslive.com

Published by **diversified**
COMMUNICATIONS UK

Diversified Communications UK Ltd,
Unit 4, Minerva Business Park, Lynch Wood,
Peterborough PE2 6FT

t: 01733 405730 f: 01733 405745

www.divcom.co.uk

innovations editor: Jessamy Chapman
design/production: Phil Robinson

© Diversified Communications UK Ltd 2015