

Traffic Light REPORT

The magazine for traffic technology











Dear readers.

I have been accompanying you on our fascinating journey through traffic technology since the company was founded. As a long-time companion, I would like to talk about the mobility turnaround and the digital transformation that are decisively shaping our industry and offer immense opportunities and innovation potential.

The biggest innovations that have excited us over the years undoubtedly are about the rapid impact of digitalization on our mobility. Digital transformation is also the biggest challenge we face. The networking of road users, vehicles and infrastructure, the introduction of autonomous mobility and the management of Big Data require new thinking, a sense of responsibility and close cooperation between politics, industry and society.

Global climate protests and interest in environmentally friendly transport options show that the mobility turnaround and digital transformation are in full swing. This rethinking and enthusiasm for a sustainable, connected future are our driving force.

Major challenges lie ahead and I am confident that together we will make an important contribution to the necessary solutions. The digital future of traffic technology promises exciting innovations that will sustainably improve our lives and our mobility.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Ehring

CONTENT & EDITORIAL	2
TRAINING CENTER KAMEN	3
HAPPY BIRTHDAY CROSSWALK	4/5
LoRaWAN: TECHNOLOGY FOR SPECIAL PLACES	6/7
IAA MOBILITY 2023	8/9
PROJECT HKG	10/11
ODDS & ENDS	12





FIRST VISIT TO THE

Training Center

After the successful opening of the new RTB location in Kamen in the summer, the first groups could now also be welcomed there in the training premises.

Thus, the regulars' table of the rehabilitation teachers of North Rhine-Westphalia took place in a truly "monopolistic" setting, right next to the old colliery. Current and future topics - also around the topic of accessible mobility - led to a lively exchange between the participants at this special meeting place.

Representatives of the city of cologne have already made their wayto the RTB training environment in Kamen to receive on-site instruction in the technology of traffic light equipment. On the agenda was the correct setting of the devices and the use of the LOC.id technology. One factor that should not

be underestimated in the installation of traffic light systems is the protection of residents, as Marcus Perzborn, Head of the Traffic Management Department of the City of Cologne, explained. Therefore, one focus of the training was on the correct sound alignment of the RTB acoustics and the individual request by means of the LOC.id technology. This is because the orientation tones only become louder when necessary, which once again significantly improves the protection of residents.

Of course, extensive training courses on the various RTB product areas are offered not only in Kamen, but also at the headquarters in Bad Lippspringe.

You would also like to take advantage of the extensive RTB training offer? Simply contact us briefly by e-mail: sales@rtb-bl.de



It has been 70 years since paragraph 26 - and with it the crosswalk - was anchored in the German Road Traffic Regulations (StVO). 70 years in which it has been the subject of much discussion and in which it took a whopping eleven years since its introduction in 1953 before pedestrians were actually given priority at crosswalks. Until then, the rule had been: Free passage for free citizens! Anyone who wanted to cross the street had to stand on the crosswalk so that the cars would actually stop. And then it was a matter of being fast, because crossing too slowly was seen as a provocation.

But even today, not all drivers are aware that they have to stop at a crosswalk when a person wants to cross the road, even though pedestrians have had priority since 1964.

This situation was addressed by RTB many years ago, and the company worked to ensure that additional protection was provided by a Dialogue-Display, particularly in critical traffic areas, such as in front of schools, daycare centers, or facilities for the elderly. In the course of time, the use of the Dialogue-Display in front of crosswalks has been scientifically investigated several times and it was found that its use leads to significantly more frequent stops and pedestrians can cross the street safely. Based on these scientific stu-

DTIDAY

dies, the use of the Dialogue-Display was even recommended by the Accident Research of Insurers (UDV) in the German Insurance Association (GDV).



The Dialogue-Display is installed at a set distance from the crosswalk and, based on the praise and criticism principle, reminds motorists timely to drive slowly. This direct approach has proven itself to increase attention, increase "social" pressure, and thus increase the rate of those who actually stop. Even though the Dialogue-Display does not yet have 70 years under its belt, it is a perfect complement to the tried-and-tested black-and-white stripes and an absolutely effective solution to significantly increase the safety of the most vulnerable road users.

Internationally, the stripes on the road have also become established, although often in other colors. RTB has also developed a technical solution for this in the form of the new RRFB push button to improve safety at crosswalks. The RRFB push button is installed directly at the crosswalk and triggers a widely visible flashing beacon when pressed, so that drivers can see from a distance that someone wants to cross the road there.

AND THE PEDESTRIANS?

They can concentrate on hopping safely from line to line or, as in the Norwegian town of Ørje, crossing the road with funny contortions. There, a special sign, based on a Monty Python sketch, encourages pedestrians to do so and regularly creates truly hilarious scenes.









LoRaWAN:

TECHNOLOG

Gateway Gardens in Frankfurt am Main is an urban masterpiece with an innovative character for the future. In the immediate vicinity of the airport, a neighborhood has been created that focuses on the new work-life balance - and thus on people.

A wide variety of companies take advantage of the outstanding campus principle, which combines creative work and social life and allows cross-company connections to develop. Internationally active companies with a high level of travel in particular appreciate the infrastructure, which opens up connections to the whole world. The Siemens Group's new The Move project has created yet another center of flexible working in two buildings with around 35,500 square meters, which fits perfectly into the overall concept. Combining work and a feel-good atmosphere and using the architectural freedom to promote employee motivation and creativity - with The Move, this has once again been achieved in Frankfurt.

We at RTB, together with our partner Goldbeck, are proud to be part of the whole, because a suc-





Y FOR SPECIAL PLACES

cessful work-life balance is also supported by the fact that parking spaces can be reached quickly and reliably. This is ensured by a modern parking guidance system that reliably detects free parking spaces. Ultrasonic sensors are used right above the parking spaces to indicate the occupancy status by means of LEDs that are visible from afar. The central parking guidance system processes the recorded data and forwards it accordingly to the installed LED displays, which point the way directly to the next free parking space.

A special feature in the two basement levels of the underground parking garage is the installation of flexible parking platforms. These are installed on rails in the driving lane and provide space for two vehicles each. Here, detection is ensured via LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area) ground sensors. LoRaWAN is a wireless technology that is capable of transmitting data over a long distance and even from remote and hard-to-reach locations in an energy-efficient, cost-effective and secure manner. But the highlight is that occupied parking platforms move aside on demand to clear the way for vehicles parking out and parking in. In this way, every available space is used and, thanks to precise detection, perfectly found.

Gateway Gardens - The future begins NOW. Flexible working environments that focus on people are already a reality today thanks to innovative concepts and digital possibilities.





UTURE OF MOBILITY WITHIN REACH!

And we are right in its middle! Under the motto TAKE HEART – THINK BLIND, RTB was represented as a network partner of the LOC.id network, under the patronage of the German Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and drew attention there to the special situation of disadvantaged people. After all, innovations that are driving the transformation in the transportation sector and the changes that accompany the mobility turnaround bring new challenges for blind and visually impaired people.

The design of the so-called last mile with e-scooters, cargo bikes and autonomously driving people movers must not lead to new safety risks for this group of people. It is therefore all the more important that accessibility is considered from the outset - and this is what LOC.id technology stands for. The use of this app-based solution in a wide variety of areas - from traffic lights to indoor navigation and public transport to micromobility - ensures that no one is overlooked, because the LOC.id app stands for inclusive mobility, safety and accessibility for everyone.

Oh, by the way, there were cars at this year's IAA Mobility, too, of course! And what awaits us on the roads in the near future is guite a lot. It was to be expected that the large traditional car manufacturers from Germany would play a major role in this. And so, for example, Mercedes has presented the CLA of the future with its new concept study, which clearly stands out from the "monotony" of previous electric vehicles, both externally and in terms of interior design. The goal is market readiness based on the new MMA platform (Mercedes Modular Architecture) as early as 2024. Of course, BMW is also playing at the top with its Vision Neue Klasse. It impresses with sharp edges on the outside and pure, bright and friendly design on the inside. And here, too, it's only a stone's throw from study design to market readiness.

And who knows? Perhaps our LOC.id technology will also find a new field of application in the cars of the future at some point.













PROJECT HKG

Are you wondering what HKG means? HKG is the code for Hong Kong International Airport and thus for another major RTB project in the Asia-Pacific region.

RTB has been represented with push buttons and acoustics in Hong Kong for over 20 years, but now a special highlight has been added at the airport. There, the first traffic light systems with digitally networked BLX acoustic signal transmitters and radar push buttons from RTB were put into operation. There has been particular success with regard to LOC.id, as this technology is now an integral part of the tender specification.

It is important to know that smartphones were integrated into the everyday lives of very many road users in Hong Kong much earlier than in Germany. So it is only a logical consequence that the traffic infrastructure takes this fact into account and offers needs-based solutions, such as a temporary volume increase of the acoustics, based on smartphones with activated LOC.id app. Accessibility and safety for everyone is also the declared goal internationally.

Another innovation is that the ambient sound levels are recorded by all BLX acoustics of the traffic light system and communicated via the net.2 network. This is a BLE (Bluetooth® Low Energy) mesh network that is used to transport nonsafety-related traffic data. This synchronizes the volume control of the walk signals in each case for all signal transmkitters of a crosswalk, which enables even more precise consideration of ambient noise.

The touchless radar push buttons are also integrated in the net.2 network so that the individual



push button functions can be controlled via the network, while only two wires are required for the power supply. The two LED light modules are dimmable and can be operated at reduced luminosities in the dark.

And for particularly simple and safe commissioning of the push buttons and acoustics, the operating parameters can be configured via the associated service app. Access to them is secured by means of two-factor authentication.

Hong Kong Airport - personal security at the airport thought differently!



SPECTACULAR COLLECTION





It's incredible what there is to discover on the historic site of the old ironworks in Neuhütte, a district of Ewersbach in Germany, since this summer. In the converted industrial hall, the largest private car collection in Europe – maybe even worldwide – has been made accessible to the public in the National Car Museum.

The entrepreneur Friedhelm Loh, who has been collecting cars with a special history for more than 35 years, acquired the industrial site and converted it into a modern museum without losing sight of the history. The exhibition includes around 150 vehicles from 135 years of automotive history. Due to its scope and excellent curation, the museum will even be of special importance for research and teaching. In cooperation with the University of Economics and the Environment Nürtingen-Geislingen HfWU, the museum will serve as a university campus for the Faculty of Business and Law from the 2023 winter semester onward.

Additionally, the museum offers a variety of educational programs for schools and universities, including the so-called "history workshop". It teaches visitors about the industrial history of the Lahn-Dill district and is intended to inspire many young people to pursue a technical education





ARE YOU CURIOUS? TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF!









PRINTING

Machradt Graphischer Betrieb KG, Bad Lippspringe EDITING

Tanja Lauenstein, RTB GmbH & Co. KG, Bad Lippspringe LAYOUT

Melanie Greguol, RTB GmbH & Co. KG, Bad Lippspringe

PUBLISHER RTB GmbH & Co. KG MANAGING DIRECTOR

Rudolf Broer, Dr. Thomas Krämer, Marc Rummeny Schulze-Delitzsch-Weg 10, 33175 Bad Lippspringe Phone: +49 5252 9706-0; Fax: +49 5252 9706-10 ampel-nachrichten@rtb-bl.de|www.rtbsafetraffic.com