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Traffic Light REPORT

The magazine for traffic technology



NEW
MOBILITY





Dear readers,

Mobility is currently undergoing rapid change. New mobility concepts are challenging all those involved in today's traffic system. This is why renowned automobile manufacturers, suppliers and infrastructure providers have been working together in the Car2Car communication consortium since 2002 to set standards in ad-hoc communication between vehicles and road users (V2x - Vehicle-to-everything).

RTB has been a member since 2019 and is involved in various working groups for infrastructure-related topics. Among other things, we were able to advance a proposal to improve the perception of e-vehicles held by blind and visually impaired people. And the keyword here is LOC.id. Through the app on the user's smartphone, the user is recognized by the approaching vehicle and the vehicle's loudspeakers are activated.

But from a safety point of view, it is crucial that autonomous vehicles are also able to detect non-networked road users such as pedestrians or cyclists with great reliability. For this to happen, the vehicle's integrated sensors must be supplemented by infrastructure-based sensors. This opens up great opportunities for future RTB products.

We're excited! We hope you are too!

Sincerely,

Andreas Hegemann

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Same Effect, New Look

The product portfolio of our tried and tested Dialogue-Display will now also offer a new look. This is how RTB is fully meeting our customers' demands for individuality.

Dialogue-Displays are used wherever it is important to reduce the speed of traffic and thus prevent dangerous situations. Dialogue-Displays have proved particularly effective in front of schools, childcare centers, hospitals and senior citizens' residences, but also at crosswalks. Furthermore, they are also suitable to help reduce noise along busy routes. Particularly in the spring, when numerous bikers are once again drawn to the roads, the Dialogue-Display, with its

emotional appeal, is an effective way to protect local residents from motorcycle noise.

With its new outfit, variants that can be customized to an even greater degree are now available. A motif of choice can either be applied directly to the display or, in a particularly eye-catching way, such as on the side as a cut-out. The tried and tested messages, **SLOW/QUIET** and **THANKS** are still key elements, of course, and can be supplemented by the speed display if desired. Take advantage of various customization options—we look forward to your motifs!



CARNIVAL FUN IN THE AIR...



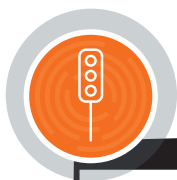


. . .at INTERTRAFFIC 2022 in Amsterdam. The first in-person trade show in quite some time was, contrary to expectations, a complete success!

The carnival-themed RTB booth also contributed greatly to the fun. A real highlight, in particular, was the ready-to-ride bumper car. To that effect, RTB is also very satisfied with the number of visitors to the booth. Contrary to expectations, there was only a 12 percent drop in visitors overall, which can be attributed to increased caution following the pandemic. Visitors from Germany, in particular, were apparently hesitant to travel

to Amsterdam. On the other hand, RTB saw a big increase in the number of international visitors. Interest in innovations from the parking sector or the new Dialogue-Display was enormous. At the “talking construction site”, visitors were able to learn more about LOC.id and experienced how access for blind and partially sighted people in public spaces can be made barrier-free thanks to smart mobility. The carnival atmosphere made it clear that we have all missed being able to engage in “real” dialog.

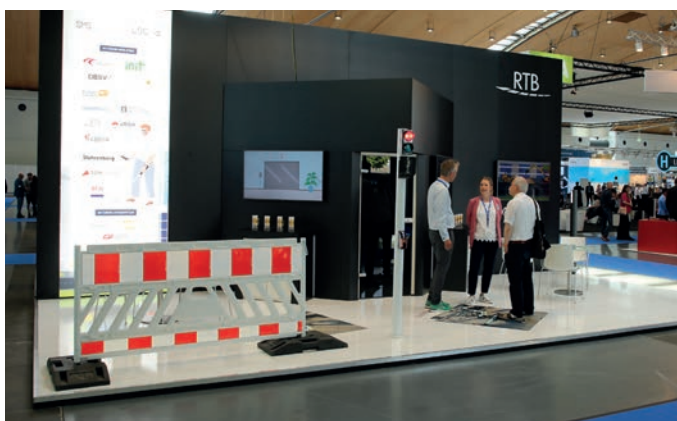




TWO

BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!

IT-TRANS in Karlsruhe



From May 10 to 12, 2022, visitors attended the international conference and trade show in Karlsruhe. RTB participated for the first time in this event with an on-site booth where the company welcomed numerous visitors of the trade.

At IT-TRANS, decision-makers and industry experts from public transportation meet to discuss the latest innovations for the future of urban transportation. The main focus is on digital solutions that will help us make the Smart City a reality.

At the booth, RTB presented the LOC.id network, which aims to provide accessibility for people with visual impairments. The network's concept underscores that a stand-alone solution cannot bring us to our goal, but rather a network is what makes us strong enough to really make a difference. LOC.id is a smartphone application that searches for other LOC.id-compatible apps or devices in its surrounding that offer added value for blind or partially sighted users in their current situations. For example, people can be guided safely across the street or past construction sites with the help of acoustic cues or find both the right bus or train stop and platform, along with much more. The interest among decision-makers was enormous, because it is clear to all public transportation stakeholders that true accessibility can only be achieved together!



Intelligent Urban Transport Systems



SightCity digital

From May 18 to 20, 2022, the largest international trade fair for the blind and partially sighted was once again held in digital format due to the pandemic.



Over the course of the three days, RTB invited guests to attend a total of eleven discussion panels featuring 16 experts with different perspectives to talk about the various aspects of smart mobility, especially for people with disabilities. Active participation and feedback signaled there is support for developments and innovations in the field of new mobility, based on digital solutions, to be significantly advanced moving forward.



As developments are made to make the Smart City a reality, the needs of blind and partially sighted people must, of course, always be taken into account. In these types of applications, the smartphone is the optimal platform for bringing accessibility to life. Of course, it is still possible to move around safely without a smartphone, but it is easier with one!

SightCity
Digital



A BIG SHOP

Apparently, the transportation technology industry is not as "bone dry" as many people think. There are people, at least in Europe, who are willing to dig deep into their wallets for it.

According to the latest reports, three families from the "European moneyed aristocracy" are interested in the industry:



The SWARCO group of companies, backed by members of the Swarovski family of the crystal dynasty, acquired 100 percent of the shares in the Dutch company Dynniq Mobility last year. Headquartered in Amersfoort, Netherlands, the company has a total of 39 sites in the Netherlands, the UK, Ireland, Finland, Belgium, Poland, Croatia, Denmark, Sweden and Lithuania, and has a strong market position in urban and interurban traffic management and public lighting, as well as considerable expertise in managing large infrastructure projects.

The Benetton family is known for its bold fashion colors as opposed to its involvement in traffic engineering. Benetton is a leading operator of highways, air traffic control, digital transportation infrastructure and more. Benetton earlier this year, through its infrastructure company Atlantia, bought the Dutch company Yunex from Siemens for 950 million euros. Yunex reportedly fits into Atlantia's strategy and offers solutions for intelligent traffic control, from toll systems to traffic control units. The Siemens Group has decided to break away from its mobility division to refocus on its core rail technology. Previously, the Benettons, together with the U.S. investment fund Blackstone, owned Atlantia. In a second step, the Singaporean firm will join the project.

SHOPPING SPREE

>>> IN SHORT

What conclusion can be drawn from this for the traffic technology industry in general? It's obvious that the challenges of modern mobility and the digital transformation offer completely new opportunities, also and especially in traffic technology. This is clearly what not only we at RTB have recognized and understood, but also financially strong European families as well.



Last but not least, the Porsche and Piëch families have also gone on a shopping spree, acquiring the U.S. traffic management company Econolite Group by means of the VW holding company Porsche SE and its partner Bridgepoint. Econolite is one of the leading suppliers of signal control devices and traffic management solutions in the North American market. Porsche SE and Bridgepoint already jointly manage the PTV Group in Karlsruhe, which in turn are specialists for software solutions in traffic management and transportation optimization.



CAUTION: TRIPPING HAZARD?

Not With Us!

Today's micromobility—getting around with what are known as “electric microvehicles” such as pedal scooters, Segways, hoverboards, pedelecs, e-scooters and others—is becoming more and more important. Urban environments, in particular, present opportunities for public transportation that is environmentally friendly and effective, always assuming sensible use, of course. Modern, smart options in this area are gaining traction. However, there is one area in particular that is repeatedly viewed with a critical eye:

the “free-floating” concept of e-scooter operators. Unfortunately, these electric scooters are often carelessly parked or left lying around. They pose a real danger, especially to blind or partially sighted people. But there is a smart solution for this, too: LOC.id.

RTB recently entered into a cooperation with the Estonian operator Bolt, which will equip its e-scooters to emit an acoustic warning signal in the future. People with limited visual perception can install the LOC.id app on their smartphone, which acts as a transmitter. If an e-scooter equipped with this technology detects this person, an acoustic warning signal is emitted and the danger zone can be safely avoided.

Bolt is thus another important partner in the LOC.id network, which is working toward the goal of accessibility and safety for blind and partially sighted people in road traffic.



AUTONOMOUS AT TOP SPEED



Challenges in the automotive industry are more intense than ever before. The speed at which new technologies are being advanced is tremendous, while the extremely strained situation in today's supply chain is resulting in more demands that must be met.

The spotlight is currently on autonomous driving, as there are many new developments also underway here. RTB has been active in the field of car-to-x developments for three years and is keeping a close watch on issues that impact vulnerable road users in this area as well. After all, the blind and partially sighted must also be able to perceive and have access to autonomous electrically driven vehicles.

On the occasion of the ITS World Congress in Hamburg, a wide range of accessibility projects have been launched at the initiative of the German Federation of the Blind and Partially Sighted (DBSV). One key area are people movers, which will conquer the public transportation sector in the future. VW, for example, has announced that it will equip its Moia shuttle service with fully autonomous ID.Buzz vehicles as of 2025. The self-driving van recently completed its first test drive on public roads in Munich.

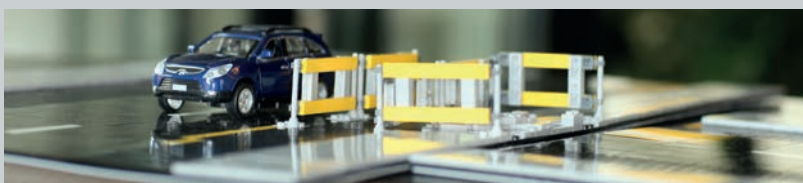
By means of LOC.id technology, a smart solution is available for both, barrier-free access to autonomously driving people movers and reliable detection in the area of car-to-x communication. Because one thing is clear: autonomous driving must ensure the safety of all road users!





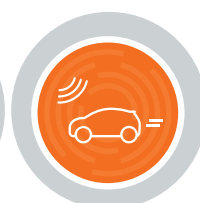
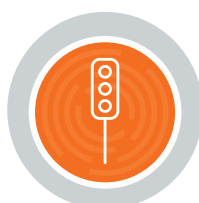
SEEN FROM AFAR ...

... is the new display from the LOBO product family, which, unlike conventional displays, signals the occupancy level of a parking garage. So it is visible from a distance. A first prototype has already been installed at a parking garage entrance. It stands out clearly from its surroundings, so that it is recognizable quickly from a distance, and indicates if one can still drive into the parking garage or if it is already occupied.



HANDS-ON LEARNING...

...with models made of LEGO® bricks built especially for this purpose. RTB uses them as a "tactile map" to explain road traffic situations and how RTB products are used to assist blind and visually impaired people.



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